



Should We Keep the Shabbat?

PREFACE

Thank you for taking the time to read this instruction, I pray that the Ruach Ha'Kodesh (Holy Spirit) is present with you as you read and check with you own Bible its contents. The contents of this instruction are based entirely on God's word the Bible, to challenge your current beliefs in the spirit of love that Yeshua spoke of in John 13:35.

Please remember that I have no religious affiliation other than to Yeshua Ha'Mashiach and Almighty God that sent Him, therefore I am bound by the Ruach and not by a manmade religious practice or tradition, assuring you that I have no ulterior motive other than the spreading of the truth that can only be found in Almighty God's word via His gift to us all... the Bible. I pray that this instruction will help you in your quest for truth.

When we begin to study the word of Almighty God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob it is necessary to bear in mind our dedication to the obedience of His Law (Torah) as, if we do not shema (Hear and Obey) God will not hear our prayers.

Proverbs 28:9 KJV He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

Numbers 6:24-26

Introduction

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Numbers 6:24-26

In Christendom today many denominations teach that the Sabbath day is not a requirement for a Christian, they often quote Romans 10:4 to qualify their belief that, for Christians, this observance has now been done away with as it was given to the "Israelites" by Moses and it is a requirement for them only. The "Torah" comprises of 10 moral laws (commonly known as the Ten Commandments) and 613 instructions (*Mitzvot*) as how to live with Almighty God's approval. Instead of keeping Almighty God's Sabbath (Shabbat), most of Christendom venerates the first day of the week Sunday as the accepted "Lord's Day" although it is still referred to as the Sabbath. But, where did the concept of a day of rest originate and why does it seem to have such significance in worship? Let us now find out.

Where did it all start?

In the beginning God created Heaven and Earth... (Gen 1:1) and, as Genesis carries on to tell us that He created all things and on the 7th day He rested. Genesis 2:2, 3 tells us that:

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. ⁽³⁾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.

He completed all creative work on the 6th day and on the 7th day He rested and blessed the 7th day, making the last day of the week Holy.

Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH commanded the Shabbat (Sabbath) day to be set aside from all the other days of the week, this Shabbat was to be kept on the Biblical 7th day. Here is what Almighty God commanded:

Deuteronomy 5:13-15 KJV Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: ⁽¹⁴⁾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, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. ⁽¹⁵⁾ And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and *that* the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

The keeping of Shabbat is included into the ten "moral" laws showing its importance. Just as a reminder, the moral laws given to Moses are:

No.	Commandment
1	"You shall have no other gods before me."
2	You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below."
3	"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."
4	"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."
5	"Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you."
6	"You shall not murder."
7	"You shall not commit adultery."
8	"You shall not steal."
9	"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour."
10	"You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour."

Ever since Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH gave these moral laws (and the 613 instructions) to Moses, the Torah observing Jewish nation have kept the Shabbat on the 7th day. It is worthy of note that, in the Bible a day is measured from sundown to sundown on the next day, so in terms of today's calendar Shabbat starts at sundown on the Friday to sundown on Saturday. This method is derived from Genesis, as God finished a creation day, the concept is recorded in scripture with the words..." And the evening and the morning were the (nth) day."

Since Jesus (Yeshua) was a Jew, there is no doubt that he kept the Torah to the letter, keeping Shabbat on the 7th day along with all his earthy family.

But didn't Jesus abolish the Law (Torah)?

The notion that, by his death, Yeshua negated the laws is a gross deception, it stems from the mistranslation of the Greek and Hebrew texts. Let us now examine scripture and prove to ourselves the truth contained in the scriptures, we must put aside what we have been taught by human mentors and take the Bible as being the sole voice of true authority when it comes to such important matters. We do not want to take an eisegesimal approach but rather employ an exegetical approach to the scriptures.

There are two main scriptures that we need to focus on, Romans 10:4 and Matthew 5:17.

