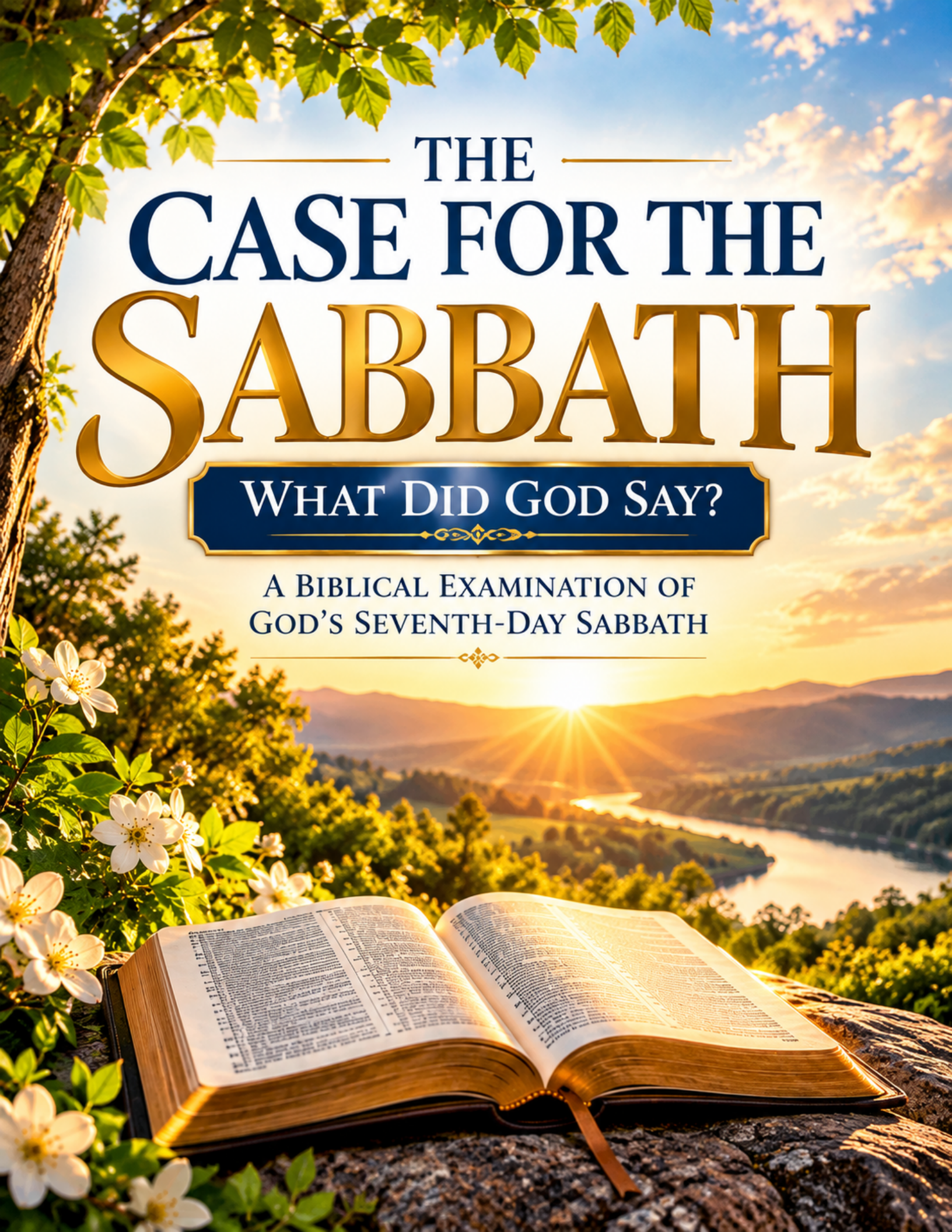




THE CASE FOR THE SABBATH

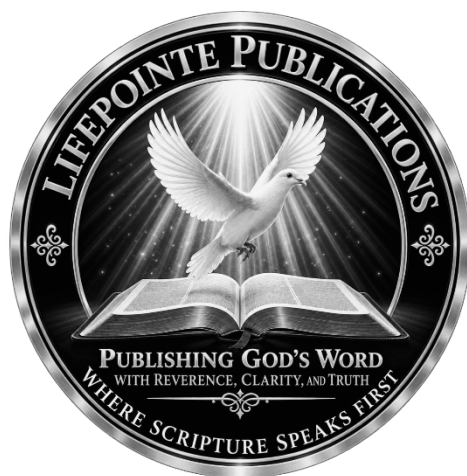
WHAT DID GOD SAY?

A BIBLICAL EXAMINATION OF
GOD'S SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH

THE CASE FOR THE SABBATH

What Did God Say?

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A Biblical Examination of God's Seventh-Day Sabbath

By Pastor Terry Wellham

INTRODUCTION

There is a question that every sincere believer should be willing to ask:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

Not what did tradition say.

Not what did a denomination say.

Not what did a preacher say.

Not what did our parents teach us.

Not what has Christianity practiced for generations.

The question is much simpler:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

The Sabbath is one of the most discussed and, at the same time, one of the most misunderstood subjects in Christianity.

Some have been taught that the Sabbath was given only to the Jews.

Some have been taught that the Sabbath was changed from the seventh day to the first day of the week.

Some have been taught that keeping the Sabbath is legalism.

Others have never been taught anything about the Sabbath at all.

But there is one place where all of us can go to settle the question:

THE WORD OF GOD.

This pamphlet is not written to condemn people.

It is not written to attack a denomination.

It is not written to accuse someone who has sincerely followed what they have been taught.

It is written for one purpose:

TO PUT THE SCRIPTURES BEFORE YOU.

If you have never studied the Sabbath carefully, this is an opportunity to open the Bible and see what God actually said.

If you have been taught that the Sabbath is no longer important, search the Scriptures.

If you have been taught that Sunday replaced the Sabbath, search the Scriptures.

If you have been taught that the Sabbath was only for Israel, search the Scriptures.

If you have been taught that the Sabbath was abolished, search the Scriptures.

Do not accept or reject the Sabbath because of this pamphlet.

