

Who Moved the Mark?

my impressions



LESSON 13

WHO MOVED THE MARK?

Choose from the following phrases those which best describe your impression of each of the statements below.

A. Disturbing B. That's twisted C. It's news to me

D. Go figure! E. That's incredible F. Interesting

G. Makes me feel defended H. That's true

I. Convincing J. Some changes are in order K. Other _____

1. The Creator gave mankind the Sabbath to be a blessing. It literally made Jesus angry that the Jewish leaders would use this gift of time, to oppress those whom He loved and wanted to set free. (Genesis 2:2, 3; Mark 2:27²; 3:1-6¹)
2. God doesn't want us to work on the Sabbath. He wants us to rest in His finished work of creation, and re-creation. He wants us to spend time in worship, in fellowship with Him! (Exodus 20:11⁷; Ezekiel 20:12¹⁶; Revelation 14:7)
3. The Jews took God's law and made it an idol, an end in itself. By the time Jesus came to earth it had gotten so bad, that when Christ exercised God's healing power, His miracles were considered work! (Luke 13:14³; Mark 3:1-6¹;))
4. It was Jesus' custom to attend Synagogue (church) each Sabbath. And we are going to be keeping Sabbath in heaven as well! (Luke 4:16¹²; Isaiah 66:23)
5. Though Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, the seventh-day of every week, the "Christian" world, by and large keeps Sunday as a holy day!
6. It is said that the Sabbath was changed in honor of the resurrection, yet there is not one passage of scripture where God changed the sacredness from Sabbath to Sunday. Not one!
7. Paul agreed with the teachings of Jesus and taught there is still a keeping of the Sabbath for the people of God. (Hebrews 4:9^{13, 14})
8. The Catholic church claims to have changed God's law, His fourth commandment with its own laws like Canon 29 making Sunday their new holy day. But even they agree that if one is to observe the Biblical Sabbath it is on Saturday. (In their own words p. 3)

Choices: I want to show my love to God by embracing His Sabbath as a sign that I believe He is my creator and the one who has the power to change my old selfish heart into a new, obedient, and loving heart. _____

1. **Mark 3:1-6** ... [Jesus] entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there, which had a withered hand. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the Sabbath day; that they might accuse him. And he saith unto the man which had a withered hand, Stand forth. And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other. And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.
2. **Mark 2:27** And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:
3. **Luke 13:14** ... There are six days in which men ought to _____: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.
4. **Mark 3:4** And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.
5. **Revelation 15:4 NKJ** ... all nations shall come and worship before [Him] ...
6. **Revelation 14:7** ... _____ him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.
7. **Exodus 20:11** For in six days the LORD _____ 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.
8. **John 1:3** All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
9. **Luke 19:14 NRS** ... "We do not want this _____ to rule over us."
10. **Matthew 12:8** ... the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.
11. **Exodus 20:10** ... the _____ day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God:

12. **Luke 4:16** And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his _____ was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

In the New Testament alone, we have 84 examples of Christ's followers keeping the seventh day of the week as a holy time, dedicated to the worship of and a relationship with the God of Creation (1 in Acts 13:14; 1 in Acts 13:42-43; 1 in Acts 16:33; 3 in Acts 17:1-4; 78 in Acts 18:4, 11).

13. **Hebrews 4:9** There remaineth therefore a _____ [sabbatismos] to the people of God.
14. **Hebrews 4:9 NRS** So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God;
15. **Hebrews 4:10 NRS** For those who enter God's rest also cease from their labors as God did from His.
16. **Ezekiel 20:12** Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a _____ between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.
17. **Genesis 1:5** And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

There are 9 verses that refer to the first day of the week. One in the Old Testament (Genesis 1:5) and 8 in the New Testament. 6 are in the gospels (Mat 28:1; Mar 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1; John 20:19), and they surround the crucifixion talking about the women returning to the tomb early Sunday morning after resting on the Sabbath.

18. **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, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.
19. **Acts 20:7** And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Biblically the day is figured from sunset to sunset (Leviticus 23:32; Deuteronomy 16:6; Nehemiah 13:19; Mark 1:21, 32).

20. **1 Corinthians 16:2** Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

In their own Words:

Question: Which is the Sabbath day?

Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day.

Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." *Peter Geiermann, The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, 1957 edition, p 50*

Canon 29: Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honoring the Lord's Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema from Christ. *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Series, Vol. 14 emphasis supplied.*

... the Bible which the Protestants claim to obey exclusively, gives no authorization for the substitution of the first day of the week for the seventh. On what authority have they done so? Plainly on the authority of that [same] Catholic Church which they abandoned, and whose traditions they condemn. *Rebuilding a Lost Faith, John L Stoddard p. 80*

Reason and common sense demands the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday, or Catholicity and the keeping holy of Sunday. *Catholic Mirror, September 1893*

Sunday is a Catholic institution, and its claims to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles. ... From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first. *Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia, August 1900*

Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [of Sabbath to Sunday] was her act ... and the act is a MARK of her ecclesiastical power. *From the office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor H.F. Thomas, Nov. 11, 1895*

21. **Mark 2:28** ... the Son of man is Lord also of the _____.

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