

Roman Catholic and Protestant Confessions about Sunday

Baptist: Sunday Sabbath not in the scriptures

"There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath day was not on Sunday...It will be said, however, and with some show of triumph, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week....where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament. Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of a sun god, when adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!" **Dr. Edward Hiscox**, author of *The Baptist Manual*

"There was never any formal or authoritative change from the Jewish seventh day Sabbath to the Christian first day observance" **William Owen Carver**, *The Lord's Day in One Day* p.49

Roman Catholic: No such law in the bible

"Nowhere in the bible do we find that [Yahshua] or the apostles ordered that the Sabbath be changed from Saturday to Sunday. We have the commandment of [Yahweh] given to Moses to keep holy the Sabbath day, that is, the seventh day of the week, Saturday. Today, most Christians keep Sunday because it has been revealed to us by the [Roman] church outside the bible." *Catholic Virginian*, Oct. 3, 1947

Question: "Have you not any other way of proving that the Church has power to institute festivals of precept?"

Answer: "Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her - she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority" **Stephen Keenan**, *A Doctrinal Catechism* 3rd ed. p. 174

Some theologians have held that [Yahweh] likewise directly determined Sunday as the day of worship in the NEW LAW, that he himself has explicitly substituted Sunday for the Sabbath. But this theory is entirely aban-

done. It is now commonly held that [Yahweh] simply gave His church the power to set aside whatever day or days she would deem suitable as holy days. The church chose Sunday, the first day of the week, and in the course of time added other days as holy days." John Laux *A Course in Religion for Catholic High Schools and Academies* 1936, vol. 1 p. 51

Anglican/Episcopal: The Catholics changed it

"We have made the change from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the one holy Catholic Church" **Bishop Seymour** *Why We Keep Sunday*

Lutheran: They err in teaching Sunday Sabbath

But they err in teaching that Sunday has taken the place of the Old Testament Sabbath and therefore must be kept as the seventh day had to be kept by the children of Israel. These churches err in their teaching, for scripture has in no way ordained the first day of the week in place of the Sabbath. There is simply no law in the New Testament to that effect" *John Theodore Mueller, Sabbath or Sunday*, pp. 15, 16

"We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish Sabbath faded from the mind of the Christian church, and how completely the newer thought underlying the observance of the first day took possession of the church. We have seen that the Christians of the first three centuries never confused one with the other, but for a time celebrated both." *The Sunday Problem*, a study book by the Lutheran Church (1923) p.36

"They [Roman Catholics] refer to the Sabbath Day, as having been changed into the Lord's Day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it seems. Neither is there any example whereof they make more than concerning the changing of the Sabbath Day. Great, say they, is the power of the Church, since it has dispensed with one of the Ten commandments!" *Augsburg, Confession of Faith*, art. 28; written by Melancthon and approved by Martin Luther, 1530; as published in *The Book of Concord of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, Henry Jacobs, editor (1911), p.63

Presbyterian: Sunday kept the Gentiles happy

"Sunday being the first day of which the Gentiles solemnly adored that planet and called it Sunday, partly from its influence on that day especially, and partly in respect to its divine body (as they conceived it) the Christians thought fit to keep the same day and the same name of it, that they might not appear carelessly peevish, and by that means hinder the conversion of the Gentiles, and bring a greater prejudice that might be otherwise taken against the gospel" **T.M. Morer**, *Dialogues on the L-rd's Day*

Moody Bible Institute: "Sabbath was before Sinai"

"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 had already existed when [Yahweh] wrote the law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they admit that the other nine are still binding? **D.L. Moody**, *Weighed and Wanting*, p.47

Methodist: Yahshua did not abolish the moral law

The moral law contained in the Ten Commandments, and enforced by the prophets, He [Yahshua] did not take away. It was not the design of His coming to revoke any part of this. This is a law which can never be broken ... Every part of this law must remain in force upon all mankind and in all ages; as not depending either on time or place, or any other circumstances liable to change, but on the nature of man, and their unchangeable relation to each other." **John Wesley**, *Sermons on Several Occasions*, Vol.1, No. 25

"Take the matter of Sunday. There are indications in the new testament as to how the church came to keep the first day of the week as its day of worship, but there is no passage telling Christians to keep that day or to transfer the Jewish Sabbath to that day." **Harris Franklin Rall**, *Christian Advocate* July 2, 1942 pg. 26

What The Word of Yahweh says:

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

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh thy Elohim: *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:

11 For *in* six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Exodus 31:17 It *is* a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for *in* six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

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