OPEN YOUR BIBLE.

Read the passages.

Study them.

Pray about them.

Ask God to give you understanding.

The Bereans were commended because they searched the Scriptures to determine whether the things, they were being taught were true.

Acts 17:11 KJV

“...they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

That should be our attitude.

Not:

“What does tradition say?”

But:

“WHAT DID GOD SAY?”

THE SABBATH BEGAN AT CREATION

The Sabbath did not begin with Moses.

It did not begin at Mount Sinai.

It did not begin when the nation of Israel was established.

The Sabbath reaches all the way back to creation.

Genesis 2:2–3 KJV

“And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.”

Look carefully at what God did.

God rested on the seventh day.

God blessed the seventh day.

God sanctified the seventh day.

The seventh day was therefore set apart by God Himself.

No human being made it holy.

Moses did not make it holy.

Israel did not make it holy.

A church did not make it holy.

A denomination did not make it holy.

GOD MADE IT HOLY.

And what day did God bless and sanctify?

THE SEVENTH DAY.

That is where the biblical record begins.

THE SABBATH BEFORE SINAI

The Sabbath appears again before the Ten Commandments were given at Mount Sinai.

In Exodus 16, God provided manna for Israel.

For six days the people were to gather it.

But the seventh day was different.

Exodus 16:23 KJV

“To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD...”

Then God said:

Exodus 16:26 KJV

“Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.”

Some of the people nevertheless went out to gather manna on the seventh day.

They found none.

Then God asked Moses:

Exodus 16:28 KJV

“And the LORD said unto Moses, how long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?”

Notice the timing.

This occurred before the giving of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20.

The Sabbath was already being identified and observed as God's Sabbath.

The seventh day had already been set apart.

The Sabbath did not originate at Sinai.

