

# RESPONSE TO ATTACK ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE

This article was written as a response to an article that I had received, entitled **“10 reasons why the “SABBATH” commandment was left out”**

In this article, as a response to the one I received, I will answer each of the 10 ‘reasons’ individually, while the repeated proofs of our need to observe the Sabbath will certainly overlap in each response to these 10 assumed reasons that have been presented! Each reason is numbered and given as it was received with the relevant response.

Firstly though, before answering the reasons directly, I feel it necessary to put forth some clear fundamental truths, and to begin, I would like to clearly state that we refer to the Saviour by His correct Hebrew given Name – and that is יהושע – pronounced as **“Yahushua or Yah’shua”** – which carries the very important meaning of who our Redeemer and Saviour is, for His Name means **“YHWH (Yahweh) is our Saviour”** or **“YHWH is our deliverance”**. The generic Greek constructed name of ‘Jesus’ carries no connection or relevance to the True Name of our Creator – יהוה – pronounced as **“YAHWEH”** as it is made up of the 4 Hebrew letters **‘Yod (י) – Hey (ה) – Vav (ו) – Hey (ה) – YHWH**, commonly known as the Tetragrammaton.

For more on the correct grammatical pronunciation of the Name of יהוה please see the article on our site (<https://atfotc.com>) called: **Grammatical study from Scripture on confirming the pronunciation of the Name of יהוה**

Which you can find under the ‘**articles**’ menu or by simply clicking on the following link: <https://atfotc.com/grammatical-study-from-scripture-on-confirming-the-pronunciation-of-the-name-of/>

Our Messiah clearly tells us that He came ‘IN’ His Father’s Name:

**Yohanan/John 5:43 “I have come in My Father’s Name and you do not receive Me, if another comes in his own name, him you would receive.”**

What יהושע (Yahushua) Messiah was clearly stating here is that while He came in the powerful Name of יהוה (Yahweh), declaring the true deliverance, He was not received; yet as we clearly can see many years later the sad truth of how so many have ‘received’ the one who has ‘come in his own name’!

Now, while I am certainly not suggesting that there were two different people that physically walked (Yahushua and Jesus), but rather that there has been a clear separation in the presentation of the Truth from two different mind-sets – that of a true Hebraic mind-set versus a fairly modern Greek mind-set that has been influenced though vain and false traditions of man. In fact, if people would simply just test that which they are being taught through vain traditions they would easily discover that the Name ‘Jesus’ is in fact no more than 500 years old, as there was no ‘J’ letter or sound in any language until the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and even the first English translation of the 1611 King James Bible did not contain the letter ‘J’.

For the sake of the response to the continued resistance to simply obey the Sabbath command, I will not carry on further with the history of the erroneous change of our saviour's Name from a Hebrew to Greek form, but should more information be asked for, I shall gladly do so on a separate document.

The reason for me briefly highlighting this point is simply to make it very clear that as we begin to look at the plumb line of Scripture and follow the One who we call on for Salvation, we certainly must recognise that there is in fact a presentation of two differing perspectives that each individual needs to choose between – and that is whether we choose to listen to, follow and obey the 'Hebrew יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahushua)' or the 'Greek Jesus', as while there was not two different men, there is certainly two different presentations as to what one says versus the presentation or thought of what the other says.

We are firm believers that the Messiah, a Hebrew who bore the Hebrew name that is above all Names, proclaimed the Hebrew Scriptures and fully revealed how we are to live as faithful servants of the Most-High, and He in no way came to 'destroy' or take away any part of the Word, but rather came to fully meet its requirements, and enable us to hear, guard and do His clear instructions that are clearly presented for us to abide in throughout the entire Scriptures. **Mattithyahu/Matthew 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to complete."**

Many erroneously assume that this verse gives people a license to disregard the need to walk in and obey what is contained in the Torah, as they claim that 'Jesus' (Greek mind-set) has done it all and we are no longer required to do anything that is contained in the Torah (Law) and Prophets; yet is this really what the true Hebrew Messiah – יְהוֹשֻׁעַ – is saying?

Well, let us look at a couple of Greek words from this verse and see from the Greek text as to what Messiah is actually declaring!

Do not think... sadly that is where most of the modern world in Christianity actually stops – they do not think, and just believe whatever is taught and enforced on them through traditions and dogmas of man, without actually testing to see if what is being taught is actually truth or not.

Messiah tells us that we must not for one moment think that He came to 'do away with' the Torah and the Prophets.

The Greek word that is used for 'destroy' is καταλύω *kataluō* – Strong's G2647 which means, 'to destroy, overthrow, abolish, tear down' and comes from two words:

1) κατά *kata* – Strong's G2596 which is a preposition which carries the meaning, 'down, against, according to' and the other word:

2) λύω *luō* – Strong's G3089 which means, 'to loose, to release, dissolve, annul, break, take off, unbind, untie'.

So, to 'destroy' the Torah (Law) and the Prophets would be to break them off, unbind them, dissolve them and loosen them, making them no longer of effect, and annulling them!

Now, this is what most believe to actually have happened, yet our Master clearly says He did not come to do that – so why would we believe a twisted lie that says He has???

The term 'do not think' is written in the Greek as – Μὴ νομίσητε – which comes from two Greek root words:

1) The first being μή me – Strong’s G3361 which is a primary participle of a qualified negation, meaning, ‘*not, know, neither, none*’; and the second word:

2) νομίζω nomizō – Strong’s G3543 meaning, ‘*practice, consider, suppose, think, thought*’ and comes from the root word νόμος nomos – Strong’s G3551 meaning, ‘*that which is assigned, law, laws, principle*’.

What is very clear from the Greek text, is that Messiah was clearly teaching us that we must not for a single moment have any inclination or thought, or suppose or consider that He came to annul or take away that which has been assigned as being the clear instructions for living as a called out and set-apart people!

While many may argue that they agree with what I am saying, they claim that He alone fully met all that the Torah instructs and in so doing, has taken it away as he fulfilled it all, so that we do not have to!

Now, again I ask – is that really what our Master and King is saying?

The Greek word for ‘complete’ is πληρόω plēroō – Strong’s G4137 which means, ‘*to make full, complete, accomplish*’.

And this means in essence to fully meet what is required and not to finish and be done with!!!! We see the root form of this word being used in other places in the Renewed Writings (N.T.) which clearly shows that to ‘complete’ means to meet the requirements.

**Galatians 6:2 “Bear one another’s burdens, and so complete the Torah of Messiah.”**

The word complete here is ἀναπληρόω anaplēroō – Strong’s G378 and means, ‘*to fill up, complete, fill up the measure, supply, cause to happen*’.

What this word implies is that we fully meet the requirements needed to do that which is required and fully measure up to the standard required in order to do or complete the task at hand. It comes from two words:

1) ἀνά ana – Strong’s G303 meaning, ‘*up, upwards, back*’ and

2) πληρόω plēroō - the same word that is used when Messiah declares to us that He did not come to destroy the Torah but ‘fulfil’ or ‘complete’ it!

