

Lord of the Sabbath

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Welcome to Jesus Time where we spend time with Jesus in His time and culture. Christ Jesus had indeed offended and then angered the Pharisees yet again during His second Pilgrimage into Jerusalem first at the Pool of Bethesda and later within the Temple itself. As in Jesus's conflict about "Sabbath" now becomes an reoccurring theme with the Pharisees. So what is the Sabbath? It is of course the fourth of the Ten Commandments.

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 the LORD thy God: 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 the LORD made 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. Exodus 20:8-11 KJV

The Sabbath is a reverent day of rest from our work and the everyday activities of our lives in order to worship & give thanks for our Blessings unto GOD by Biblical directive to be observed on the 7th day. Saturday. Many today do not realize that Sabbath was established to be on Saturday. However the early Christian Church switched to the first day of the week which is Sunday for two very specific reasons.

First- it was for survival.

Remember many early Christians were Jewish converts and as such conflicts at the local Synagogues and within the Temple itself in Jerusalem with traditional Jews was inevitable and intolerable.

So "Messianic" or Christ believing Jews simply started going to Worship on Sundays to avoid hostility.

Second- the reason Sunday was then chosen as the day of Christian Sabbath, rest, and Worship- was because Sunday being the first day of the week was also the day when Jesus arose alive from the tomb.

So, when Christ Jesus does return at His Second coming of Advent, not only will He restore what scripture calls the one pure language upon the Earth (Zephaniah 3:9) but also one practice of Faith.

Meaning it is highly likely that the Lord will also restore Sabbath Worship for all on Saturday.

In this lesson we will now see that as Deity Jesus explains the Sabbath was created and intended by GOD for mankind. Not and never was Sabbath ever intended to be from us unto GOD.

Get that?

Christ our Lord informs the whole world that the Sabbath is to be a day of rest to worship in Reverence unto Holy GOD, as He intended and instituted it to be. Because it is we GOD knows whom need a day of rest. Just as the LORD Himself took a day of rest after His 6 days of Creation Heavenly Father knows;

Lest by greed, or our perceived need, or simply by being abused or deceived, we- will literally work our entire lives away. Never taking the time to learn or discern, nor leaving much time to Love or Pray.

This issue of "Sabbath" now becomes a constant series of conflicts between Christ our Lord and the Pharisee's. This being over their unrelenting life crushing manmade traditions of superstition that they had continually added upon GOD'S Law concerning His Holy Sabbath Day.

The short answer is this: We will see that Jesus teaches that the Sabbath was made for mankind & not mankind made for the Sabbath, as in to be a day of rest for the people to Worship Heavenly Father.

Meaning without a Divine directive to consecrate the Sabbath there would never be for us- a day of rest to Worship & to be able to get to know Holy GOD for the people from their labors. Get that? How well GOD knows our Sinful fallen human nature.

Because most people would never otherwise have the time for inner reflection upon the deeper Spiritual matters. While certainly not be willingly and Faithfully having the time to express corporately or individually an attitude of gratitude as in Thanksgiving unto GOD for our very existence. Because we must understand this; life is about more than just our daily problems at hand.

> Our lives have many seasons Each having their reasons The years pass by slow Yet we ever wonder Where did they go

Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Will of the Lord is. Ephesians 5:17 ESV

The Will of the Lord is that we develop a Loving relationship with Him by & through His Christ.

Now continuing:

Also as T<u>h</u>e Son of GOD, Christ our Lord- He will be literally demonstrating that as Deity within humanity, with His Words and actions Jesus will prove that He is: T<u>h</u>e Lord of the Sabbath. As in GOD personally incarnate within humanity having Divine authority.

Now my friends lets begin:

One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and his disciples began to pick some heads of grain, rub them in their hands and eat the kernels. ² Some of the Pharisees asked, "Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

This exact reading within the original Greek is: "It was and on a Sabbath the second chief" If you wish to track that one down good luck. There are no fewer than ten complete Seminary level theories as too Dr. Luke's meaning of his wording the second chief Sabbath.

The most widely accepted answer is that the combined Jewish secular and Biblical calendars can be daunting and hard to comprehend even for the Jewish people themselves.

In "Jesus Time" it was not uncommon for children to be taught that after the first ecclesiastical or Biblical New Year (Passover/Easter) a following Sabbath would be called the first first.

Where as the latter civil New Year (The Feast of Trumpets or Rosh Hashanah, which was the start of the Jewish secular New Year, usually held around our September, was followed by the 10 days of Awe of repentance and renewal then- came the Day of Atonement Yom Kippur, & five days after this was the Feast of Tabernacles aka Sukkot.

Did you get all of that?!

After this a Sabbath would then be called the first Sabbath following the second. (Chief) Wow! & I thought Thanksgiving followed by Christmas and then New Years was exhausting.

This is what happens when secular civil dates of mans calendar are combined with GOD'S for the Jews.

So, best guess- this means Christ's Disciples were walking in fields of grain in October near harvest time. This does in fact fit our Biblical time line of Jesus's life & it also means the Pharisees were now following and keeping track of everything Jesus said and done.

As in the Pharisee's saw this for themselves, otherwise how would they have known about the grain being picked by the Disciples out in a field in remote areas as Jesus traveled?

