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# The Sabbath Who Is to Observe It? When Is It? Should Christians Observe it Today?

A Correspondence Course

Prepared

by

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## Preface

Most of our Scripture quotations will be taken from the New American Standard Version, Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1977 by the Lockman Foundation, a good modern language translation of the Greek New Testament in my belief. As with all translations, it is not perfect and I suggest that you check your version carefully to see that the translations are equivalent. (KJV refers to the King James Version; NIV refers to the New International Version, Copyright 1973, 1978, International Bible Society) All bold lettering has been done by the author to help you quickly come to the answer. All underlining has also been done by the author to help you quickly come to the answer. Please let me know if you think that I have incorrectly underlined or bold lettered the correct answer. Please study your Bible to be certain that the Scriptures have been correctly entered.

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## Lesson 1

### The Sabbath

A day of rest - the Sabbath - the seventh day of each week. "The Sabbath was made for man" to be a physical and spiritual blessing to him. Does that mean it was or is **for all men of all times**? Is the Sabbath binding **upon us today**, some 3,500 years after the commandment was first given? Is the Sabbath supposed to be observed each week in our lives today, or was it rather an Old Testament shadow of a better reality in Christ Jesus? Let's search the Scriptures.

1. Does the Bible say that Sunday is the "Christian Sabbath"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 28:1 "Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn.  
(The words "Christian Sabbath" do not appear in the Scriptures!)*

2. Which day of the creation week did God rest? \_\_\_\_\_

*Gen 2:2 And by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done; and **He rested on the seventh day** from all His work which He had done.*

3. Did God bless and sanctify the seventh day? \_\_\_\_\_

*Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. 2 And by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then **God blessed the seventh day** and sanctified it, **because in it He rested from all His work** which God had created and made.*

4. Does God command anyone to keep the seventh day holy anywhere in Genesis? \_\_\_\_\_

The words "seventh day" appears in the KJV only in Gen 2:2, 3 given in Question 3. The next appearance of these words are in Ex 12:15-16.

5. Are the seventh day and the Sabbath the same? \_\_\_\_\_

*Exod 16:26 "Six days you shall gather it, **but on the seventh day, the sabbath**, there will be none."*

6. To whom was this seventh or Sabbath day given? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 16:29 "See, the Lord has given you **the sabbath**; therefore He gives you bread for two days on the sixth day. Remain every man in his place; let no man go out of his place on **the seventh day**." 30 So the people rested on the seventh day. 31 And the house of Israel named it manna, and it was like coriander seed, white; and its taste was like wafers with honey. 32 Then Moses said, "This is what the Lord has commanded, 'Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations, that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness, **when I brought you out of the land of Egypt**.'" .*

7. Is the Sabbath day part of the ten commandments? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 20:8 "**Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy**. 9 "Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you.*

8. What two reasons are given for the Israelites to keep the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 20:11 "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, **and rested on the seventh day**; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.*

*Deut 5:15 'And you shall **remember that you were a slave** in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God **brought you out** of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God **commanded you to observe the sabbath day**.*

9. Who did God say was to observe the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Exod 31:16 'So the **sons of Israel** shall observe the sabbath, to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.' 17 "It is a sign between Me and **the sons of Israel** forever; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased from labor, and was refreshed."*

10. When Jesus said: *The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath* (Mk 2:27 and Mt 12:8), what man did he mean, the Israelites or all mankind? (See the next two questions before you answer this one.)  
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11. Did Jesus teach that mercy must be shown even on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Matt 12:1 At that time Jesus went **on the Sabbath** through the grainfields, and His disciples became hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat. 2 But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, "Behold, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath." 3 But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did, when he became hungry, he and his companions; 4 how he entered the house of God, and they ate the consecrated bread, which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those with him, but for the priests alone? 5 "Or **have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath, and are innocent?** 6 "But I say to you, that something greater than the temple is here. 7 "But if you had known what this means, 'I desire compassion, and not a sacrifice,' you would **not have condemned the innocent.***

12. To whom were the words in Mt 12:7, a quotation of Hosea 6:6, addressed, the Israelites or all mankind?

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*Mt 12:7 "But if **you** had known what this means, 'I desire compassion, and not a sacrifice,' **you would not have condemned the innocent.***

13. Sojourners were Gentiles who were among the Israelites. Did the sojourners have to keep the Law of Moses?

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*Ex 12:48 "But if a **stranger sojourns with you**, and celebrates the Passover to the Lord, **let all his males be circumcised**, and then let him come near to celebrate it; and he shall be like a native of the land. But **no uncircumcised person may eat of it.** 49 "The same law shall apply to the native as to the stranger who sojourns among you."*

14. Were sojourners (foreigners) ever told to keep the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 20:10 but the seventh day is a **sabbath** of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your **sojourner who stays with you.***

15. Did this law apply to those who were not living among the Israelites? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 20:10 but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your **sojourner who stays with you.***

16. Does the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah 56 say that the Sabbath is for the the foreigners (Gentiles) who livewhere they can go to the holy mountain or for all men everywhere?