In other words, He came to **fully meet its requirements** and provide for us the Way to walk in His Torah as we remain in Him in order that we too may ‘complete/fulfil’ the Torah.

Just think about it – if He fulfilled’ it in the erroneous way that is taught by many that declares it is now null and void – then how would Sha’ul tell us to fulfil something already fulfilled!!! Yes, I know it sounds crazy – and guess what – it is!

Because the Torah has not been made null and void – it is there for us to hear, guard and do and we have the ability in Messiah to walk in it!

Sha’ul tells us in:

**Romans 3:31 “Do we then nullify the Torah through the belief? Let it not be! On the contrary, we establish the Torah.”**

The Greek word for ‘nullify’ is καταργέω katargeō – Strong’s G2673 which means, ‘*to render inoperative, abolish, bring to an end, do away with, nullify, pass away, render powerless or void*’.

The Greek word that is used here for 'Torah (Law)' is νόμος **nomos** – Strong's G3551 (which we have already looked at above).

Sha'ul is clearly asking whether we then render inoperative the 'law' (Torah) through 'belief' – and he emphatically answers a clear NO WAYS – LET IT NOT BE!!!

DO not let your 'assumed' belief cause you to render inoperative or abolish that which has been clearly assigned to a covenanted people of Elohim!!!

He says that contrary to popular belief we do not render inoperative the Torah, but rather we 'establish' the Torah!!!

The Greek word for 'establish' is ἵστημι **histēmi** – Strong's G2476 which means, '*to make to stand, to stand firm, be established, stand upright, stand ready and prepared, be of a steadfast mind, to uphold and sustain the authority of something*', and so we can clearly see that this 'establishing' of the Torah is an equipped ability to stand, dressed in the full armour of light/armour of Torah in the required dress code that is to be adhered to and functional in being obedient and faithful followers of the Most-High!

How we 'establish' the Torah is through our faithful obedience to His commands as we walk in complete love:

**Romiyim/Romans 13:10** "Love does no evil to a neighbour. Therefore, love is completion of the Torah."

This Greek word that is used here in **Romiyim/Romans** for completion is πλήρωμα **plērōma** – Strong's G4138 and comes from the word πληρόω **plēroō** – Strong's G4137 which means as discussed - , '*to make full, complete, accomplish*', and this means, in essence, to fully meet what is required, and not to finish and be done with!

While it may sound repetitive, what I am earnestly seeking to 'establish' upfront here is that we need to be a faithful remnant who lovingly complete the Torah by walking steadfastly in it, and here is why I say this, as we look at the words of Yoḥanan/John:

**Yoḥanan Aleph/1 John 2:3-6** "And by this we know that we know Him, if we guard His commands. 4 The one who says, "I know Him," and does not guard His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever guards His Word, truly the love of Elohim has been perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 The one who says he stays in Him ought himself also to walk, even as He walked."

These verses above are very clear indeed – we 'know that we know Him' IF we guard his commands – now guarding involves a doing – and when we 'HEAR-GUARD and DO' the love of Elohim is perfected in us and it is by this that we know that we are in Him and we who 'stay in Him must walk as He walked!!!

This is so simple in understanding, for Yoḥanan/John continues to expand for us the simplicity of the matter in:

**Yoḥanan Aleph/1 John 3:4** "Everyone doing sin also does lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness."

The Greek word for sin is ἁμαρτία **hamartia** – Strong's G266 which means, '*sin, failure, miss the mark, to miss or wander from the path of uprightness and honour, to do or go wrong*', and also carries the meaning of, '*wandering from the law of Elohim, violate the law of Elohim*'. The Greek word that is used for 'lawlessness' here, in **verse 14**, is ἀνομία **anomia** – Strong's G458 which means, '*lawlessness or lawless deeds, unrighteousness*' and comes from the word ἄνομος **anomos** – Strong's G459 which means, '*lawless or without law, transgressors*'.

**Titos/Titus 2:11-14** “For the saving Gift of Elohim has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> instructing us to renounce wickedness and worldly lusts, and to live sensibly, righteously, and reverently in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed expectation and esteemed appearance of the great Elohim and our Saviour **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** Messiah, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, to **redeem us from all lawlessness** and to cleanse for Himself a people, His own possession, ardent for good works.”

The Greek word that is translated as ‘redeem’ is **λυτρόω** *lutroō* – Strong’s G3084 which literally means, ‘*to release by paying a ransom, redeem*’.

In other words, Messiah has paid the price for us and released us from lawlessness by paying the ransom for our lives with His Blood.

Sha’ul tells us in:

**Romiyim/Romans 6:18** “And having been **set free from sin**, you became servants of righteousness.”

So, in other words, we can see that The Master **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** Messiah has redeemed us and set us free from all lawlessness and sin, in order that we never wander from or violate the Torah.

**Yoḥanan Aleph/1 John 3:4** “Everyone doing sin also does lawlessness, and **sin is lawlessness.**”

This verse spells it out very plainly for those who seem to miss the fact that to not walk in the Torah is sin!

It is as though Yoḥanan was spelling out this fact very bluntly and straightforward for those who struggle with a Greek mind-set and see no need to walk in the Torah – well right here in the Greek it is clear – If you are lawless (that is to walk contrary to the Torah) then you are indeed sinning!

**ἁμαρτία** *hamartia* – Strong’s G266 is **ἀνομία** *anomia* – Strong’s G458

When we understand this very simple truth, then we can see plainly what Yoḥanan is saying in: **Yoḥanan Aleph/1 John 5:18** “We know that everyone having been born of Elohim does not sin, but the one having been born of Elohim guards himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.”

This is a very sobering verse as it is clear that everyone who is born of Elohim does not sin but guards themselves – how?

By hearing, guarding and doing the Torah!

What he is, in effect, saying here is that anyone who is born of Elohim does not keep wandering from the law of Elohim!

So many confessing believers, who claim to be born of Elohim, continue to wander from the need to walk in the Torah and this means only one thing – they have not been born of Elohim!!! Redeemed from lawlessness and cleansed to be a lawful and faithful Bride – that is our call in Messiah!!!

**Having then set before you the obvious – in that, as children of Light, we are redeemed from our lawless rebellion against the instructions of the Torah of Elohim, as given through Mosheh and revealed to us through the life, death and resurrection of Messiah, so that we may fully walk in The Torah, which is our life:**

**Debarim/Deuteronomy 32:45-47** “And when Mosheh ended speaking all these words to all Yisra’el, <sup>46</sup> he said to them, “Set your heart on all the words with which I warn you today, so that you command your children to guard to do all the Words of this Torah. <sup>47</sup> “For it is not a worthless Word for you, because **it is your life**, and by this Word you prolong your days on the soil which you pass over the Yarden to possess.”

יהושע Messiah tells us that He is the Life:

**Yohanan/John 14:6** “יהושע” said to him, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

When one sobers up to the reality that יהושע is the Word made flesh and that He came to fully meet the requirements of the Word and show us how we can live in it by walking in Him and walk as He walked, it then becomes very simple to understand as a child how complete obedience to His instructions is necessary; after all, why would a Son of a Father come forth to bring us the Good News of His Kingdom and teach us to disregard the rules of His Father’s House – He wouldn’t!!!