THE SABBATH GOES BACK TO CREATION.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

Then God gave the Ten Commandments.

The Sabbath commandment is unmistakable.

Exodus 20:8–11 KJV

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God...”

God identifies the day.

THE SEVENTH DAY.

And notice whose Sabbath it is:

“THE SABBATH OF THE LORD THY GOD.”

God then gives the reason.

Exodus 20:11 KJV

“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.”

The reason for the Sabbath command goes directly back to creation.

God created in six days.

God rested on the seventh day.

God blessed the seventh day.

God hallowed the seventh day.

And God commanded:

“REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY.”

THE COMMANDMENT IS REPEATED

The Sabbath command was not limited to one passage.

It is repeated in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 5:12 KJV

“Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.”

The wording is important:

“AS THE LORD THY GOD HATH COMMANDED THEE.”

This is not presented as a suggestion.

It is a command from God.

THE SABBATH IS THE LORD'S

Leviticus gives another clear description.

Leviticus 23:3 KJV

“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.”

Again, we see:

THE SEVENTH DAY.

THE SABBATH.

A HOLY CONVOCATION.

THE SABBATH OF THE LORD.

The Sabbath was intended to be a day of holy gathering.

It was a day set apart for God.

THE SABBATH IS A SIGN

God gave the Sabbath another important description.

Exodus 31:13 KJV

“Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.”

Notice God's wording:

“MY SABBATHS.”

The Sabbath belongs to God.

And God says it is:

“A SIGN.”

Ezekiel repeats the same message.

Ezekiel 20:12 KJV

“Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.”

And again:

Ezekiel 20:20 KJV

“And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.”

The message is consistent.

God gave His Sabbaths.

God called them His Sabbaths.

God called them a sign.

God commanded His people to hallow them.

THE SABBATH AND THE STRANGER

What about people who were not Israelites?

Isaiah gives us something important to consider.

Isaiah 56:2 KJV

“Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it...”

Then God speaks specifically about the stranger.

Isaiah 56:6 KJV

“Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant...”

God specifically includes the stranger who joins himself to the LORD.

The passage does not say that only Israelites could receive this blessing.

It describes those who join themselves to God and keep His Sabbath.

THE SABBATH IS A DELIGHT

God does not describe the Sabbath as a miserable burden.

He calls it His holy day.

Isaiah 58:13–14 KJV

“If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable...”

Look at those words:

“MY HOLY DAY.”

God calls the Sabbath His holy day.

And He says:

“CALL THE SABBATH A DELIGHT.”

The Sabbath is an opportunity to stop from ordinary pursuits and turn our attention toward God.

It is a day to worship.

A day to rest.

A day to fellowship.

A day to study God's Word.

A day to pray.

A day to do good.

A day to remember our Creator.

YESHUA AND THE SABBATH

Now we come to the New Testament.

What did Yeshua do concerning the Sabbath?

Luke gives us a remarkably clear answer.

Luke 4:16 KJV

“And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.”

Notice the words:

“AS HIS CUSTOM WAS.”

Yeshua's custom was to go into the synagogue on the Sabbath.

This was not presented as a single isolated occurrence.

It was His custom.

YESHUA TAUGHT ON THE SABBATH

Mark 1:21 KJV

“And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.”

Again, the Sabbath appears as a regular setting for His ministry.

Luke records another example.

Luke 13:10 KJV

“And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.”

Yeshua taught on the Sabbath.

Yeshua read Scripture on the Sabbath.

Yeshua worshipped on the Sabbath.

YESHUA IS LORD OF THE SABBATH

One of the most important Sabbath statements in the New Testament is found in Mark.

Mark 2:27–28 KJV

“And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

Think carefully about that statement.

Yeshua did not say:

“The Sabbath was made only for Jews.”

He said:

“THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN.”

And then:

“THE SON OF MAN IS LORD ALSO OF THE SABBATH.”

If Yeshua is Lord of the Sabbath, the Sabbath deserves our careful attention.

THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN

The Sabbath is not presented as a prison.

It was made for man.

God knew that human beings would need time for rest, worship, fellowship, and attention to Him.

The Sabbath is therefore a gift as well as a command.

It is a weekly appointment with the Creator.

YESHUA AND DOING GOOD ON THE SABBATH

Some religious leaders had developed interpretations that made the Sabbath unnecessarily burdensome.

Yeshua corrected those misunderstandings.

Matthew 12:12 KJV

“...Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.”

The Sabbath was never intended to prevent mercy.

Yeshua healed on the Sabbath.

He helped people on the Sabbath.

He did good on the Sabbath.

Luke 6:9 KJV

“Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?”

The Sabbath is not a day for refusing to help someone in genuine need.

It is a day for honoring God.

YESHUA DID NOT TEACH THAT THE SABBATH WAS EVIL

This point deserves emphasis.

Yeshua corrected the misuse of the Sabbath.

He did not teach that God's Sabbath was evil.

He did not teach that the seventh day had become unholy.

He did not say:

“Choose whichever day you want.”

He said:

“THE SON OF MAN IS LORD ALSO OF THE SABBATH.”

AFTER THE CRUCIFIXION

What did Yeshua's followers do after His death?

Luke records it.

Luke 23:56 KJV

“And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.”

Yeshua had been crucified.

His followers were grieving.

Yet Scripture specifically says:

“RESTED THE SABBATH DAY ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENT.”

That statement deserves careful consideration.

THE APOSTLES AND THE SABBATH

The book of Acts continues the Sabbath record.

Paul and Barnabas went into the synagogue on the Sabbath.

Acts 13:14 KJV

“...they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.”

Paul preached.

Then something very interesting happened.

The Gentiles wanted to hear more.

Acts 13:42 KJV

“And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.”

They could have been told:

“Come tomorrow.”

Instead, the next recorded opportunity was:

THE NEXT SABBATH.

Then:

Acts 13:44 KJV

“And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.”

Almost the entire city gathered.

The Sabbath was still a significant day for hearing the Word of God.

PAUL'S CUSTOM

Acts 17 gives us another important statement.

Acts 17:2 KJV

“And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures.”

Again, notice:

“AS HIS MANNER WAS.”

Paul's regular practice included reasoning from Scripture on the Sabbath.

PAUL AT CORINTH

The evidence continues.

Acts 18:4 KJV

“And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.”

Notice two things.

“EVERY SABBATH.”

And:

“THE JEWS AND THE GREEKS.”

Paul was reasoning with both Jews and Greeks.

The Sabbath appears repeatedly in the apostolic record.

PAUL AND THE PLACE OF PRAYER

Acts 16 provides another example.

Acts 16:13 KJV

“And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made...”

The Sabbath was not dependent upon a particular building.

They went to a place of prayer.

It was the Sabbath.

Again, the pattern continues.

WHAT ABOUT THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK?

Some passages concerning the first day of the week are sometimes presented as evidence that the Sabbath was changed.

One example is Acts 20:7.

Acts 20:7 KJV

“And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them...”

The passage records a gathering on the first day of the week.

But notice what the passage does not say.

It does not say:

“The Sabbath was changed.”

It does not say:

“The first day is now holy.”

It does not say:

“The Fourth Commandment has been abolished.”

It does not say:

“Sunday is the new Sabbath.”

The passage simply records a gathering.

A gathering on a particular day does not automatically make that day the Sabbath.

The biblical Sabbath is explicitly identified as:

THE SEVENTH DAY.

WHAT ABOUT ROMANS 14?

Romans 14:5 is sometimes used in discussions about Sabbath observance.

Romans 14:5 KJV

“One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.”

This passage should be read in its complete context.

Romans 14 discusses disputes among believers concerning eating, drinking, days, and matters of personal judgment.

It should therefore not automatically be assumed that Paul was abolishing the Fourth Commandment.