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*Isa 56:2 "How blessed is the man who does this, And the son of man who takes hold of it; Who keeps from profaning **the sabbath**, And keeps his hand from doing any evil." ... 6 "Also **the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord**, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the Lord, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath, **And holds fast My covenant**; 7 Even those I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples. "*

(Hint: Who had to give burnt offerings and sacrifices, the Jews or the Gentiles?)

17. We need to look at the other requirements of this passage before we reach the conclusion that the Sabbath is for the Gentiles. What would verse 7 require of the Gentiles if this passage applied to them?

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*Isa 56:7 Even those I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their **burnt offerings and their sacrifices** will be acceptable on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples. "*

18. Who was Lord of the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mk 2:28 "Consequently, **the Son of Man** is Lord even of the Sabbath."*

19. Today, are we to follow all the examples of Jesus and do as He did? \_\_\_\_\_

Re-examine your answer after finishing questions below.

Are we to circumcise our children on the 8th day? \_\_\_\_\_

*Luke 2:21 And when **eight days were completed before His circumcision**, His name was then called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.*

Are we to be baptized in John's baptism? \_\_\_\_\_

*Matt 3:13 Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to **John, to be baptized by him**.*

*Acts 19:4 And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus." 5 And when they heard this, they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**.*

Are we to pay the temple tax? \_\_\_\_\_

*Matt 17:27 "But so that we may not offend them, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours." (NIV)*

Is the temple still his "Father's house"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Jn 2:14 And He found **in the temple** those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers seated... 16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making **My Father's house** a house of merchandise."*

Today, are we to follow all the examples of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Does the temple Herod built (the one about which Jesus spoke in Jn 2:16) still exist today? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 24:1 And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. 2 And He answered and said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, **not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down.**"*

21. Where or what is God's temple today? \_\_\_\_\_

*1Cor 3:16 Do you not know that **you are a temple of God**, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.*

22. If the temple, which was at one time God's house, is no longer with us, is there any reason to believe that the Sabbath, of which Jesus was Lord, is still with us? \_\_\_\_\_

## What about the Sabbath Keepers in A.D. 70?

Some say that in the Lord's prophecy concerning the destruction of Jerusalem that the Sabbath would be observed and the Christians could not flee on the Sabbath because of the restriction concerning the distance.

*Mt 24:20 "But pray that your **flight may not be** in the winter, or **on a Sabbath**;*

*Lk 21:20 "But when you see **Jerusalem surrounded by armies**, then recognize that her **desolation is at hand**.*

23. Consider: Could a life be saved on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mk 3:1 And He entered again into a synagogue; and a man was there with a withered hand. 2 And they were watching Him to see if He would heal him on the Sabbath, in order that they might accuse Him. 3 And He said to the man with the withered hand, "Rise and come forward!" 4 And He said to them, "**Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save a life or to kill?**" But they kept silent. 5 And after looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored. 6 And the Pharisees went out and immediately began taking counsel with the Herodians against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.*

24. Could those who kept the Sabbath have fled Jerusalem to save their lives according to Jesus' teaching?  
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25. What would have kept anyone from fleeing Jerusalem, a city controlled by the Jews and not by Christians?  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Jer 17:21 "Thus says the Lord, "Take heed for yourselves, and do not carry any load on the sabbath day or **bring anything in through the gates of Jerusalem**. 22 "And you shall not bring a load out of your houses on the sabbath day nor do any work, but keep the sabbath day holy, as I commanded your forefathers. ... :24 "But it will come about, if you listen attentively to Me," declares the Lord, "to **bring no load in through the gates of this city on the sabbath day**, but to keep the sabbath day holy by doing no work on it,*

26. Could anyone have fled Jerusalem if the gates were closed to prevent anyone from breaking the instruction about the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

27. What would the Jews have done if they thought the Christians were going out of the city on the Sabbath?  
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*Jn 16:2 "They will make you **outcasts from the synagogue**, but an hour is coming for everyone **who kills you to think that he is offering service to God**.*

## Would the Sabbath ever Pass Away?

28. Was the Sabbath a perpetual covenant? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ex 31:16 'So the sons of Israel shall observe the sabbath, **to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant**.' 17 "It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased and was refreshed."*

29. Was the the Day of Atonement, with its animal sacrifice and scapegoat an everlasting statute? \_\_\_\_\_

Lev 16:32 "So the priest who is anointed and ordained to serve as priest in his father's place shall make atonement: he shall thus put on the linen garments, the holy garments, 33 and make **atonement for the holy sanctuary**; and he shall make **atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar**. He shall also make **atonement for the priests and for all the people** of the assembly. 34 "Now you shall have this as a permanent statute, to make atonement for the sons of Israel for all their sins once every year." And just as the Lord had commanded Moses, so he did.