The Kingdom message is clear – there is a Kingdom that is coming – and that Kingdom has a risen King, and His Kingdom is governed by His clear instructions, that He set forth through His Torah, as He clearly told all to Mosheh and commanded that He do exactly according to the pattern he was shown on the Mountain!

A kingdom without rules is a lawless kingdom and will not stand – the Kingdom of Messiah has clearly defined rules – as set out in the Torah and the Prophets and in the Writings, and anyone who reckons that these kingdom rules are not necessary for living in righteousness, risk the reality of being permanently expelled from the kingdom, as the master Himself tells us that He will send away the workers of lawlessness:

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Master, Master,’ shall enter into the reign of the heavens, but he who is doing the desire of My Father in the heavens. <sup>22</sup> “Many shall say to Me in that day, ‘Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your Name, and cast out demons in Your Name, and done many mighty works in Your Name?’ <sup>23</sup> “And then I shall declare to them, ‘I never knew you, depart from Me, you who work lawlessness!’”

“YOU WHO WORK LAWLESSNESS!” –

Some translations have the word ‘iniquity’ which can in many ways detract from the obvious clear message being given here, as the Greek word is ἀνομία *anomia* – Strong’s G458 – “without law”.

Messiah makes it very clear – you who ‘work without law’ do not know the Master and He will send you away – no matter how many ‘works/good deeds’ you think you may have done ‘in His Name’, while neglecting to simply walk in and guard to do His commands.

One thing is very clear – His instructions are given to us to live by and have in no way been destroyed or taken away.

In fact, the Word warns us very clearly to not add or take away from His Word:

**Debarim/Deuteronomy 4:2** “Do not add to the Word which I command you, and do not take away from it, so as to guard the commands of יהוה your Elohim which I am commanding you.”

**Debarim/Deuteronomy 12:32** “All the words I am commanding you, guard to do it – do not add to it nor take away from it.”

**Mishlê/Proverbs 30:6** “Do not add to His Words, lest He reprove you, and you be found a liar.”

Before we continue, what we must establish is the clear authority of the Living Word of Elohim, and many will gladly agree with the words Sha’ul wrote to Timotiyos, yet do not let their lives show this agreement of their lips with their lawless actions that disregard the Living Word:

**Timotiyos Bêt/2 Timothy 3:16-17** “All Scripture is breathed by Elohim and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for setting straight, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of Elohim might be fitted, equipped for every good work.”

### **ALL SCRIPTURE!**

Now, what Scriptures would Sha’ul have been referring to here?

The answer is obvious – and that is the **TaNak** = **T** - Torah; **N** - Nebi’im (Prophets); **K** - **K**etubim (Writings) – commonly referred to in error as the O.T. – for there is certainly nothing ever ‘old’ and fading about the LIVING WORD. When Sha’ul wrote this letter to Timotiyos the Second Writings/Renewed Writings (N.T.) was not even compiled as yet and so the ‘Scriptures’ being referred to all throughout the “N.T.” is in fact the T-N-K (Tanak) – aka “O.T.”

What we also must realise, is that Elohim is the same yesterday today and forever and His word does not change, nor is He a liar:

**Bemidbar/Numbers 23:19** “**Ėl is not a man, to lie; nor a son of man, to repent! Has He said, and would He not do it; or spoken, and would not confirm it?**”

**Mal’aki/Malachi 3:6** “**For I am יהוה, I shall not change, and you, O sons of Ya’aqob, shall not come to an end.**”

**Ib’rim/Hebrews 13:8** “**יהושע Messiah is the same yesterday, and today, and forever.**”

**Ib’rim/Hebrews 4:12** “**For the Word of Elohim is living, and working, and sharper than any two-edged sword, cutting through even to the dividing of being and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.**”

Which word was being referred to here???

The T-N-K (Tanak - O.T.)

What we must be thankful of today is that we do have the Renewed/Second Writings that expand on the Truth and continue to teach us and train us in righteousness, therefore we recognise the pure and clear authority of the “N.T.” that helps us further understand the TaNaK (O.T.) and therefore rendering us to be without excuse for not knowing how we ought to walk as Messiah did.

## **THE SABBATH:**

**Berëshith/Genesis 2:2-3** “**And on the seventh day Elohim completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. 3 And Elohim blessed the seventh day and set it apart, because on it He rested from all His work which Elohim in creating had made.**”

The Hebrew word that is used here for ‘seventh’ is שְׁבִיעִי – Strong’s H7637 ‘shâbiy`iy’ which simply means seventh. What seventh?

The word for ‘day’ in Hebrew is ‘yôm’ - Strong’s H3117.

Elohim completed His work on the 7<sup>th</sup> day and then rested on it the Hebrew word for ‘rested’ used here in **verse 3** is ‘shâbath’ שָׁבַת - Strong’s H7673 meaning ‘rest’ – that is to desist from exertion.

The difference between ‘shabbâth’ שַׁבָּת - Strong’s H7676 and ‘shâbath’ שָׁבַת - Strong’s H7673 is that **shabbâth’ שַׁבָּת - Strong’s H7676** is the intensive form coming from H7673 which means **to rest or observe** and the intensive form of H7676 refers specifically to ‘the’ Sabbath as in ‘the’ 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week.

It was on this very day – the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week that Elohim set-apart one day from the others and very specifically He blessed this 7<sup>th</sup> day to be a day of rest in Him.

This has greater implications for us as we understand how the creation week itself gives us great insight in His redemptive plan and appointed times and so to misunderstand or incorrectly recognise the 7<sup>th</sup> day as a clear marker for us could be detrimental to us knowing Him and walking fully in Him.

As we can see from Scripture, Elohim blessed and set apart the 7<sup>th</sup> day, not the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> etc. – He blessed the 7<sup>th</sup> day and set it (7<sup>th</sup> day) apart from the rest.

### **The importance of Sabbath:**

Why is the Sabbath so important, you may ask and does it really matter which day is the Sabbath? Well, to answer that bluntly – yes it does matter!!!

It matters a great deal and it is of vital importance for us and that is what I want us to look at – the Truth and validity of the importance of the Sabbath.

We have seen that יְהוָה had set the Sabbath apart already in the Creation week and this stands firm **forever** as we, each week, get to ‘rehearse’ by remembering to ‘keep’ His Sabbath as it foreshadows our reign with Him.

But just how important is the Sabbath?

What is the significance of us getting it right?

For many, it seemingly does not matter which day is the Sabbath as they erroneously regard ‘every day’ as a Sabbath, but is that what Scripture says?

No – Scripture is clear that it is the 7<sup>th</sup> day, not the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> or any other day but the 7<sup>th</sup>!

The Hebrew root word for ‘guard’ is שָׁמַר **shamar** – Strong’s H8104 and carries the meaning, **‘keep watch’, ‘observe’, ‘perform’, ‘protect’, ‘pay attention’,** and the basic idea of the root of this word is **‘to exercise great care over’.**

We are to ‘exercise great care over observing and keeping His Sabbath.