The Sabbath is explicitly identified elsewhere in Scripture as the Sabbath of the LORD.

Every passage deserves to be understood in harmony with the rest of Scripture.

WHAT ABOUT COLOSSIANS 2?

Another frequently cited passage is:

Colossians 2:16 KJV

“Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:”

This passage should be studied carefully and in context.

The following verse says:

Colossians 2:17 KJV

“Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.”

Whatever interpretation one gives to this passage, it should not be used carelessly to erase the many explicit passages that identify the seventh day as the Sabbath of the LORD.

Scripture must interpret Scripture.

THE SABBATH AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Sabbath command is part of the Ten Commandments.

God said:

Exodus 20:8 KJV

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.”

The same God who said:

“Thou shalt not kill”

said:

“Remember the sabbath day.”

The same God who said:

“Thou shalt not steal”

said:

“Remember the sabbath day.”

The same God who said:

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me”

said:

“Remember the sabbath day.”

The Sabbath should therefore not be dismissed casually.

It is part of the commandments God gave.

THE SABBATH AND OBEDIENCE

This brings us to a very important question.

If God commanded the Sabbath, what does it mean when a person refuses to obey?

First, we must make an important distinction.

Many people have never been taught the biblical Sabbath.

Others have sincerely been taught something different.

Some have simply followed the traditions they received from their families or churches.

This pamphlet is not written to accuse those people.

It is written to **show them the Scriptures**.

Once a person sees the biblical evidence, however, that person has an opportunity to prayerfully consider what God is saying.

SIN IS THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW

The apostle John gives us a clear biblical definition.

1 John 3:4 KJV

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”

The word is:

TRANSGRESSION.

Scripture defines sin as transgression of God's law.

Therefore, if God commands something and a person knowingly and deliberately chooses to violate that command, that is a serious matter before God.

But this pamphlet is not here to declare that someone who currently does not keep the Sabbath is knowingly sinning.

Only God knows the heart and the understanding of each person.

The purpose is to bring the truth of Scripture before the reader.

NOW YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY IT.

WHAT DID GOD COMMAND?

God said:

Exodus 20:8 KJV

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.”

God identified the day:

Exodus 20:10 KJV

“But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God...”

God explained why:

Exodus 20:11 KJV

“...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.”

The command is clear.

The question is not whether the command exists.

The question is:

WHAT WILL WE DO WITH WHAT GOD SAID?

OBEDIENCE IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

Samuel spoke an important principle.

1 Samuel 15:22 KJV

“...to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”

God wants obedience.

Religious activity cannot replace obedience.

Church attendance cannot replace obedience.

Singing cannot replace obedience.

Giving cannot replace obedience.

Knowing the Bible cannot replace obedience.

The desire should be:

“LORD, SHOW ME WHAT YOU WANT ME TO DO.”

YESHUA AND COMMANDMENTS

Yeshua said:

John 14:15 KJV

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

Love and obedience belong together.

The Sabbath should not be kept merely because someone is afraid.

It should be kept because we desire to honor the God who created us.

IF WE SAY WE KNOW GOD

John gives another sobering statement.

1 John 2:3–4 KJV

“And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

Again, the issue is obedience.

The purpose of this passage is not to condemn someone who is learning.

It is to encourage us to examine ourselves.

Am I willing to obey God when His Word challenges what I have always believed?

TRADITION AND THE COMMANDMENT OF GOD

Yeshua warned about allowing human tradition to take precedence over God's commandments.

Mark 7:7–8 KJV

“Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men...”

This is why the question throughout this pamphlet has been:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

Tradition may be old.

Tradition may be widespread.

Tradition may be sincerely practiced.

But tradition must never become more authoritative than the Word of God.

THE WARNING OF REVELATION 18:4

Now we come to a passage that deserves serious consideration.

Revelation 18:4 KJV

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**”

This is a prophetic warning concerning Apostate Churches also referred to as Babylon.