30. Do Christians offer animal sacrifice for atonement today? \_\_\_\_\_

31. Was the Passover an "everlasting" ordinance? \_\_\_\_\_

Ex 12:13 "And the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. 14 "Now this day will be a memorial to you, and **you shall celebrate it as a feast to the Lord**; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance.

32. Are Christians commanded to observe the "passover" today? \_\_\_\_\_

(Remember, the celebration of the passover included killing a lamb, sprinkling blood on the doorpost, eating the lamb with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast, while clothed ready to leave with sandals on, Ex 12:5-11)

33. Why don't Christians celebrate the passover today? \_\_\_\_\_

I Cor 5:7 Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. **For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed**

34. What changed that the children of God no longer offer atonement perpetually or observe that passover perpetually? \_\_\_\_\_

Heb 7:12 For when the **priesthood is changed**, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

Heb 7:24 but He, on the other hand, because He abides forever, holds His priesthood permanently. 25 Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. 26 For it was fitting that we **should have such a high priest**, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; 27 who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins, and then for the sins of the people, because this **He did once for all when He offered up Himself**.

Heb 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? 15 And for this reason **He is the mediator of a new covenant**, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. 16 For where a covenant is, **there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it**. 17 For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.

35. Was there a change of the law? \_\_\_\_\_

36. Would you agree that the idea of "forever" in such cases can only be understood as meaning "continuously" or "for a long time"? \_\_\_\_\_

37. Was the perpetual coventant of God different for the Sabbath than for the atonement or the passover?

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If you answered yes to this question, would you give a Scripture that says that?

38. Does this mean the Sabbath was to be in effect till the end of time or until the end of the age? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Lesson 2**  
**Jesus Observed the Sabbath!**  
**Shouldn't we follow the example of Jesus?**

39. Did Jesus set an example for us? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Pet 2:21 For you have been called for this purpose, since **Christ also** suffered for you, leaving you an **example** for you to follow in His steps,*

As we try to determine just where we should follow in the footsteps of Jesus, we should realize that Jesus meant for us to follow him in spiritual things and not physical things. Consider this as we look at Questions 40-54.

40. Should we move to Nazareth? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 2:23 and came and **resided** in a city called **Nazareth**, that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."*

41. Should we become carpenters? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mk 6:3 "Is not this the **carpenter**, the **son of Mary**, and brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him.*

42. Should we fast for 40 days? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 4:2 And after He had **fasted forty days and forty nights**, He then became hungry. 3 And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the **Son of God**, command that these stones become bread."*

43. Should we walk on water? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 14:25 And in the fourth watch of the night **He** came to them, **walking on the sea**.*

44. Did Jesus keep the Law of Moses? \_\_\_\_\_

*Luke 2:41 And His parents used to go to Jerusalem every year at the **Feast of the Passover**. 42 And when He became twelve, they went up there according to the custom of the Feast;*

*Mt 17:24 And when they had come to Capernaum, those who collected the two-drachma tax came to Peter, and said, "Does your teacher not pay **the two-drachma tax**?"*

*Luke 4:16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, **He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read**.*

45. Are we to follow Jesus as he followed the Law of Moses or in his teachings concerning his coming kingdom?  
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*Mt 13:10 The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" 11 He replied, "The **knowledge** of the secrets of the **kingdom of heaven has been given to you**, but not to them. ... 17 For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.*

*Mt 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

*1Jn 1:9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the **teaching of Christ**, does not have God; the one who **abides in the teaching**, he has both the Father and the Son.*

46. Was the synagogue a place of worship of the Jews or of Christians? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 17:1 Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a **synagogue of the Jews**. 2 And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,*

47. Did Paul follow Jesus' example? \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 11:1 Be **imitators of me**, just as **I also am of Christ**.*

48. Did Paul worship on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 13:14 But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and **on the Sabbath day** they went into the **synagogue** and sat down. 15 And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, "Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it." ... 27 "For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the **prophets which are read every Sabbath**, fulfilled these by condemning Him.*

49. Did Paul remain in the synagogue when the Jews rejected Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 13:46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, **we are turning to the Gentiles**. 47 "For thus the Lord has commanded us, 'I have placed You as a light for the Gentiles, That You should bring salvation to the end of the earth.'"*

50. Did the Christians in Corinth meet on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 16:2 **On the first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

51. If you answered yes to the above question, did they also meet on the first day of the week? \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 16:2 **On the first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

52. If we follow the example of the Christians at Corinth, when will we take up a collection for the needy saints? \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 16:2 **On the first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

53. Why did Paul want the brethren to come together on the first day of every week instead of the Sabbath in order to give? \_\_\_\_\_

There is no mention of Christian worship on the Sabbath. There is no mention of Christians resting on the Sabbath. There is no command for Christians to keep the Sabbath. Paul repeatedly entered synagogues of the Jews on the Sabbath to convert them to Christ, along with any Gentiles present. In each city, once the Jews rejected the message Paul turned to the Gentiles, leaving the synagogue. Keeping the Sabbath is not mentioned again in his epistles except to express Paul's fear for the Galatian brethren losing their faith by observing days and of the Colossian brethren of observing something (the Sabbath) that was merely a shadow of what was to come.