When one is ‘guarding’ something, being ‘awake’ and alert is imperative or else the risk of a theft or loss of possessions are high.

One of the biggest problems we find today among claiming torah observant followers of Messiah is their ability to quickly compromise their diligent duty required in guarding the Sabbath, and we must take great care to not be found slipping in the slightest!

We as set-apart people must guard the Sabbath – why?



## The Sabbath is a sign

Why the Sabbath is of utmost importance to us, and what we are to quickly realise is that our sign or mark of our worship unto יהוה our Elohim, is in fact our remembering to 'keep' His Sabbath.

Sabbath observance is key to worship, in fact it is our definitive sign that sets us apart from others.

Yehezqĕl/Ezekiel 20:12 **“And I gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, to know that I AM יהוה who sets them apart!”**

Shemoth/Exodus 31:16-17 **“And the children of Yisra’ĕl shall guard the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as an everlasting covenant. 17 ‘Between Me and the children of Yisra’ĕl it is a sign forever. For in six days יהוה made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.”**

We, as His children, are to ‘guard’ and ‘observe’ the Sabbath for all time!

The Hebrew root word that is used for ‘observe’ is עָשָׂה *asah* – Strong’s H6213 which means, **‘to do, work, make, produce, to act with effect, to observe, to bring about, institute’** and can also mean, **‘celebrate’**, which I think is very fitting.

As it is truly a great ‘joy’ **TO DO** the laws and right-rulings as prescribed, and starting with the true observance and keeping of the Sabbath is a ‘key’ to growing in our understanding!

So many today think that it is a huge burden to do what is commanded, yet that is so far from the truth – when we diligently observe and guard to do all He commands us to do – it is a great joy and a delight and not heavy at all; and the Sabbath is a delight!

יהוה makes it very clear in the above two passages that the Sabbath is in fact **the sign** that we are His!!!

How awesome is that!

**His Sabbath is a sign** of His power to create and His power to redeem. In the Scriptures, the words seal, sign, mark, and token are used interchangeably.

Elohim's sign, the Sabbath, represents His mighty power to rule as Creator and Saviour, and it is a sign forever between us as children of Yisra’ĕl and Elohim!!!

**Ib’rim/Hebrews 4:9 “So there remains a Sabbath-keeping for the people of Elohim.”**

You cannot get any clearer than this verse, although it has sadly been twisted into teaching that this Sabbath rest being spoken of only refers to the millennial reign.

The Greek word that is used here for ‘Sabbath-keeping’ is: σαββατισμός *sabbatismos* – Strong’s G4520, which literally means **‘a Sabbath keeping’** or **‘Sabbath observance’** and is very clear in its instruction for us today that to keep Sabbath is still of vital importance – after all, it is an everlasting sign for us – a sign that will prove to be a critical dividing factor in showing who truly worships Elohim and who does not!

The weekly Sabbath-keeping is for us, not only a sign, but it is also the first of His Commanded Appointed times according to **Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23:1-2**.

יהוה has given us this day as a sign of His everlasting covenant and what we must therefore also realise is that the enemy will always have a counterfeit sign in seeking any means at luring people into the delusion of false worship, making people believe that they are in fact worshipping the Creator when clearly, they are in error by having the wrong ‘sign’ of their worship.

What is also important to understand, in us guarding and observing the weekly Sabbath, is that we are not only rehearsing what we are commanded to do, but we are also being obedient in guarding that which is coming – the Promised Hope of a sure rest when we enter into the Millennial reign (7<sup>th</sup> day), for which there still remains a ‘Sabbath-keeping’.

Those who rebelled against the commands of Elohim in the Wilderness, never got to enter into the Promised Land – an entire generation missed out except for Yehoshua and Kalēb, and so too do we need to recognise the vital importance our Sabbath-keeping as well as the guarding of all His commands are for us as we sojourn here in our ‘Wilderness wanderings’ - for it is very clear that obedience to His commands will give us entrance into that rest that remains for us to enter into and be a part of the first resurrection; while those who disregard His Sabbath, which marks the true worshippers of Elohim, will be as the rebellious nation who came out of Mitsrayim by favour/grace yet never entered into the Promised Land through disobedience to the clear commands – they will never enter His rest!

The 7<sup>th</sup> day is the day that יהוה blessed and ‘set-apart’ and the Hebrew root word used for ‘set it apart’ is קָדַשׁ qadash – Strong’s H6942 which is a denominative verb which means, ‘**to be set-apart or consecrated**’ and comes from the word

קָדָשׁ qadosh – Strong’s H6944 meaning, ‘**apartness/ consecrated/ dedicated/ that which is dedicated and separated unto יהוה**’.

The word is really self-explanatory and carries with it great weight in its identification of truly setting something or someone apart from another with a clear distinction of being marked as separate and apart from the rest.

**Shemoth/Exodus 20:8-11 “Remember the Sabbath day, to set it apart. 9 Six days you labour, and shall do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath of יהוה your Elohim. You do not do any work – you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 11 For in six days יהוה made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore יהוה blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart.”**

As you will notice, that in terms of the Ten Words, commonly known to us as the ‘**Ten Commandments**’, this 4<sup>th</sup> commandment regarding the Sabbath is the longest of the 10. Longest of the 10 spoken to an entire nation!

In the original King James translation into English this command contained 97 words – and that in itself ought to tell us the significance of this day!

This was and always is to be a day of rest and a day set-apart unto Elohim.

No work is to be done on this day – no work for you, or your servants or your animals or for any ‘stranger’ or ‘foreigner’ within your gates. This is a day of rest from your weekly labour – that is that which earns you your wages and keep!

This is a day set-apart for us to ‘rest’ in Him, יהוה our Elohim and as we see from **Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23:1-2** in speaking of His Appointed Times and set-apart gatherings, we see clearly the first of these is in fact the weekly Sabbath:

**“Speak to the children of Yisra’el, and say to them, ‘The appointed times of יהוה, which you are to proclaim as set-apart gatherings, My appointed times, are these: 3 ‘Six days work is done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, a set-apart gathering. You do no work, it is a Sabbath to יהוה in all your dwellings.’”**

Sabbath is a day of rest from your daily work, but that does not mean you hide out and sleep it away – no – it is to be proclaimed as a set-apart gathering.

That means we, as the body of Messiah, are to have a set-apart gathering unto יהוה in all our dwellings. Where two or three are ‘gathered’ there He is in the midst of them!

This is a day when we get to spend intimate quality time with our Maker and as His Bride, we get to engage in fellowship together as a Bride who is preparing herself with her betrothed Husband.

**Now, in a response to the article I received, let us respond to the “10 reasons why the “SABBATH” commandment was left out**

**Reason 1 – Neither the Father or Jesus made it part of the New Covenant. If they had it would be somewhere in the N.T. as are all other 9 commandments.**

#### **Response:**

To make a statement like this is simply ridiculous!!!

The Sabbath day was clearly established at Creation Week and is a sign FOREVER, between the Creator and His Covenanted people – and is not something that can be added to or taken away from His Covenants of promise.