The purpose of this passage in this pamphlet is not to declare that everyone who worships on another day other than the Sabbath is knowingly participating in an Apostate Church.

The fact remains: There is not even one line of scripture that says that the Seventh-Day Sabbath was changed or abolished or that any other day of worship is acceptable to God.

Instead, the passage presents a serious biblical principle:

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AWAY FROM SIN.

The command is:

“COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE.”

And the reason is:

“THAT YE BE NOT PARTAKERS OF HER SINS.”

Then comes the warning:

“AND THAT YE RECEIVE NOT OF HER PLAGUES.”

That warning should cause every believer to examine his or her religious practices carefully.

WHY THIS WARNING MATTERS

What if something we have always believed is not actually what Scripture teaches?

What if something we have always practiced is based more upon tradition than upon God's Word?

What should we do?

Ignore it?

Defend it?

Say:

“That is just the way we have always done it”?

Or should we humble ourselves before God and say:

“Lord, show me the truth.”

This pamphlet is intended to encourage that second response.

COME OUT OF CONFUSION

Revelation 18:4 is a call to separation from participation in sin.

Therefore, every believer should be willing to examine religious tradition in the light of Scripture.

Not:

“What is popular?”

But:

“What is biblical?”

Not:

“What is convenient?”

But:

“What did God command?”

Not:

“What have I always been told?”

But:

“What does the Word of God say?”

THE SABBATH AND THE FUTURE

The Sabbath is not confined to the opening chapters of Genesis or the history of ancient Israel.

Isaiah gives us a prophetic glimpse of the future.

Isaiah 66:22–23 KJV

“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.”

Think carefully about this.

Isaiah is speaking about:

THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH.

And within that prophecy we read:

“FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER.”

And:

“SHALL ALL FLESH COME TO WORSHIP BEFORE ME.”

The Sabbath appears in Scripture:

AT CREATION.

IN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

IN THE PROPHETS.

IN THE MINISTRY OF YESHUA.

IN THE MINISTRY OF THE APOSTLES.

AND IN PROPHECY CONCERNING THE FUTURE.

THE SABBATH AND GOD'S REST

Hebrews also gives us an important passage.

Hebrews 4:9 KJV

“There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.”

The passage then says:

Hebrews 4:10 KJV

“For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.”

What did God do?

Genesis 2:2 KJV

God rested on the seventh day.

Hebrews connects God's rest with the believer's need to enter into God's rest.

The Sabbath therefore points beyond the calendar.

It reminds us of the Creator.

It reminds us to stop from our ordinary labor.

It reminds us that God is God.

It reminds us that our lives belong to Him.

THE SABBATH IS NOT ABOUT BOASTING

Keeping the Sabbath should never become an opportunity to boast.

It should never become:

“I am better than you.”

It should never become:

“I am more righteous than you.”

It should never become a reason to condemn someone who has not yet understood the issue.

Instead:

“I have searched the Scriptures, and I want to honor what God has commanded.”

That should be the heart of Sabbath observance.

THE SABBATH IS ABOUT REMEMBERING

The command begins with:

REMEMBER.

Remember the Creator.

Remember creation.

Remember the seventh day.

Remember that God blessed it.

Remember that God sanctified it.

Remember that God called it His Sabbath.

Remember that Yeshua kept it.

Remember that the apostles observed it.

Remember that Scripture speaks of Sabbath worship in the future.

A SCRIPTURAL SUMMARY

Consider the biblical record.

CREATION

Genesis 2:2–3

God rested, blessed, and sanctified the seventh day.

BEFORE SINAI

Exodus 16:23–30

The seventh day was identified as the Sabbath before the Ten Commandments were given.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:8–11

God commanded His people to remember the Sabbath.

DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 5:12–15

God repeated the Sabbath command.

HOLY CONVOCATION

Leviticus 23:3

The seventh day is called the Sabbath of the LORD.

A SIGN

Exodus 31:13

God calls His Sabbaths a sign.