Romans 10:4 KJV For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

Matthew 5:17 KJV **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**

The key word in Romans is "**end**". If we look into the meaning of this English word translate from the Greek the word used is τέλος (G5056 – telos (tel'-os) *n.1. (properly) the point aimed at as a limit 2. (by implication) the conclusion of an act or state (a termination), 3. (literally, figuratively or indefinitely) a result, 4. (immediate, ultimate or prophetic) a purpose, 5. (specially) an tax or levy (as paid), [from a primary tello "to set out for a definite point or goal"], KJV: + continual, custom, end(-ing), finally, uttermost. Compare: G5411). We can see that the word "end" in Greek can have several meanings depending on the context. In this context the word "end" can be taken as termination, in other words the Torah will not be added to or diminished in any way, Yeshua is the very epitome of Torah. The correct context for this particular scripture is also found in Jesus words in Matthew... the key word here is "**fulfil**".*

Contrary to the misinterpretation of the Greek word "fulfil" πληρώω (G4137 - pleroo (play-roh'-o) *v.1. to fully, completely fill, 2. (literally) to cram (a net), level up (a hollow), 3. (figuratively) to fully supply, satisfy, execute (an office), finish (a period or task), verify (or coincide with a prediction), etc.)*

We see that Jesus did not come to destroy the Torah and prophets, he came to bring those who had strayed from Torah by following the rabbinic Talmud and takkanot of the Jewish rabbinic leaders of his day. We can easily show, through scripture that, even after Jesus' death and ascension, they still kept Torah for they observed all the Shabbat's and festivals that are commanded in the Bible (*see Acts and the epistles of Paul*).

Now we can see clearly the context of the meaning of "end" in Romans, in context I consider a much closer translation of Romans 10:4 to be... "~~Christ is the end~~ **[confirmed]** the law so that everyone who believes in him is made right with God.

To illustrate... supposing you take a trip in a vehicle from A to B, in most countries there are specific laws that you must observe in order to complete the trip in a lawful manner. You set out on your journey and observe all the laws along the way such as speed limits, traffic signs etc., When you reach your destination having observed all the rules and regulations, it can be said that you have fulfilled all the laws pertaining to driving the vehicle however, it does not mean that the laws have now been abolished because you kept them for the whole journey, the very next time you use the vehicle for another journey, those laws are still applicable.

You can be in no doubt that the keeping of the Sabbath according to scripture has NOT been abolished, nowhere in scripture does God's own word tell us that this requirement has been removed. You can be certain that true followers of Almighty God's only begotten son Yeshua will keep the 7th day as the Holy Shabbat, just as commanded by God Himself.

Deuteronomy 5:29 O that there were such an heart in them, **that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!**

But isn't the Sabbath on Sunday?

This 'Sunday' sabbath is the result of another pagan influence of the early church. As we have established, the true Shabbat that was introduced by Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH in Genesis and Deuteronomy 6 was the 7th or last day of the week, Sunday is the first day of the week! How could they get it so wrong?

Well, here's a short story for you to consider.

At the death of the last Apostle of Yeshua the Latino/Hellenistic wolves tore into the congregations that Paul and the other Apostles had worked so hard to build, if you look into the history of the early church fathers you can't help but notice their platonic influences, all these men had gentile (pagan) backgrounds, they had very little, if any understanding of the world of the Jewish Jesus and his early Jewish followers, in fact it would be fair to say that they had a desire to purge all Jewishness from the evolving ecclesia. They seem to be oblivious to John 4:22.

They were also eager to include such pagan doctrines as the Trinity doctrine (introduced in the 4th

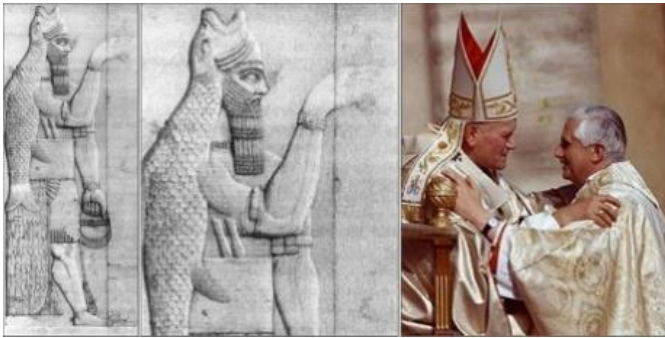


Figure 1 Do you see any resemblance in their hats?