The Sabbath Day was set-apart ‘before’ there was ever any Covenants made, and understanding the importance of Sabbath is critical to the life of any confessing believer.

Kěpha (Peter) said the following:

**Kěpha Bět/2 Peter 3:8 “But, beloved ones, let not this one matter be hidden from you: that with יהוה one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”**

What exactly is he telling us here?

He is, in essence, saying that while there may possibly be many things that you struggle to grasp and understand, one matter is of critical importance – and that is this simple truth of 1 day is as a thousand years and vice versa, as this clearly helps us to understand the power of what was already being proclaimed at the Creation week, and to be put off sync with our Creator’s order of timekeeping and observance thereof is life threatening!

The 7<sup>th</sup> Day represents the 7<sup>th</sup> Millennium, when He will come to ‘complete’ His work and establish His reign here on earth, and the set-apartness of this day was set from Creation, which if we do not guard to keep this sign between us and Him that He has commanded us to remember, then we risk being exposed as ‘workers of lawlessness’ for breaking the sign we have as a set-apart people.

When Messiah came in the flesh and taught the Kingdom, there was never any question of the observance of Sabbath.

What was exposed on the Sabbaths was the hundreds of ‘additional man-made laws’ that were added to Sabbath-keeping – and this is what Messiah came to expose and rebuke.

To say, that if the Sabbath was ‘part of the new covenant’ it would have been somewhere in the N.T. as the other ‘9 commands’, reveals a lack of knowledge in Scripture and the historical evidence we have in Scripture as well as other historical writings.

Sabbath-keeping did not have to be ‘repeated as a command’ at the time of Messiah, because nobody disputed over the need to keep the Sabbath!

What we certainly do see in the Renewed Writings (N.T.) is many references to Sabbath observance, here are simply just a couple:

**Marqos/Mark 1:21 “And they went into Kephrah Nahum, and immediately on the Sabbath He went into the congregation and taught.”**

Messiah taught **on the Sabbath** – in the ‘congregation’! (Mark 6:2/ Luke 6:6/ Luke 13:10)

**Luqas/Luke 4:16 “And He came to Natsareth, where He had been brought up. And according to His practice, He went into the congregation on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.”**

The Greek word translated here as ‘**practice**’, also translated in other translations as ‘**custom**’ is ἔθω ethō – **Strong’s G1486** and means, ‘**to be accustomed, custom**’ and is used in expressing that which he was accustomed to doing – going to the congregation ON THE SABBATH and teaching!

Now, when we claim to walk in Him and declare that we ‘know Him’, we certainly ought to be walking as He walked and doing what He was accustomed to doing – any child can understand that – yet why then do so many people refuse to walk as Messiah walked and obey the commands???

Sha’ul also did as Messiah did:

**Ma’asei/Acts 17:2 “And according to his practice, Sha’ul went in unto them, and for three Sabbaths was reasoning with them from the Scriptures”**

**Ma’asei/Acts 18:4 “And he was reasoning in the congregation every Sabbath, and won over both Yehudim and Greeks.”**

This is a powerful verse in itself in showing us that both Yehudim and Greeks were gathered on the Sabbath!

What must be clearly understood is that the Sabbath never changed and no covenant can change that, despite man’s attempts to change the times and laws of our Creator as Dani’el tells us in regards to the 4<sup>th</sup> beast in:

**Dani'el/Daniel 7:23-25** “This is what he said, ‘The fourth beast is the fourth reign on earth, which is different from all other reigns, and it devours all the earth, tramples it down and crushes it. 24 ‘And the ten horns are ten sovereigns from this reign. They shall rise, and another shall rise after them, and it is different from the first ones, and it humbles three sovereigns, 25 and it speaks words against the Most High, and it wears out the set-apart ones of the Most High, and **it intends to change appointed times and law**, and they are given into its hand for a time and times and half a time.”

If Scripture clearly tells us that Elohim does not change, and we understand the importance of keeping his Appointed Times as outlined in **Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23**, then any ‘change’ to times and laws of Elohim are then an attempt or intention from the enemy, with the plan to lead the masses astray!

**Ma’asei/Acts 13:14-15** “But passing through from Perge, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the congregation on the Sabbath day and sat down. 15 And after the reading of the Torah and the Prophets, the rulers of the congregation sent to them, saying, “Men, brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, speak.”

Here we again see the correct practice of the nations who gathered on the Sabbath to hear the Torah and the Prophets!

**Ma’asei/Acts 13:42** “And when the Yehudim went out of the congregation, the gentiles begged to have these words spoken to them the next Sabbath.”

**Ma’asei/Acts 13:44** “And on the next Sabbath almost all the city came together to hear the Word of Elohim.”

There is clear evidence in Scripture of the observance of Sabbath-Keeping in line with the Torah of Elohim!

**Reason 2** – Of all the words of Jesus on earth only 4 references are made of the Sabbath (Matt 12:8; 24:20; Mk 2:27; Lk 6:25). He merely taught that it was lawful to good on the Sabbath and that no day is lord of man. He did not command any particular observance of any particular day.

### **Response:**

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 12:8** “For the Son of Ađam is Master of the Sabbath.”

If the Son of Ađam is not Master of the Sabbath then we have a problem!!!

Messiah rose at the end of the Sabbath day, being exactly 3 days and 3 nights in the heart of the earth, and by Him rising at the end of Sabbath, having defeated death is a powerful declaration of Him being Master, for we also know this shadow pictures the time at the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> Millennium (7<sup>th</sup> day), when Messiah will destroy Satan and sin will be no more, having accomplished the complete rest for us to dwell with Him forever in the Renewed Heavens and earth!

His declaring this is a declaration of Him being Elohim, and that He is the One who is the Creator of all, and in whom we find our rest, to be fully accomplished when He once again comes on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day (7<sup>th</sup> millennium) as Master and King of all Creation, which every eye shall see and every tongue confess.

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 24:20** “And pray that your flight does not take place in winter or on the Sabbath.”

**Chapter 24** of Mattithyahu is a clear warning of the last days and here Messiah is warning us of what is coming, and makes it clear that we should pray that our flight does not take place on Sabbath – now if the Sabbath is of no relevance, why would He say this?

It is a certain proof text that Sabbath keeping is, and will always be of great importance; so much so that we do not want to find that the distress comes on a day when we are to be gathered together delighting in Him!

**Marqos/Mark 2:27-28** “**And He said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 “So the Son of Aḏam is also Master of the Sabbath.”**”

Praise our Master that He made a day for us to enter His complete rest. Man was created before the Sabbath was made and not the other way around – and it was made for man to rest, just as יְהוָה rested on it!

Man has no authority to choose which day is the day of his rest, yet the Son of Aḏam – that is Messiah – He is Master of the Sabbath – He made it and He has set it apart to be a complete set-apart day in Him – who is man to change that!

