

THE LORD'S DAY

God first introduces a concept before He can start to use it. Thus, following the principles of “here a little, there a little” (Isaiah 28: 10,13), therefore, to construct a complete picture of the meaning of something, we should search the scriptures and find where a similar concept was used. The word “**Lord’s Day**” appears only once in the Bible and here is the text. “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet.” (Rev. 1:10).

Apostle Matthew brings to our attention the application of the word “Lord” and to whom it applies. “And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.” (Matt. 8:20-21). Surely, there is no misinterpretation of scripture to apply the above text to Jesus Christ. We find another reference in the book of Matthew: “And his disciples came to [him], and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.” (Matt. 8: 25). The same author further states “**For the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day**” (Matt. **12:8**). It must be noted that the Lord has a day and it is that day which John referred to as the Lord’s Day which means the day that belongs to the Lord.

For the doubtful in heart, let us ask the question, Which is the day of the Lord? and allow the Bible to answer this question. “If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, [from] doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking [thine own] words.” (Isaiah 58:13).

The Lord’s Day is the seventh day Sabbath. (Write for the tract, Which day is the Sabbath?) The days of the week were created by God; the first day (Gen. 1:1, 3-5), the second day (Gen. 1:6-8), third day (Gen. 1:9-13), the fourth day (Gen. 1: 14-19), the fifth day (Gen. 1:20-23), the sixth day (Gen. 1:24-27) and the seventh day (Gen. 2:1-3).

“Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.” (Ex. 31:15). Of all the seven days of the week, six were devoted to labour and only one, the seventh day, was devoted to God.

About 4000 years from creation, God still reminded the children of Israel to observe the Sabbath (Lev. 23:3, Deut. 5:12-14). Out of the seven days of the week, God set aside only one day for Himself, the seventh day of the week. This is the Lord’s Day.

Prophet Isaiah states that the Lord has a day and that day is the Sabbath (Isa. 58:13), Apostle Matthew adding richness to our study also states ““For the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day” (Matt. 12:8). Therefore, the “**Lord’s day**” and “**Sabbath**” are used synonymously and refer to one and the same day.

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The Seventh day
Sabbath
The only true christian faith

Anyone who would read the Bible with a desire to know the truth will come to no other conclusion, but that the Sabbath is the fourth of the Ten Commandments (Ex. 20:8-11) and is therefore part of the Christian faith.

To deny the Sabbath is to deny the existence of God's laws. If Christians believe in the existence of sin, then they must also believe there exist God's laws as it is written, "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." (1John 3:4).

PERPETUITY OF THE LAW

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil," (Matt. 5:17). These laws remain in force forever. "And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail" (Luke 16:17). The question is: Has heaven and earth passed into eternity? The answer is No. Therefore, as long as we still have the heaven and the earth, we shall continue to have the laws of God.

Thus, it is impossible for man to make void the law of God. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." (Rom. 3:31). We cannot make a mistake to conclude that God forbids that we make void His laws.

During the creation week when heaven and earth were made, God rested on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2). Also read Exodus 31:17, Exodus 20:11, Hebrews 4:4, Genesis 2:1-3, Genesis 2:1-3, Genesis 2:1-3, Genesis 2:1-3, Exodus 20:8, Exodus 20:8, Exodus 20:13, Exodus 20:10-11. God further commanded the human race to observe the Sabbath (Ex. 23:12, 34:21, 31:15, Lev. 23:3). When the Israelites were immersed in the tradition of man, He reminded them to keep it (Ex. 20:13, 31:13, Lev. 19:30, 26:2, 19:1, Deut. 5:12).

A SIGN OF TRUE RELIGION

God has made the Sabbath commandment a sign between Him and His people (Ezek. 20:12, 20:20, Ex. 31:13, 31:17) and it is God's flag, His standard or banner (Isa. 49:22, Psalm

74:4, Ezek. 20:12, 20, Ex. 31:13, 31:17, Isaiah 49:22) and it stands forever (Psalm 111:7, 8, 119:152). It is the standard that determines the true religion and its God (Isaiah 8:20).