EZEKIEL

Ezekiel 20:12, 20

God again calls His Sabbaths a sign.

THE STRANGER

Isaiah 56:2–7

God speaks of the stranger who joins himself to the LORD and keeps the Sabbath.

A DELIGHT

Isaiah 58:13–14

God calls the Sabbath His holy day and says it should be called a delight.

YESHUA'S CUSTOM

Luke 4:16

Yeshua went into the synagogue on the Sabbath as His custom was.

YESHUA IS LORD OF THE SABBATH

Mark 2:27–28

“The sabbath was made for man.”

YESHUA DID GOOD ON THE SABBATH

Matthew 12:12

“It is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.”

THE DISCIPLES

Luke 23:56

They rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

PAUL AND THE GENTILES

Acts 13:42–44

The Gentiles requested that the Word be preached to them the next Sabbath.

PAUL'S CUSTOM

Acts 17:2

Paul reasoned from Scripture on three Sabbath days.

PAUL AT CORINTH

Acts 18:4

Paul reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath with Jews and Greeks.

FUTURE WORSHIP

Isaiah 66:22–23

Sabbath worship appears in the prophecy concerning the new heavens and new earth.

OTHER SABBATH PASSAGES FOR PERSONAL STUDY

For those who want to examine the subject further, search these passages in your own Bible:

Genesis 2:2–3	Nehemiah 10:31	Luke 4:31
Exodus 16:4–5	Nehemiah 13:15–22	Luke 6:1–11
Exodus 16:22–30	Isaiah 1:13	Luke 13:10–17
Exodus 20:8–11	Isaiah 56:2–7	Luke 14:1–6
Exodus 23:10–12	Isaiah 58:13–14	Luke 23:54–56
Exodus 31:12–17	Isaiah 66:22–23	John 5:1–18
Exodus 35:1–3	Jeremiah 17:19–27	John 7:22–24
Leviticus 19:3	Ezekiel 20:12–24	John 9:1–16
Leviticus 23:3	Ezekiel 22:26	Acts 13:14–16
Leviticus 24:8	Ezekiel 23:38	Acts 13:27
Numbers 15:32–36	Ezekiel 44:24	Acts 13:42–44
Deuteronomy 5:12–15	Hosea 2:11	Acts 15:20–21
2 Kings 4:23	Amos 8:5	Acts 16:13
2 Kings 11:5–9	Matthew 12:1–14	Acts 17:2
2 Kings 16:18	Matthew 24:20	Acts 18:4
1 Chronicles 9:32	Mark 1:21	Hebrews 4:1–11
2 Chronicles 2:4	Mark 2:23–28	
2 Chronicles 8:13	Mark 3:1–6	
Nehemiah 9:14	Luke 4:16	

THE FINAL DECISION

Now we come to the most important part.

This pamphlet cannot make the decision for you.

No preacher can make it for you.

No denomination can make it for you.

Your family cannot make it for you.

Tradition cannot make it for you.

You must search the Scriptures and determine what you believe God is saying.

But before making that decision, consider the evidence.

God blessed the seventh day.

God sanctified the seventh day.

God commanded His people to remember the seventh day.

God called it His Sabbath.

God called it His holy day.

God called His Sabbaths a sign.

Yeshua kept the Sabbath.

Yeshua taught on the Sabbath.

Yeshua called Himself Lord of the Sabbath.

His followers rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

Paul preached on the Sabbath.

Paul reasoned from Scripture on the Sabbath.

Paul preached every Sabbath.

Gentiles gathered to hear the Word on the Sabbath.

Isaiah speaks of Sabbath worship in the future.

And Scripture warns God's people:

Revelation 18:4 KJV

“Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

So, what should we do?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES.

PRAY FOR UNDERSTANDING.

ASK GOD TO REVEAL THE TRUTH.

BE WILLING TO FOLLOW HIS WORD.

WHAT IF I HAVE NEVER KEPT THE SABBATH?

If you have never kept the seventh-day Sabbath, do not approach this study with fear.