He has given us 6 days in which to work, yet on the 7<sup>th</sup> day we are to set-apart unto Him – totally:

**Yeshayahu/Isaiah 58:13-14** “**If you do turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My set-apart day, and shall call the Sabbath ‘a delight,’ the set-apart day of יְהוָה ‘esteemed,’ and shall esteem it, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, 14 then you shall delight yourself in יְהוָה. And I shall cause you to ride on the heights of the earth, and feed you with the inheritance of Ya’aqob your father. For the mouth of יְהוָה has spoken!”**

We are not master of His Sabbath – and we in no way have authority to decide how we guard His Sabbath, nor do we have the authority to decide on which day we can choose to keep a Sabbath!

יְהוֹשֻׁעַ Messiah taught us that it is right to do good on the Sabbath, just do not break the Sabbath commands! What we must understand as stated earlier, is that at the time of His earthly ministry there was hundreds of man-made additions to Sabbath-Keeping, and many of them restricted doing what was good – such as healing.

As one studies the miracles of Messiah, we see how he not only healed on the Sabbath, but in so doing, he was breaking the yoke of man-made dogmas that had been added to the commands!

For instance, when He healed the Blind man by putting mud in his eyes, He was not only doing what may seem to have been very odd and strange, but He was also deliberately breaking the Rabbinic laws which forbid one to do what Messiah did.

By picking up dirt He broke one of their laws pertaining to their strict Sabbath Keeping according to their man-made traditions, and then by spitting into the dirt in His hand He broke another, which forbid ‘making’ such a mixture and then by putting the mixture on the blind man’s eyes He broke a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Rabbinic traditions that were enforced as law, regarding the Sabbath, for it states in their oral laws that one is not permitted to put spit or wine the eyelids of another on the Sabbath Day.

In fact, the oral traditions and man-made Rabbinic laws derived from meaningless discussions among rabbi's states that it is forbidden to put wine into one's eye on the Sabbath but to put wine on the eye was permitted, yet to put tasteless saliva on the eye was forbidden – how ridiculous is that!!!

And it is these very ridiculous man-made restrictions that Messiah came to expose and rebuke!

What is also worth taking careful note of is that the Sabbath is mentioned more times in the 4 Besorah Accounts ('Gospels') than in the Torah – that is that Sabbath is mentioned 49 times from Matthew to John; versus 36 times from Genesis to Deuteronomy!!!

While the argument of "He did not command any particular observance of any particular day" may sound to be true, we must carefully note that Messiah came to reveal the commands and teach them and He clearly teaches observance rather than disobedience – as He also makes it clear that not one jot or tittle will pass away, until heaven and earth pass away – and guess what - Heaven and earth are still here – His Torah (including Sabbath-Keeping) still applies!!!

**Reason 3 – The old Jewish Sabbath was part of the contract between God and Israel and was a *TOKEN* and *SIGN* of that covenant (Ex 20:8-11; 32:13-18; Ezk 20:12-20). The contract was not made with men before Moses (Deut 5:2-3), or with the gentiles and the church (Rom 2:14; Deut 4:7-10). The Sabbath was not for them.**

### **Response:**

Where do I begin?

Firstly, we need to establish very clearly that NOWHERE in Scripture is there a reference to The Sabbath Day being referred to as the 'Jewish Sabbath'.

It is this kind of erroneous doctrines of traditions that is taught by wolves in sheep's clothing that has caused so many to be drunk on the theologies of man and unable to discern and understand the pure Truth of the Word of Elohim. So where does the term 'Jewish Sabbath' comes from?

It is nothing more than a man-made interpretation that is complete error and is against the Truth of the command to keep Sabbath!

At the giving of the Ten Words (10 Commandments) to the entire nation of Yisra'el, יהוה made it clear that His called-out Bride (Yisra'el) was to REMEMBER to keep the Sabbath, as He had set it apart right from the beginning in Creation Week!

**Shemoth/Exodus 31:13-14 "And you, speak to the children of Yisra'el, saying, 'My Sabbaths you are to guard, by all means, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, to know that I, יהוה, am setting you apart. 14 'And you shall guard the Sabbath, for it is set-apart to you. Everyone who profanes it shall certainly be put to death, for anyone who does work on it, that being shall be cut off from among his people.'"**

This is very clear – the command to ALL Yisra'el to guard, BY ALL MEANS, יהוה's Sabbaths!!! They are His Sabbaths, not mans!

This Sabbath keeping is a sign between יהוה and His called-out ones throughout the generations!!!

Now, we all know that people are still having children today – therefore there is still new generations being born, making this command still very clearly applicable to all generations! This is a sign to know that he is setting us apart – because the Sabbath – His Sabbaths are set-apart to us!!!

**Yehezqël/Ezekiel 20:12**

**“And I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, to know that I am יהוה who sets them apart.”**

**Yehezqël/Ezekiel 20:20**

**“And set apart My Sabbaths, and they shall be a sign between Me and you, to know that I am יהוה your Elohim.”**

This is a great verse to ensure that you have 20/20 vision (perfect eyesight) as you fix your eyes on Messiah!!!

If you miss the Sabbath, you are BLIND!

The Hebrew root word used here for ‘sign’ is אָוֹת **oth** – Strong’s H226 meaning, **‘a sign, banner, pledge, witness, token, proof’** and comes from the primitive root אָוָה **avah** – Strong’s H184 which means, **‘to sign, mark, describe with a mark’**.

יהוה is saying, in the texts above, that He gave us His Sabbath as a wonderful sign of His power to create and His power to sanctify (set us apart and save) us.

In the Scriptures, the words seal, sign, mark, and token are used interchangeably.

The Sabbath, as יהוה’s sign, represents His esteemed power to rule as Creator and Saviour.

His Sabbath and His feasts are our seal on our foreheads and our right hand. Hazon/Revelation speaks of those who are sealed on the foreheads and **Shemoth/Exodus 13** speak clearly of Pěsaḥ and Matzot (Passover and Unleavened Bread) as being a sign/seal on or foreheads and on our right hands.

**Ib’rim/Hebrews 10:16** also makes mention His He writes His commands upon our hearts and on our minds (foreheads) as His people, who follow Him and obey His commands!

**Deḅarim/Deuteronomy 5:2-3** **“יהוה our Elohim made a covenant with us in Ḥorēḅ. 3 “יהוה did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive.”**

This verse makes a very clear statement – and that is that יהוה is the Elohim of the Living!!!

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 22:32** **“I am the Elohim of Abraham, and the Elohim of Yitśḥaq, and the Elohim of Ya’aqob? Elohim is not the Elohim of the dead, but of the living.”**

The words of יהוה here are in line with that which Mosheh was declaring – יהוה is a Covenant keeping Elohim and His Covenant is alive and is for us who are alive today!

There is nothing ‘old’ about His Covenant and sadly the misinterpreted terms of ‘old’ and ‘new’ covenant has hindered so many from grasping the need to hear the words of this very living covenant, that was renewed in the Blood of Messiah.



**Ih'rim/Hebrews 8:8 “For finding fault with them, He says, “See, the days are coming,” says יהוה, “when I shall conclude with the house of Yisra’el and with the house of Yehudah a renewed covenant.”**

This verse makes it clear – יהוה shall conclude (that is to fully complete) with ALL Yisra’el – the 2 houses – Yisra’el and Yehudah – a RENEWED covenant!