Century CE and officially adopted by the church during the Council of Constantinople in 381CE), the wearing of the Mitre (*Fig 1*), and a clergy/laity class. Instead of rebuking such pagan practices these gentile "church fathers" included them into their quasi-Christo/pagan catechisms enabling them to gain power and influence over those of lesser knowledge. In the picture (*fig 1*) the priest on the left is worshipping the fish god Dagon, why is the clergyman on the right wearing the head covering

of Dagon?

To add to their deception, at the council of Laodicea in 363–364CE the 'official' Sabbath was moved from that which is commanded in God's word to the first day of the week, Sunday. The excuse being that celebrating the Sabbath on the last day as instructed by Almighty God was "too Jewish". They called this *neo-Sabbath* "The Lords Day".

I have some major issues to this outright blasphemy, the main ones being:

1. Who gave these sinful gentile men the authority to change the laws of Almighty God?
2. Sunday represents the pagan worship of the invincible sun. *solis Invicta*. It is sun day and by substituting this pagan worship day we show dishonour to Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH.
3. As to the almost laughable term "the Lords Day", those that know scripture know that Jesus is the "Lord of the Shabbat" (Matt 12:8; Luke 6:5). To any discerning reader I put it to you, it would be safe to assume that as Lord of the Shabbat, Jesus would choose the Biblical Shabbat rather than some pagan sun god's day. Don't you think?

All the apostles and the early believers in Yeshua (Jesus) observed the 7th day Shabbat from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday, this is still the case no matter what ANY human tells you, **NOTHING** has changed, and **NOTHING** will change concerning the biblical instructions given to ALL NATIONS by Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH Himself.

WARNING! Do not allow ANYONE to mislead you into thinking that Torah was only to be observed by the natural Israelite nation, this concept is a deception. Torah is for ALL nations that wish to follow Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH through His son Yeshua Ha'Mashiach. The commandments of Almighty God Y_eH^oV_aH have not changed, they are still as pertinent to us all as they were in Moses' day.

FACT – All individuals, irrespective of their nationality, become citizens of Israel by the adoption process, this is highlighted in Romans 11:11-31.

There is only one God, one true Messiah and one faith, that faith is what Yeshua taught his disciples and his disciples taught all people.

Conclusion

We must all keep to what the Bible teaches, continue to honour the God given Shabbat on the 7th day of the week from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday as instructed. This is NOT just a Jewish practice, it is for **ALL** people of **ALL** nations that wish to honour the God of Abraham, Isaac, Moses and Yeshua. If it is good enough for them then it is surely good enough for us!

If you continue to support Sunday as the sabbath day because of tradition, you will be in violation of Almighty God's law and the love of God will not be with you.

1 John 5:3 KJV For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Keeping the Shabbat on the day that Almighty God Himself ordained is VITAL, irrespective of what any man tells you, it is a salvation issue.

Shalom Aleichem...

GLOSSARY

- **YHVH** [יהוה] The personal Name of Almighty God. Y_eH^oV_aH.
- **Yehoshua** (Yeshua) The personal name of Almighty God's son. (Modern: Jesus).
- **Ruach Ha'Kodesh** Yehovah's motive force. (Holy Spirit).
- **Kohan Gadol** High Priest.
- **Shaúl** Saul (Paul).
- **Israel** The nation comprising the 12 tribes of Jacob (Israel) including people of the nations grafted into Israel.
- **Gentile** Any person that does not follow the Abrahamic Religion (Pagan).
- **Tanakh** The books of the Hebrew scriptures. (Old Testament).
- **B'rit HaDashah** The Renewed Covenant. (New Testament)
- **Torah** The instructions or laws given to the Israelite Nation by Yehovah to Moses.
- **Oral Torah** The additional instructions added by the Pharisaic (Rabbinic) Jews which form the basis of the Mishnah and other Jewish religious books.
- **Gospel** Good News.
- **Christendom** All religions that profess belief in Jesus Christ.
- **Apostolic Fathers** The group of gentiles that directed the formation of the early church after the last apostle (John) died.