*Gal 4:9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the **weak and worthless elemental things**, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again? 10 **You observe days and months and seasons and years.***

*Col 2:16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day-- 17 things which are a **mere shadow of what is to come**; but the substance belongs to Christ.*

## HOW MANY SABBATHS WERE THERE?

A question arises as to whether the plural "sabbaths" differs from the singular "sabbath". Do the Scriptures teach that there are different Sabbaths for the people of God to celebrate? Let's search the Scriptures!

54. What did the Lord tell Moses the "sabbaths" were? \_\_\_\_\_

*Exodus 31:12 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 13 "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe **My sabbaths**; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. 14 'Therefore you are to **observe the sabbath**, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. 15 'For six days work may be done, but on **the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest**, holy to the Lord; whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall surely be put to death.*

57. Is the seventh day of the week referred to as "sabbath" and "sabbaths" in the above passage? \_\_\_\_\_

58. Is there a difference between the day to be observed as the "sabbath" or the "sabbaths" in the above passage?  
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Let's examine Leviticus 23 to see if there is a difference between the feast days and the sabbath day

*Lev 23:3 'For six days work may be done; but **on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest**, a holy convocation. You shall not do any work; it is a sabbath to the Lord in all your dwellings. ... 24 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'In the seventh month on the first of the month, **you shall have a rest**, a reminder by blowing of trumpets, **a holy convocation**. 25 'You shall not do any laborious work, but you shall present an offering by fire to the Lord.' " ... 31 "You shall do no work at all. It is to be a **perpetual statute** throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. 32 "It is to be a **sabbath of complete rest** to you, and you shall humble your souls; on the ninth of the month at evening, from evening until evening you shall keep your sabbath." ... 37 **These are the appointed times** of the Lord which you shall **proclaim as holy convocations**, to present offerings by fire to the Lord-- burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and libations, each day's matter on its own day-- 38 besides those of the sabbaths of the Lord, and besides your gifts, and besides all your votive and freewill offerings, which you give to the Lord. 39*

*'On exactly the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the crops of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the Lord for seven days, with a rest on the first day and a rest on the eighth day.*

59. The feast days are referred to as what? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lev 23:24 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'In the seventh month on the first of the month, you shall have a rest, a reminder by blowing of trumpets, **a holy convocation**. 25 'You shall not do any laborious work, but you shall present an offering by fire to the Lord.' "*

60. When were the feast days to be celebrated and their offerings given? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lev 23:37 **These are the appointed times** of the Lord which you shall **proclaim as holy convocations**, to present offerings by fire to the Lord-- burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and libations, **each day's matter on its own day--***

61. Were the feast days different from the "sabbaths of the Lord"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lev 23: 37 **These are the appointed times** of the Lord which you shall **proclaim as holy convocations**, to present offerings by fire to the Lord-- burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and libations, **each day's matter on its own day--** 38 besides **those of the sabbaths of the Lord,** and besides your gifts, and besides all your votive and freewill offerings, which you give to the Lord.*

62. Do the "sabbaths of the Lord" refer to the feast days or to the sabbath on the 7th day? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lev 23:3 'For six days work may be done; but **on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest**, a holy convocation. You shall not do any work; it is a sabbath to the Lord in all your dwellings. ... 38 besides **those of the sabbaths of the Lord,** and besides your gifts, and besides all your votive and freewill offerings, which you give to the Lord.*

63. Are the daily feasts given in Numbers 28:1-8 ever called "sabbaths"? \_\_\_\_\_

64. Are the weekly feasts given in Numbers 28:9-10 ever called "sabbaths"? \_\_\_\_\_

65. Are the monthly feasts given in Numbers 28:11-15 ever called "sabbaths"? \_\_\_\_\_

66. Are the yearly feasts given in Numbers 28:16-29, 39 ever called "sabbaths"? \_\_\_\_\_

67. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-17 which speaks of the feasts listed in Leviticus 23 and Numbers 28,29. Are they ever called "annual Sabbaths" or any kind of "Sabbath" in Deut 16:1-17? \_\_\_\_\_

68. Does Mt 26:17 mention the annual Sabbath of unleavened bread or Feast of Unleavened Bread.

*Mt 26:17 Now on the **first day of Unleavened Bread** the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"  
Mt 26:17 Now the **first day of the feast of unleavened bread** the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover? (KJV)*