יהוה does not break covenant – but we did and He has renewed it!!!

The Greek word that is used here for ‘renewed’, which is often translated as ‘new’, is **καινός kainos** – **Strong’s G2537** which means, **‘new, fresh, of a new kind, unprecedented’**.

What we must understand here is that in the Greek this word does not mean ‘new’ as in ‘brand new’ and never having existed, but rather that it is ‘new’ in its quality and not in its time!

The Greek word **νέος neos** – **Strong’s G3501** means, **‘new, young’** and this word expresses that which is ‘new’ in time and reflects that which could be described as ‘brand new’ and not having been before; whereas **kainos** denotes that which is not new in time, but is new as to the form or quality.

**Neos** represents something as being chronologically new. It denotes that which just came into being, whereas **kainos** denotes that which is qualitatively new or different. It denotes that which is not necessarily new in time, but that which has existed for some time. Then a change occurs in its quality or character, however slight, that makes it different, qualitatively, from what it was before.

This difference in quality, makes it new in the sense of **kainos**.

This difference makes it new, not in time, but in quality. In other words, something could be a hundred years old and acquire a new and different quality, and it would be considered new in the sense of **kainos**.

I hope that you are understanding this, as it is vitally important for us to understand that the Covenant that we have been brought near to by the Blood for Messiah is a **kainos** covenant, in that it is from of old, but has a new quality in that it is now not with the blood of bulls and goats, but rather the covenant that יהוה made with Yisra’el is **kainos** through the Blood of Messiah – and this was His Promise to us!

This verse in **Ih'rim/Hebrews** is a quote from **Yirmeyahu** and it is always good to look at the original quote:

**Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 31:31 “See, the days are coming,” declares יהוה, “when I shall make a new covenant with the house of Yisra’el and with the house of Yehudah”**

The Hebrew root word used here for ‘new’ is **חָדַשׁ ḥadash** – **Strong’s H2318** which means, **‘to renew, repair, restore, restored’**, and this should make it very clear and plain in understanding that יהוה is saying that He would **‘renew, restore, repair’** His covenant with his Bride who broke it – and He would renew it is His Own Blood!

To illustrate the validity of what I am saying, we know that a derivative of this word is the word used for month - **חֹדֶשׁ ḥodesh** – **Strong’s H2320** which also gives reference to the moon – which **‘renews’** itself each month – for there is one moon and it renews each month in its cycle and it is not a ‘brand new’ moon that has never been before!

Now that we have established the fact that the Covenant that יהוה made with Yisra'el has been restored in the Blood of Messiah, we can clearly see why we are to be a hearing, guarding and doing people!

**ONE THING THAT YOU MUST ALSO TAKE NOTE OF IS THAT יהוה MAKES IT CLEAR WHO HIS COVENANT IS WITH – YISRA'ĒL AND YEHUDAH** – not with Christianity, nor with any falsified denomination that tries to claim what is not theirs!!!

As we are grafted in to Yisra'el, let us hear as Yisra'el should!

Sha'ul writes to the Ephesians:

**Eph'siyim/Ephesians 2:10-13** **“For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah יהושע unto good works, which Elohim prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. 11 Therefore remember that you, once gentiles in the flesh, who are called ‘the uncircumcision’ by what is called ‘the circumcision’ made in the flesh by hands, 12 that at that time you were without Messiah, excluded from the citizenship of Yisra'el and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no expectation and without Elohim in the world. 13 But now in Messiah יהושע you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah.”**

What we recognise here, is the reality that we have been created in Messiah unto the good works which has been prepared beforehand for us to do – that is to walk in His instructions, guarding to do all He has commanded us to!

And we who were once far off and excluded for the COVENANTS (please note the plurality) of PROMISE have been brought near by the Blood of Messiah.

Why plural Covenants?

Well it is simple – יהוה made Covenants with Abraham, Yitsḥaq and Ya'aqob, and He came and satisfied the blood requirements of these Covenants in His Own Blood!!!

If it was a totally new covenant why would we be brought near to any 'old' ones???

Because we have not been brought near to a brand-new covenant – but rather, we have been brought near to a Covenant that has been renewed in the Blood of Messiah, and what makes it NEW (repaired/refreshed/restored/established as new), is the fact that it is no longer of the blood of bulls and goats in the order of the Lēwitical priesthood, but is now made NEW, in the sinless Blood of Messiah, our Passover Lamb in the order of Malkitseḏeq – and that is in essence what the entire letter to the Hebrews is all about!

The incorrect association of the Sabbath of Elohim being labelled the 'Jewish' Sabbath, throughout history, is due to the fact that the 'Jews' (Yehudah), which are only one tribe in all Yisra'el, or two with Binyamin when collectively referred to as the '**House of Yehudah**(Judah)', were the only 'House (Southern tribes)' that were keeping the Sabbath in some way or form, and thus became labelled as the 'Jewish' (House of Yehudah) Sabbath.

The northern 10 tribes, collectively known as the 'House of Yisra'el' had been scattered among the nations and had lost their identity, after being divorced from the Covenant due to whorings and adulterating themselves after the nations.

It is this 'House' that Messiah came to save and restore back to Covenant:

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 15:24** **“And He answering, said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Yisra'el.”**

The sign of יְהוָה's Sabbaths have been given to His Covenanted people, Yisra'el (collectively the two Houses of Yisra'el (also referred to as Ephrayim) and Yehudah, and we who are grafted in to these Covenants made with His Chosen Bride, have a responsibility to guard this sign given between us and our soon coming Husband and Redeemer!

**Reason 4 – the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment was the only command that was ceremonial, not a law its purpose was to commemorate the deliverance from Egypt and bondage when Israel had no rest (Deut 5:15). It was only a type of future and eternal rest (Col 2:14-17; Heb 4:1-11; 10:1). It was thus natural to be left out of the new contract when the reality of rest came of which it was a shadow (Matt 11:28-29 ; Col 2:14-17). The physical and spiritual benefit of a rest day can be realised on any other day as well as on Saturday.**

#### **Response:**

First of all, this command to 'remember to keep the Sabbath' was given as part of the 10 Words (10 Commandments) that the entire nation physically heard, after which they told Mosheh to her the rest and they would do whatever is commanded through Him!

When they were given this command, no ceremonial instructions had been given in terms of how one was to draw near to Elohim, so to say it is a ceremonial command is simply an error due to lack of understanding!

**Debarim/Deuteronomy 5:15 “And you shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Mitsrayim, and that יְהוָה your Elohim brought you out from there by a strong hand and by an outstretched arm. Therefore יְהוָה your Elohim commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.”**

This verse is not only an historical truth but also a living reality for us to recognize and remember today – for He has with a strong Hand and an outstretched arm brought us out of bondage – יְהוָה Messiah is the strong Hand and Outstretched Arm of יְהוָה – so we are too commanded to observe the Sabbath Day, which is a constant sign and reminder of our deliverance from darkness from which we have been called out of, and as children of light we must walk in the light!

