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## What day does scripture say is the Sabbath?

Asking when the seventh day Sabbath is may seem to some a silly question when the answer appears in the question. The seventh day.

I cannot tell you the amount of disagreement there is on this issue. But I also won't spend time explaining each system of belief concerning how others attempt to take the weekly rest. I cannot take up arguments in support of anything that might have been.

I will make a blanket statement that explains what follows. In the book of Daniel, it is recorded

*And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: Daniel 2:21*

Daniel knew G-d to be able to change times and seasons. I can see patterns in scripture where He has changed things that were once given for our use. Even as He removed things that no longer serve His will for His people, He has still left us a clear road map. We are still able to rest on His day of rest.

What would G-d have removed? He has removed the temple and the need for a Levitical priesthood. He has removed the strength of the curse against us through Mashiach. He has removed the sting of death.

I do not reject the idea of a more balanced calendar which allowed for a 28-day cycle, nor do I reject any other possibility that might once have existed. But none of the other methods for keeping sabbath fit seamlessly into the cycles of G-d today. If we should try to force a system of timekeeping that no longer functions, why not force the Levitical priesthood into our daily living as well. We cannot, we must allow G-d to lead us and trust Him to provide us with the method to please Him at every point in history.

In our days, we are left with a simple cycle and pattern. Work six days and rest the seventh.

*Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings. Leviticus 23:3*

The seventh day was the day when G-d rested. He blessed and sanctified the seventh day, and it has gained the name Shabbat, which means to rest. The seventh day is Friday evening and until Saturday evening.

First, when did the sabbath change from Saturday to Sunday?

The Christian churches did not always observe a Sunday day of worship. The Roman emperor Constantine, a former sun-worshiper, professed conversion to redemption through the Messiah, though his subsequent actions suggest the “conversion” was more of a political move than a spiritual conviction and repentance. Constantine named himself Bishop of the Catholic Church and introduced the law regarding Sunday observance in A.D. 321.

*On the venerable day of the sun (Sunday) let the magistrate and people residing in cities rest (sabbath), and let all workshops be closed. In the country however, persons engaged in agricultural work may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits; because it often happens that another day is not so suitable for grain growing or for vine planting; lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost. —Schaff’s History of the Christian Church, vol. III, chap. 75.*

*While Constantine gives permission to the farmers to work on his newly declared day of worship look what G-d says, “even during the plowing season and harvest season” (Ex 34:21) they were to cease working and rest. In A.D. 325, Pope Sylvester named Sunday “the Lord’s Day,” and in A.D. 338, Eusebius wrote, “All things whatsoever that it was the duty to do on the Sabbath (the seventh day of the week) we (Constantine, Eusebius, and other bishops) have transferred to the Lord’s Day (the first day of the week) as more appropriately belonging to it.”*

*Here are some other statements of record to show the change from the 7<sup>th</sup> day, Saturday to the 1<sup>st</sup> day Sunday.*

*“It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of Sunday. Sunday is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church.” Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, NJ ‘News’ on March 18, 1903.*

*“Sunday is founded, not of scripture, but on tradition, and is distinctly a Catholic institution. As there is no scripture for the transfer of the day of rest from the last to the first day of the week, Protestants ought to keep their Sabbath on Saturday and thus leave Catholics in full possession of Sunday.” Catholic Record, September 17, 1893*

*“The Sunday...is purely a creation of the Catholic Church.” American Catholic Quarterly Review, January 1883*

*“Sunday...is the law of the Catholic Church alone...” American Sentinel (Catholic), June 1893*

*“Protestants ... accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change... But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that ... in observing Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the Church, the pope.” Our Sunday Visitor, February 5th, 1950.*

*“They [the Protestants] deem it their duty to keep the Sunday holy. Why? Because the Catholic Church tells them to do so. They have no other reason...The observance of Sunday thus comes to be an ecclesiastical law entirely distinct from the divine law of Sabbath observance...The author of the Sunday law...is the Catholic Church.” Ecclesiastical Review, February 1914*

*How far we have fallen from the faith of our Mashiach who redeemed us from such things by his blood.*

*Saturday, the seventh day, is the day that G-d chose as a sign of His covenant with us. He told us so many times. (Genesis 2:2-3; Exodus 20:18; Exodus 31:12-18; Deuteronomy 5:12,14-15; Leviticus 23:3; Ezekiel 20:11-13, 18-21, 24; Ezekiel 20:16; Luke 4:16 Mark 2:27)*