69. Does Luke 2:41 speak of the "Feast of the Passover" or the annual "Sabbath of the Passover"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lk 2:41 And His parents used to go to Jerusalem every year at the **Feast of the Passover**.*

70. Does John 7:2 speak of the Jews' "Feast of Tabernacles" or the annual "Sabbath of the Passover"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Jn 7:2 Now the **feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths**, was at hand.*

*Jn 7:2 Now the Jews' **feast of tabernacles** was at hand (KJV)*

71. Returning to the main point of discussion in this section, does the plural "sabbaths" differ from the singular "sabbath" or are they the same? \_\_\_\_\_

72. What three celebrations did the Lord require of Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

*Ezek 45:17 "And it shall be the prince's part to provide the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the libations, at **the feasts, on the new moons, and on the sabbaths**, at all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel; he shall provide the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make atonement for the house of Israel."*

*2 Chron 31:3 He also appointed the king's portion of his goods for the burnt offerings, namely, for the morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt offerings **for the sabbaths** and for the **new moons** and for **the fixed festivals**, as it is written in the law of the Lord*

*Hos 2:11 "I will also put an end to all her gaiety, **Her feasts, her new moons, her sabbaths**, And all her festal assemblies.*

73. What had been canceled at the cross of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

*Col 2:14 having **cancelled** out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us [and] which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him. 16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a **festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day**-- 17 things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.*

74. Was the Sabbath day taken out of the way when Jesus died on the cross? \_\_\_\_\_

75. Are we to keep the sabbath day under the new covenant? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 8:13 When He said, "A new covenant," **He has made the first obsolete**. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear.*

76. Have we entered the rest promised to the Christian at this time? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 4:1 Therefore, let us fear lest, while **a promise remains** of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it*

*1 Tim 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life **to which you were called**, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

*Eph 6:12 For **our struggle** is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

*Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, **'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'**" "Yes," says the Spirit, "**that they may rest from their labors**, for their deeds follow with them."*

77. Did Jesus call us to rest on the Sabbath or eternally? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you **rest**. 29 "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall **find rest for your souls**. 30 "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."*

78. Does the Christian have the rest promised or does he/she look forward to it? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 4:1 Therefore, let us fear lest, while **a promise remains** of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it*

79. What rest was denied to the Israelites in the wilderness, the sabbath or an eternal rest? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 3:11 So I declared on oath in my anger, `They shall never **enter my rest**.'"`*

80. If the Christian is promised a rest in the future, does Heb 4:9 speak of the promised rest or the 7th day rest?  
\_\_\_\_\_

81. What rest is promised to the child of God, the seventh day or an eternal rest from labor? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 4:4 For He has thus said somewhere concerning the seventh day, "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; 5 and again in this passage, "They shall not enter My rest." 6 Since therefore it **remains for some to enter it**, and those who formerly had good news preached to them **failed to enter** because of disobedience, 7 He again fixes a certain day, "Today," saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, "Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts." 8 **For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that.** 9 There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God.*

82. Is the rest given to the people of God in this life or do we look forward to it? \_\_\_\_\_

*Heb 4:6 Since therefore **it remains for some to enter it**, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience, ... 9 There **remains therefore a Sabbath rest** for the people of God.*

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### Lesson 3 The Sabbath

Is Sunday the Christian Sabbath? We see the religious world celebrating the "sabbath" on the first day of the week, that is, Sunday! Is this correct? Are Christians to gather on the "Christian Sabbath" according to the Scriptures? Or as the Seventh Day Adventists and others say, are we to meet on the "seventh day", the sabbath according to Jewish law?

We want to examine the Scriptures and find which books of the Bible we live under (that is, we are to obey) today. The Bible is divided into two parts the Old Testament (OT) and the New Testament (NT). The word "testament" is the same as the word "covenant", and these words are used interchangeably in different versions of the Scriptures. The OT contains 3 divisions according to the Scriptures, although we sometimes divide them into the books of the Law, the books of History, the books of Poetry, the books of the Major Prophets and the books of the Minor Prophets. There are 39 books in the OT and 27 in the NT, making 66 books total. In the OT, there are 5 books in the Law, 10 books of history, 7 books of poetry, 5 books of the major prophets, and 12 books of the Minor prophets. In the NT there are 4 gospels, the book of conversions, 21 epistles and 1 book of prophecy.

*Lk 24:44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,*

83. How many books are there in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

84. How many books are there in the NT? \_\_\_\_\_

85. How many books are there in the OT? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the New Testament really begin with the birth of Jesus? The most obvious answer is to be found in the very word "testament." A last will and testament is a document which goes into effect after a person dies.

*Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, **there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.** 17 For a covenant is **valid only when men are dead**, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives. (NASB)*

*Heb 9:16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. (KJV)*

Are the gospels in the OT or the NT? \_\_\_\_\_

The four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, belong to the New Testament in the sense that they detail the earthly life of Jesus. Keep in mind that Jesus came to earth to do what was necessary to bring in the New Testament. However, the four Gospels do not belong to the New Testament in the sense that the New could not enter into force until after the things they record took place. Also realize that Jesus spoke many times of how it would be "in the kingdom of heaven".

*Heb 9:23 Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24 For **Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;***

Jesus had to ascend into heaven and there to offer his blood to God as a sacrifice before the covenant went into effect. This is similar to the probate period seen in common law. It is then necessary to read the will which has been put into effect by the death of the one who made it. For Jesus to become our High Priest (as well as our Savior), he had to return to heaven.

*Heb 8:1 Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a **high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,** ... 4 Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law;*

The reading of Jesus' last will and testament began on the day of Pentecost after his resurrection with Peter doing the preaching.

*Acts 2:14 But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea, and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give heed to my words. 15 "For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day; 16 **but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:** 17 'And it shall be in the last days,' God says, 'That I will pour forth of My Spirit upon all mankind; And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, And your young men shall see visions, And your old men shall dream dreams; ... 36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified."*

86. When did Jesus' new testament (covenant) take effect? \_\_\_\_\_

The four Gospels cover a time of transition "between" the two testaments. There are things in the four books which had to do solely with the Old Testament (Jesus was circumcised). There are things in the four which have to do solely with the New Testament ("unless one is be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God"). And there are things in the four which had to do solely with the time of transition itself (the baptism of John). It took years for God's will to be completely revealed to his followers. We find that they still held to points of the law until it was revealed to them that the Law of Moses had been taken out of the way. This was not clearly understood by the church until it was revealed to the apostle Paul as he wrote to the Galatians, the Ephesians and the Colossians. Later, it was the subject of an unknown writer of much of the letter to the Hebrews.

It was nearly nine years after the day of Pentecost when the gospel was finally preached to the Gentiles (Acts 10, 11), although it had been preached to a Gentile who converted to Judaism much earlier (Acts 6). Even later (Acts 15) a serious discussion arose about circumcision. Let's examine some of these points in the Scriptures.

87. Did Jesus go to the synagogue on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lk 4:16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, **He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath,** and stood up to read.*

88. Was Jesus "Lord of the Sabbath"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 12:8 "For the **Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.**"*

89. Did Jesus live and die under the law of Moses? \_\_\_\_\_

*Gal 4:4 But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, 5 in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

90. Did the disciples understand that the law had passed upon Jesus death? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Whose law did they follow immediately after Jesus' death?)

*Lk 23:56 And they returned and prepared spices and perfumes. **And on the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.***

91. Did Peter preach that all men had a right to come to the Lord on Pentecost? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that **God has made Him both Lord and Christ--** this Jesus whom you crucified." 37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 And Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 **"For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself."***

92. Did Peter understand that the Gentiles were to be allowed into the church on the day of Pentecost? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 10:28 And he said to them, "**You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him;** and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean. 29 "That is why I came without even raising any objection when I was sent for. And so I ask for what reason you have sent for me.*

93. Did the church in Jerusalem understand that the Gentiles were not to be circumcised in order to be saved on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) or at the conversion of Cornelius (Acts 10, 11)? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 15:1 And some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, "**Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.**" 2 And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, the brethren determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue. ... 5 But certain ones of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed, stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses." 6 And the apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter. ... 11 "**But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are.**" ... 19 "Therefore it is my judgment that we do not trouble those who are turning to God from among the Gentiles, 20 but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. 21 "For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath."*

We see that many years had to pass and the word of God was continuously revealed until it was completed. Not until the completion of the epistles was the complete will of God available to all mankind. The book of prophecy, Revelation, was written to encourage us in this life and to explain the things that would befall Christ's church during the gospel age.

*Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was **once for all delivered to the saints.***

*II Pet 1:3 seeing that **His divine power has granted to us everything** pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.*





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## Lesson 4 The Sabbath What Day of the Week did Jesus Arise?

We start this section knowing that the Sabbath occurred on the seventh day, or Saturday as it is now called. The Jewish day starts at evening, thus from what we now call sundown Friday evening until sundown Saturday evening would be the Sabbath?