Obviously they were now keeping an eye upon Jesus at all times. Meaning the Pharisees were also breaking their own manmade Laws by walking beyond their own allowable Sabbath days walking limits to literally track & spy upon Christ and His Disciples.

Astoundingly it was not for the taking of grain from the fields that the Disciples are passing throughthis was not considered to be unlawful before the Pharisee's. But rather for the act of rubbing the kernels together in their hands in order to remove the outer hard shells to consume the inner tender portion. This was perceived to be laborious which of course was forbidden on the Sabbath.

Notice the Pharisee's have now begun to hold Jesus personally responsible for the actions of His followers. This alone is an admission as too Christ's authority over His Disciples albeit an hostile one.

Continuing

And He (Jesus) said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions became hungry; ²⁶ how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which is not lawful for anyone to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who were with him?" Mark 2:25-26 NASB

Jesus is now relating a Jewish historical and Biblically recorded event by which the famed future King David, who was now on the run from Israel's current King Saul- when David and his men tired and hungered needing refuge and provision they had stopped at a town called Nob. (near Jerusalem)

It was there a Priest named Ahimelek who was the local assigned Priest at the time of Abiathar the current Tabernacle High Priest-

(You see Jesus by naming Abiathar- Christ has just demonstrated to the Pharisee's that He knows what He is talking about.)

This Priest- Ahimelek, a predecessor before the Pharisee's even existed had already determined it was legal to give the Blessed and set apart as Holy bread- the 12 loaves one for each of the 12 Tribes of Israel which had been placed on the showbread table in the Tabernacle in presence Worship before the Lord. That it was ok to give this sacred bread to David & his men who were not priests because of their need.

This was because this Priest of King David's past had correctly perceived that Sabbath is more than just a directive of Law from GOD to be unto GOD. (Later King Saul killed him for helping David though no Law was broken)

Sabbath: is that we-humanity, have a day of physical rest and Spiritual Restoration. Because our works do not work as for our Salvation. (Jesus is quoting this scripture 1 Samuel 21 not as dry fact as the Pharisee's did.)

But rather what the Sabbath Godly Directive really means;

GOD'S intentions of His heart and Living Soul as this directive is intended unto mankind.

In short Jesus is saying as His Disciples ate the grain while they traveled was no different than David and his men eating what was set apart for GOD on a Sabbath so many years before.

Meaning as experts of GOD'S Law they- the Pharisee's, they knew they could not have it both ways. They knew of this passage in which King David was Justified by a priest for his actions so they could not find Jesus's Disciples guilty of a crime that had already been by GOD'S Word declared not a crime.

Christ Jesus was not only pointing this fact out- He was also detailing how the Pharisee's might be dotting i's & crossing t's, however they were forever missing this Laws flavor as in its true meaning. They did not perceive that GOD'S Sabbath was intended to be for our (mankind's, humanities) needs.

Continuing

Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. ⁷ And if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. Matthew 12:5-7 ESV Jesus just said the Disciples were guiltless in picking the grain

Priests doing the required labor of their job and duties upon the Sabbath are not being unlawful. Jesus is saying no one considers the Priests to be Sinning by completing their labors on the Sabbath.

Point being Christ is saying active priests on the Sabbath are not Sinning & this also by comparison is that He and His Disciples as they travel and are providing for themselves even on a "Sabbath," that they are too indeed Sinless for the Disciples serve something or rather someone greater than all of Judaism. This be Jesus personally as The Messiah/Christ our Savior sent by Heavenly Father for us.

What Jesus was quoting:

Image: Second stateFor I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God ratherthan burnt-offerings.Hosea 6:6 NRSVA

Tabernacle/Temple sacrifice of "Jesus Time" complete with burnt offerings are just the same as our works and deeds of today.

As in : The Salvation Plan from the Great I AM- is not dependent upon the works of man.

What Jesus was inferring as to our good works:

For all of us have become like one who is unclean, (We are all born in and do Sin.)
And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; (Our works reek of selfish stink before GOD.)
And all of us wither like a leaf, (We are temporary we end because of our Sin.)
And our wrongdoings like the wind, take us away. (By Sin we die separated from GOD.)

Isaiah 64:6 NASB

Concluding

Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.
So the Son of Man is Lord, even of the Sabbath." Mark 2:27-28 NASB

So now we know: the Sabbath is to be a day of rest and Worship that was instituted by GOD for mankind. Sabbath was never intended or reasoned to be a dry emotionally unattached going through the motions requirement before GOD.

& now Christ Messiah has revealed that He is the real deal.

Jesus is Lord. Meaning authoritative over and above the Sabbath.

Now my Bible studying friends watch for this pattern within Christ our Lords public Ministry. Jesus has just "said" that Sabbath was made for mankind and as Deity, He- is indeed Lord of the Sabbath. Do you have any doubt these Pharisee's hurriedly scurried away as they immediately departed Jesus to report this scandalous & blasphemous information to their superiors being the Sanhedrin and Temple within Jerusalem?

Point being Jesus always said something and then- He proved it! Usually impossibly Supernaturally. So stay tuned for our next lesson about Sabbath in the Life of Jesus our Christ.

When Jesus Proves He is indeed Lord of the Sabbath.