

Questions About Satan Influencing Catholic Church & Grace Afforded to Sunday Keeping

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Can't it really be argued that Satan influenced the church to change the sabbath so in essence the Catholic Church was deceived? Then God just gives grace and it's fine to just follow Sunday since that sin is covered by grace anyways?

Answer:

That's a deeply insightful question — and yes, it **can absolutely be argued** that Satan was behind the change of the Sabbath, not God. Scripture, prophecy, and history all point to that reality. But your second thought — that God's grace somehow makes that change acceptable — requires careful biblical distinction.

Let's look at this in three parts:

Satan's Influence Behind the Change

From the beginning, Satan's purpose has always been to **distort worship and counterfeit truth**. His rebellion in heaven centered around the question of **authority** — who has the right to rule, to define truth, and to be worshiped.

The Sabbath, as the **sign of God's authority as Creator**, is the one commandment that clearly identifies **who God is**:

“For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is...”
(Exodus 20:11)

By altering the Sabbath, Satan sought to attack **God's throne, His identity, and His sign of authority**.

In Daniel 7:25, the prophecy foretold this very act:

“He shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, **and think to change times and laws.**”

No other commandment deals with **time** and **law** like the Sabbath does. This prophecy predicted that a religious power — acting under Satan’s deception — would attempt to change God’s appointed day.

History confirms that the **Roman Catholic Church**, as the dominant medieval church-state power, **claimed this change as its mark of authority**, transferring sacredness from Saturday to Sunday. But the **real architect behind this deception** was not the Church itself — it was **the enemy of God** working **through** human systems to obscure God’s truth.

The Deception of “It Doesn’t Matter — Grace Covers It”

This is where many sincere Christians are misled. The argument goes:

“Since Jesus died for our sins, it doesn’t matter which day we worship — grace covers it.”

But that reasoning confuses **forgiveness of sin** with **permission to continue in error**.

Grace is not a license to break God’s commandments — it’s the **power to obey them**.

“Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid.” (Romans 6:1–2)

“Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.” (Romans 3:31)

If grace excused ongoing disobedience, then God’s law would be meaningless. Jesus didn’t die to change the law — He died because the law **could not** be changed. Sin demanded justice, and Christ paid that penalty, not to abolish the law, but to **fulfill it and write it into our hearts** (Hebrews 8:10).

To knowingly follow a man-made substitute in place of a God-made commandment is to **give allegiance to man’s authority** instead of God’s. Revelation 13 and 14 portray this as the ultimate end-time issue — **worship and loyalty**:

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” (Revelation 14:12)

God’s Grace and the Call to Truth

There is grace — abundant grace — for all who have worshiped on Sunday **without knowing the truth**.

God never condemns honest ignorance, but when light comes, He calls His people out of error:

“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent.” (Acts 17:30)

Revelation 18:4 echoes this divine call:

“Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins.”

So yes — many faithful believers have kept Sunday sincerely, not realizing its human origin. But now that truth is revealed, God’s invitation is to return to **His true rest**, the **seventh-day Sabbath**, as a sign of loyalty to the Creator in an age of deception.

Summary

- **Satan** inspired the change of the Sabbath to counterfeit God’s authority.
- The **Catholic Church**, influenced by that deception, **claimed** the change as its mark of power.
- **God’s grace** forgives past ignorance — but does **not excuse ongoing disobedience** once truth is known.
- In the final crisis, the Sabbath becomes the **seal of God’s loyalty**, while Sunday observance stands as the **mark of human authority** inspired by Satan.