94. How long did Jesus say he would be in the tomb? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 16:21 From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, **and be raised up on the third day.***

*Mt 12:40 for just as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the belly of the sea monster, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

95. What day of the week did Jesus arise? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lk 24:1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.*

96. On what day of the week was Jesus crucified? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mk 15:37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. ... 39 And when the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" ... 42 And when evening had already come, because **it was the preparation day, that is, the day before the Sabbath,***

97. If the Sabbath is Saturday, what day is the preparation day in our calendar? \_\_\_\_\_

98. On what day of the week did the Pharisees come to Pilate? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 27:60 and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away. 61 And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave. 62 Now on the next day, which is the one after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, 63 and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, '**After three days I am to rise again.**' 64 "Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure **until the third day**, lest the disciples come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first."*

99. What day of the week were the disciples on the road to Emmaus? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lk 24:12 But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at that which had happened. 13 And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem.*

100. How many days had it been since Jesus was crucified? \_\_\_\_\_

*Lk 24:1 But on **the first day of the week**, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared. ...13 And behold, two of them were going **that very day** to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. 21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, **it is the third day** since these things happened.*

How can we reconcile the prophecy of Mt 12:40 with that of the record in which Jesus was in the tomb for part of the day on Friday (the day of preparation), Saturday (the Sabbath) and arose early toward dawn on Sunday (the first day of the week)? We need to look at the way the Jews counted time.

101. How long did Esther ask for the Jews to fast? \_\_\_\_\_

*Est 4:16 "Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or **drink for three days, night or day**. I and my maidens also will fast in the same way. And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."*

102. When did Esther go before the king? \_\_\_\_\_

*Est 5:1 Now it came about **on the third day** that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace in front of the king's rooms, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the palace.*

103. Were the three days counted as all of three 24 hour days or with a part of each day counting as the day?  
\_\_\_\_\_

104. How long did Rehoboam tell Jerobam to wait? \_\_\_\_\_

*I K 12:5 Then he said to them, "Depart **for three days**, then return to me." So the people departed.*

105. When did Jereboam come back to Rehoboam? \_\_\_\_\_

*I K 12:12 Then Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam on the third day as the king had directed, saying, "Return to me **on the third day**."*

106. Were the three days counted as all of three 24 hour days or with a part of each day counting as the day?  
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**Lesson 5**  
**The Sabbath**  
**"THE LORD'S DAY"**

The apostle John received the Revelation of Jesus "on the Lords day" (Revelation 1:10).

*Rev 1:10 I was in the Spirit on **the Lord's day**, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,*

107. What day did he mean? \_\_\_\_\_

There are three possibilities to consider: 1) Saturday (the Sabbath), 2) the Judgment Day, and 3) Sunday (the first day of the week). Let's search the Scriptures to see if your answer and the Scriptures agree.

108. When did Jesus do away with the Law of Moses? \_\_\_\_\_

*Col 2:14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having **nailed it to the cross***

109. What was included in that which was passed away? \_\_\_\_\_

*Col 2:16 Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to **food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day**-- 17 things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ*

110. When did the NT Christians gather to give? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. 2 On the **first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

If the Corinthians and Galatians had saved their money at home, it would have been necessary for them to collect it when Paul came, thus they must have gathered and given their money for this worthy deed on the "first day of every week".

111. Is John speaking in future or past tense in Rev 1:10 (that is, was this something he said had already happened or was it about to happen)? \_\_\_\_\_

*Rev 1:10 I **was** in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,*

112. What day did the Lord Jesus Christ triumph over all the forces of the evil one, rising from the dead? \_\_\_\_\_

*Mt 28:1 Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the **first day of the week**, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. ... 5 And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do*

*not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6 "He is not here, for **He has risen**, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.*

113. What day did the Lord's church come into existence? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 2:1 And when **the day of Pentecost had come**, they were all together in one place. ... 47 praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number [church - KJV] day by day those who were being saved.*

114. What day is the day after the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

We read of the day of Pentecost in the OT at Lev 23:15-16 as the Lord established this observance.

*Lev 23:15 'You shall also count for yourselves from the day after the sabbath, from the day when you brought in the sheaf of the wave offering; there shall be seven complete sabbaths. 16 '**You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh sabbath**; then you shall present a new grain offering to the Lord.*

In I Cor 11:20, we read of the Lord's Supper. There are two "breaking of breads" in the NT, one a common meal and the other a proclamation of the Lord's death until he returns.

115. Which of these is indicated in I Cor 10:16? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break **a sharing in the body of Christ**?*

116. Which of these is indicated in Acts 27:33-36? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 27:33 And until the day was about to dawn, Paul was encouraging them all to take some food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you have been constantly watching and **going without eating**, having taken nothing. 34 "Therefore I encourage you to **take some food**, for this is for your preservation; for not a hair from the head of any of you shall perish." 35 And having said this, **he took bread and gave thanks to God** in the presence of all; and he broke it and began to eat. 36 And all of them were encouraged, and they themselves also took food.*

117. Which of these is indicated in I Cor 11:17-22? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:17 But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. 18 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part, I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, in order that those who are approved may have become evident among you. 20 Therefore when you meet together, **it is not to eat the Lord's Supper**, 21 for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. 22 What! Do you not **have houses in which to eat and drink**? Or do you despise the church of God, and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.*

118. Which of these is indicated in I Cor 11:34? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:34 If anyone is hungry, **let him eat at home**, so that you may not come together for judgment. And the remaining matters I shall arrange when I come.*

Therefore the pattern is: daily bread in their houses and the Lord's Supper when they come together.

