

## REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY, TO KEEP IT HOLY NOT A COMMANDMENT FOR THE CHURCH

### Introduction:

1. Throughout this study, it must be emphasized that man today is not under the Law of Moses – including the Ten Commandments.
2. However, the things that “were written aforetime were written for our learning” (Rom. 15:4).
3. THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME
4. THOU SHALT NOT MAKE ANY GRAVEN IMAGE
5. THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD THY GOD IN VAIN

### Overview:

1. In the religious world, there is much misunderstanding concerning the division between the Old Law and the New Testament.
  2. Because of this, many mix parts of the two covenants when trying to determine what should be practiced in religion.
    - a. It is interesting that this problem does not seem to exist with relation to the Patriarchal Age.
    - b. Men seldom seek to bind commandments given before the Law of Moses onto the church today.
  3. Thus, there are those who teach that Christians today should keep the Sabbath Day.
    - a. In fact, they mean that Christians should assemble to worship on Saturday instead of Sunday.
    - b. They do not keep the many, many restrictions that were a part of observing the Sabbath Day under the Law of Moses.
  4. This lesson will consider some of their arguments and seek to answer them with the Scriptures.
- I. Argument 1: *The Sabbath Day was sanctified from the beginning (Gen. 2:3)*
- A. They claim that in the beginning God created six days for man to use, but the seventh day belongs to God.
  - B. Genesis 2:3 declares that God sanctified the Sabbath – a statement of fact – but does not state when this took place.
    1. Remember, Moses penned this statement 2,500 years after the fact, at the time of the giving of the Law.
    2. Grammatically, the statement declares that God sanctified (past tense) the seventh day because in it He had rested (past perfect tense).
      - a. This means that it was not sanctified until after God had rested in it.
      - b. Thus, it could not have been sanctified on its first creation.
    3. Consider Genesis 3:20 – Eve was not yet the “mother of all living.”
  - C. There is no record of anyone keeping the Sabbath Day during the Patriarchal Age – in the book of Genesis.

- D. The Sabbath is not mentioned until Exodus 16:22-23, in connection with and in preparation for the Law of Moses.
  - E. Moses was not aware of the Sabbath until God told him about it (cf. Num. 15:32-36).
  - F. God made known the Sabbath at Mount Sinai (Nehemiah 9:13-14).
- II. *Argument 2: The Sabbath was to be a perpetual covenant (Exo. 31:13)*
- A. They claim that Sabbath keeping was to continue throughout all generations of the Jews; and, since there are still Jews, the Sabbath must be kept.
  - B. If this is true for the Sabbath, then it is true for other aspects of Moses' Law:
    - 1. Passover (Exo. 12:14)
    - 2. Burnt offerings (Exo. 29:42)
    - 3. Incense (Exo. 30:8)
    - 4. Holy oil (Exo. 30:31)
    - 5. Levitical priesthood (Num. 18:23)
  - C. Obviously, the Gospel of Christ has superseded the Law of Moses (Heb. 7:12).
- III. *Argument 3: The Ten Commandments were written by the Finger of God – still bound*
- A. They argue that the Ten Commandments are an eternal moral law of God, while the rest of the Law of Moses was mere ceremonial law.
  - B. The Bible makes no such distinction between the Law of God and the Law of Moses (cf. 1 Kings 2:3; Ezra 7:6; Mal. 4:4; etc.).
  - C. Also, the tables of stone were not necessarily engraved by the actual finger of God (Exodus 31:18).
    - 1. Angels were used in delivering the Ten Commandments (Acts 7:53; Heb. 2:2).
    - 2. Also, after the original stones were broken, Moses engraved new stones with the Ten Commandments (Exo. 32:19; 34:27-28).
    - 3. The phrase “finger of God” refers to the authority of God (Exo. 8:16-19; Luke 11:20).
- IV. *Argument 4: Jesus and Paul kept the Sabbath (Acts 18:1-11)*
- A. Jesus lived under the Law of Moses, so He did keep the Sabbath.
  - B. Paul, living under the Gospel of Christ, did not keep the Sabbath.
  - C. He would visit synagogues on the Sabbath to teach the Gospel to those who were assembled.
  - D. When the Jews rejected the Gospel, Paul ceased visiting the synagogue on the Sabbath.