It is often the case that where there is judgement, there should exist the law by which those who are brought before such judgement are judged. There cannot be a judgement without the law. Neither can there be correction without a standard of correction. Thus, God's law is the standard of both correction and His judgement (Rom. 2:12; James 2:8-13, Eccl. 12:12-13).

In any social establishment where there is the rule of law and where justice prevails, there should be laws that govern the activities of those that live in it. It is these laws which are the bases of deciding what is good or bad. Without them, it becomes impossible to judge (distinguish right from wrong) any act whether it is good or bad. Similarly, God judges the life of man whether it is good or bad by His perfect law. In fact the existence of most of the national laws of justice or of determining what is good or bad can be traced back to the laws of Jehovah.

Enoch is commended because he "walked with God" (Gen. 5:22); and Noah is termed a "just" and "righteous" man (Gen. 6:9; 7:1). To Abraham the father of the faithful, the Lord said, "Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." (Gen. 26:5). It is therefore self-evident that no one of that age could be termed righteous and law-abiding if there was no law, the standard of measurement used to decide what was right or wrong.

THE ORDINANCES OF MOSES

We must make distinction between the immutable laws of God, the Ten Commandments, and the ordinances of Moses. God's laws is referred to as the royal laws (James 2:8) while that of Moses is called the ordinances (Eph. 2:15). The Ten Commandments were spoken by God (Deut. 4:12) while the ordinances were spoken by Moses (Lev. 1:1-3), The Ten Commandments were written by God (Deut. 4:13; Ex. 31:18) while the ordinances were handwritten by Moses (Col. 2:14); the Ten Commandments are perfect (Psalms 19:4) while the

ordinances of Moses made nothing perfect (Heb. 7:19), God's Ten Commandments stand forever (Ps. 111:7,8) while the ordinances of Moses were nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14), The Ten Commandments were not destroyed by Christ (Matt. 5:17-19) but rather magnified by Him (Isa. 42:21) while the ordinances were abolished by Christ (Eph. 2:15) and taken out of the way (Col. 2:14).

With this Bible truth, one cannot make a mistake to conclude that there is a distinction between the laws that were nailed to the Cross and the Ten Commandments which stand forever. When we talk about the Christian faith we refer to the faith of Christ, the one He lived and further commanded His followers to observe in the practice of their faith, to live and act as He did for His action and life are examples of how a Christian must act and live his faith (1Co 10:11).

In many occasions Christ instructed His disciples to follow Him (Matt. 16:24, Mark 2:34). He further says His sheep shall hear His voice and follow Him (John 10:27). The Commandments, as we have seen earlier, are still equally relevant to the Christian faith. References in the paragraph below, provides instructional relevance of these laws in both the Old and New Testaments and their contemporary significance to all Christians.

Ten Commandment (Old Testament)	Ten Commandment (New Testament)
First commandment (Ex. 20:3,	First commandment (Matt. 4:10).
Second commandment (Ex. 20:4)	Second commandment (1 John 5:21, Acts 17:29).
Third commandment (Ex. 20:5-7)	Third commandment (1 Timothy 6:1).
Fourth commandment (Ex. 20:8-11)	Fourth commandment (Heb. 4: 4-11).
Fifth commandment (Ex. 20:12)	Fifth commandment (Matt. 19:19).
Sixth commandment (Ex. 20:13)	Sixth commandment (Rom. 13:19).
Seventh commandment (Ex. 20:14)	Seventh commandment (Matt. 19:18).
Eighth commandment (Ex. 20:15)	Eighth commandment (Rom. 13:9).
Ninth commandment (Ex. 20:16)	Ninth commandment (Rom. 13:9).
Tenth commandment (Ex. 20:17)	Tenth commandment (Rom. 7:7).