Approach it with an open Bible.

You may have been taught something different.

You may have sincerely believed that you were already doing what God wanted.

You may never have been shown these passages.

That is why this pamphlet exists.

TO SHOW YOU WHAT THE BIBLE ACTUALLY SAYS.

You now have an opportunity to study these Scriptures for yourself.

Ask God:

“LORD, WHAT DID YOU SAY?”

And when you believe you have found the answer in His Word, ask Him for the courage to follow it.

DO NOT FOLLOW US — FOLLOW THE WORD

This pamphlet does not ask you to follow Pastor Terry Wellham.

It asks you to follow the Scriptures.

Do not keep the Sabbath because a man tells you to.

Keep it because you have searched God's Word and believe God commanded it.

Do not reject the Sabbath because someone tells you that it is old-fashioned.

Search the Scriptures.

Do not accept tradition simply because it is widespread.

Search the Scriptures.

Do not reject God's command because obedience is inconvenient.

Search the Scriptures.

LET GOD'S WORD SPEAK FOR ITSELF.

THE QUESTION THAT REMAINS

Perhaps after reading all of this, one question remains above all others.

Not:

“What does my church say?”

Not:

“What does my family say?”

Not:

“What does popular Christianity say?”

But:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

God said:

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.”

Exodus 20:8 KJV

God said:

“But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God.”

Exodus 20:10 KJV

God said:

“Wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Exodus 20:11 KJV

Yeshua said:

“The sabbath was made for man.”

Mark 2:27 KJV

And:

“The Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

Mark 2:28 KJV

Isaiah said:

“Call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable.”

Isaiah 58:13 KJV

And Revelation records the warning:

“Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

Revelation 18:4 KJV

WILL YOU TAKE HEED?

The purpose of this pamphlet is not to frighten you.

It is to encourage you to **take heed**.

If you have discovered something in God's Word that you did not previously understand, do not ignore it.

Study it.

Pray about it.

Search the Scriptures.

Ask God for wisdom.

James 1:5 KJV

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

The truth of God's Word is worth seeking.

Your relationship with God is worth examining.

Eternity is worth taking seriously.

A FINAL APPEAL

Perhaps you have been told:

“Sunday is the Christian Sabbath.”

Search the Scriptures.

Perhaps you have been told:

“The Sabbath was only for the Jews.”

Search the Scriptures.

Perhaps you have been told:

“The Sabbath was abolished.”

Search the Scriptures.

Perhaps you have been told:

“It doesn't matter which day you keep.”

Search the Scriptures.

Perhaps you have been told:

“Keeping the Sabbath is legalism.”

Search the Scriptures.

Do not let someone else's statement settle the matter for you.

OPEN THE BIBLE.

Let God speak.

THE SABBATH

It began at creation.

It was blessed by God.

It was sanctified by God.

It was commanded by God.

It was called the Sabbath of the LORD.

It was called a sign.

It was called God's holy day.

It was called a delight.

Yeshua kept it.

Yeshua taught on it.

The disciples observed it.

Paul preached on it.

Gentiles gathered to hear the Word on it.

And Scripture speaks of Sabbath worship in the future.

So once again:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

THE ANSWER IS IN THE WORD.

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.”

Exodus 20:8 KJV

“But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God.”

Exodus 20:10 KJV

“Wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

Exodus 20:11 KJV

NOW SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES FOR YOURSELF.

Do not take our word for it.

TAKE GOD'S WORD.

Read it.

Study it.

Pray over it.

And then ask the question that matters most:

WHAT DID GOD SAY?

When you look at any unaltered calendar, you will see that Sunday is on the first day of the week and the seventh day is Saturday which is called Sabbath by the God who created it.

THE CASE FOR THE SABBATH

A Biblical Examination of God's Seventh-Day Sabbath

Presented by Pastor Terry Wellham

“WHERE SCRIPTURE SPEAKS FIRST.”

“WHAT DID GOD SAY?”