119. Where did they break bread in Acts 2:46? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 2:46 And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,*

120. Is Acts 2:46 speaking of the Lord's Supper or of a common meal (Hint: could anyone's house have held the church which numbered 3000 people on the first day)? \_\_\_\_\_

121. What kind of acts are associated with the breaking of bread in Acts 2:42, spiritual or physical? \_\_\_\_\_

122. Why did the disciples come together in Acts 20:7? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, **when we were gathered together to break bread**, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.*

123. Who was assembling in Acts 20:7? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, **when we [the disciples KJV ] were gathered together to break bread**, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.*

124. Was Acts 20:7 a common meal or had the disciples "come together"? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, when we were **gathered together to break bread**, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.*

125. What was the reason the disciples came together in Acts 20:7? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, **when we were gathered together to break bread**, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.*

126. On what day did Paul intend to depart? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, **intending to depart the next day**, and he prolonged his message until midnight. 8 And there were many lamps in the upper room where we were gathered together..*

127. What time of the day did Eutychus fall out of the window? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his **message until midnight**.*

128. What happened the next day (that is, just after midnight)? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20: 9 And there was a certain young man named Eutychus sitting on the window sill, sinking into a deep sleep; and as Paul kept on talking, **he was overcome by sleep** and fell down from the third floor, and was **picked up dead***

129. What time did Paul have a meal with the brethren? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:11 And when he had **gone back up, and had broken the bread and eaten**, he talked with them a long while, until daybreak, and so departed.*

130. What is the next day of the week after the first day of the week? \_\_\_\_\_

If the disciples gathered on the first day of the week to “break bread”, is it reasonable to assume that they waited till the second day of the week to “break bread” or is it more reasonable to assume that they did what they came for and then listened to Paul through the night and into the next day?

Like the situation in Acts 2, there was a spiritual gathering to “break bread” in Acts 20, following which the disciples enjoyed a common meal (the second time to “break bread”). The spiritual reason for gathering was to “break bread” and we understand that this refers to the Lord’s supper or as it is often called, the communion with the Lord. The second time the disciples “broke bread” was a common meal just prior to Paul’s departure on Monday morning.

131. How often do we eat common meals? \_\_\_\_\_

132. How often is the spiritual "breaking of bread" to take place? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:26 ... "as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup.*

*Acts 2:42 "continued steadfastly...in the breaking of bread."*

133. Is a schedule given in either text? \_\_\_\_\_

134. Does the wording leave the impression it was done frequently? \_\_\_\_\_

135. Is the text in Acts 20:7 a command for how often the Lord’s Supper is to be observed or an example of when early Christians observed it? \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:7 And on **the first day of the week**, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.*

136. When did the Corinthians, who were told "as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup", gather on a regular basis? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 16:2 On the **first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

137. How often were the Corinthians to come together as the “church”? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:18 For, in the first place, **when you come together as a church**, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part, I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, in order that those who are approved may have become evident among you. 20 Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper,*

*I Cor 16:2 On the **first day of every week** let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.*

138. What was the reason that the disciples were to come together in I Cor 11:20? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:20 Therefore **when you meet together**, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper,*

139. What was the reason that the disciples came together in I Cor 11:20? \_\_\_\_\_

*I Cor 11:21 **for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.** 22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God, and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise*

*you. ... 34 If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you may not come together for judgment. And the remaining matters I shall arrange when I come.*

140. Did the Catholic Church change the Sabbath to Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

The Official Baltimore Catechism, No. 3, published in 1949, under question # 235, says, "The early church changed the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday on the authority given to it by Christ. The New Testament makes no explicit mention that the apostles changed the day of worship, but we know it from Tradition."

141. Did the Emperor Constantine, in 321 A.D., institute Sunday as a day of rest? \_\_\_\_\_

The Encyclopedia Britannica, Ninth Edition, in the article on Sunday, says of the decree of Constantine: "It was ordered that all the courts of justice, the inhabitants of the cities and the workers in the shops should rest on Sunday."

142. Did the Emperor Constantine make Sunday the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_

No reference work makes this claim other than those of the Seventh Day Adventists and Seventh Day Baptists!

#### SUNDAY IS THE LORD'S DAY

**Sunday is the day** our Lord rose from the dead. **Sunday is the day** the Lord's church began. **Sunday is the day** the Lord's Supper is eaten. **Sunday is the day** the Lord's people give to help others. **Sunday**, in a word, **is the Lord's Day!**

The true church remembers the death and resurrection of Christ 52 times a year. It has done so for 2,000 years! It will continue to do so till he comes!

If Jesus is your Lord, you will gather with the Lord's church to partake of the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day.