**Qolasim/Colossians 2:14-17 “having blotted out the certificate of debt against us – by the dogmas – which stood against us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the stake. 15 Having stripped the principalities and the authorities, He made a public display of them, having prevailed over them in it. 16 Let no one therefore judge you in eating or in drinking, or in respect of a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths – 17 which are a shadow of what is to come – but the Body of the Messiah.”**

Wow this verse is so misinterpreted by a westernised Greek way of thinking and is erroneously used as an excuse to disregard the Torah of Elohim.

What we have to ask ourselves is what was blotted out?

What is the certificate of debt against us, and what is the dogmas which stood against us?

The certificate of debt against us is our guilt of sin, which by the Blood of Messiah has been blotted out:

**Tehillah/Psalm 32:1-2 “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man to whom יְהוָה imputes no crookedness, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.”**

The punishment of sin is death, and Messiah has blotted out that which was written against us in declaring us guilty. He did not blot out the Torah, for He Himself said He did not come to destroy and it shall remain as long as there is heavens and earth!

The Dogmas that stood against us are the man-made commands and regulations that held us back from walking in a Covenant Relationship with our Beloved Creator.

The Rabbinics devised an oral law which imposed so many burdens upon the necks of all and Messiah came to expose these while upholding His Own Torah!

In Christianity, the mirror image of these man-made laws can be seen through the man-made catechisms that are taught as authority over seeking believers, with the mere intention of asserting control over others through a hierarchical system of man driven laws of worship; and these man-made dogmas Messiah came to expose and strip away so as to restore to us the ability to loving walk in the clear instructions He has written for us through Mosheh and the Prophets!

Many use **verse 16 in Colossians 2**. as an assumed excuse for not keeping all the Appointed Times of Elohim, as given through **Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23**; yet what they do not understand here, is that these verses that Sha’ul was writing to a people in Colossae who were seeking to walk in the Truth, was to encourage them to not be affected or stopped from obeying the Torah of Elohim.

Many of the religious Yehudim were jealous of the fact that many of the nations who were coming to the Truth in Messiah and started walking in the Torah and keeping the Sabbaths and Feasts, and they began to judge them and tell them that they are not permitted to keep the Torah.

Here, Sha’ul makes it clear that they were not to let anyone judge them for being obedient to the truth – for all the Feast of יְהוָה, and His Sabbaths are a shadow picture of what is to come, when Messiah comes to reign in the Millennial Reign.

The use of the term in verse 17, “but the body of Messiah” is saying here that the body must judge the body.

By that, I mean that we, as the body of Messiah, have a responsibility to judge each other in ensuring that we guard to keep the Feasts, Sabbaths and commands of Elohim, while we must not let outsiders judge us:

**Qorintiyim Aleph/1 Corinthians 5:12-13 “For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are inside? 13 But Elohim judges those who are outside. And put away the wicked one from among you!”**

The Greek word for ‘dogmas’ is δόγμα dogma – Strong’s G1378 and means, ‘*an opinion, a public decree, an ordinance*’ and comes from the word δοκέω dokeō – Strong’s G1380 which means, ‘*to have an opinion, to seem, to suppose*’.

This word refers also to ‘doctrine’ and man-made decrees and laws as opposed to the Law of Elohim. None of the words in **Qolasim/Colossians 2:14** refer to the Law of Mosheh (Torah of Elohim).

In **verse 8**, Sha'ul warns us regarding human doctrines and says: **“See to it that no one makes a prey of you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary matters of the world, and not according to Messiah.”**

The Greek word for ‘certificate of debt’ is χειρόγραφον cheirographon – Strong’s G5498 which means, **‘handwritten document’** and is a clear reference to the handwritten laws of man and not the Word of Elohim! Messiah came to make a public display of them and prevailed over them, while guarding to keep all the Torah!

Sha'ul then goes on and asks the believers in Colossae, who had been turning to the burden of the dogmas of man, the following:

**Qolasim/Colossians 2:20-22 “If, then, you died with Messiah from the elementary matters of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations: 21 “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle” – 22 which are all to perish with use – according to the commands and teachings of men?”**

He was saying that if you have died with Messiah and turned away from the ‘dogmas’ and vain traditions of men and their falsified laws, why then are you subjecting yourself to them all over again – do not touch, taste or handle – for they are all destined to perish with use.

The Word of Elohim remains forever and will not perish, whereas the false teachings and man-made doctrines will!

This then begins to help many realise how they have been erroneously following the man-made commands to keep any day as Sabbath as opposed to keeping the Word that does not change!

The Letter to the Hebrews is all about the change in the priesthood, and how the Lēwitical priesthood was a shadow picture of the work of Messiah in confirming the Covenants of promise on His own Blood, and while the blood of bulls and goats that could never make perfect those drawing near, the Blood of Messiah, shed once for all, could now perfectly cleanse – this in no way sets aside the need to walk in the Torah and keep the Appointed Times of Elohim.

**Reason 5 – The 4<sup>th</sup> commandment was the only commandment that could degenerate into a mere form without affecting the morals of man. All others concern the morals of men. It is the only commandment of the 10 that could be done away with and still leave a moral law for men.**

#### **Response:**

To say that any commandment of Elohim can degenerate is an attack on the very power of the Word of Elohim, and is bordering on the blaspheming of the Spirit!

To say that the keeping of Sabbath does not concern the morals of men is an absurd comment to make. Morals are that which relates to the principles of right or wrong in behaviour, and the ability to conform to a standard of right behaviour, and implies conformity to established sanctioned codes or accepted notions of right and wrong.

Keeping the Sabbath, is an established sanctioned instruction that was issued at Creation and will continue all through the Millennial Reign of Messiah, as we clearly see in the prophetic words of the prophet Yehezqël, in speaking of what will take place in the 7<sup>th</sup> millennium:

**Yehezqěl/Ezekiel 46:3 “And the people of the land shall also bow themselves at the entrance to this gate before יהוה, on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.”**

His Sabbath has never been ‘done away with’ and will continue to be kept in the Millennial Reign, and to neglect such duty is an immoral act of disobedience toward Elohim.

**Reason 6 – God foretold and promised that He would do away with the Jewish Sabbath (Hos 2:11; Isa 1:10-15)**

**Response:**

**Hoshĕa/Hosea 2:11 “And I shall cause all her rejoicing, her festivals, her New Moons, and her Sabbaths, even all her appointed times, to cease,”**

To think that these verses imply that the Feast of יהוה shall cease in a clear misunderstanding of what יהוה is saying in His rebuke of a rebellious and backsliding nation.

Firstly, you must take note here that יהוה says that He will cause ‘her’ festivals, new moons, Sabbaths and appointed times to cease – HERS – not HIS!!!

They had begun to incorporate pagan worship practices into His Feasts and through the mixing of worship had turned His Appointed days into their own form of worship that was no longer recognisable as being the Appointed Feast and Sabbaths of יהוה as outlined in His Torah!

**Yeshayahu/Isaiah 1:10-16 “Hear the word of יהוה, you rulers of Seđom; give ear to the Torah of our Elohim, you people of Amarah! 11 “Of what use to Me are your many slaughterings?” declares יהוה. “I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs or goats. 12 “When you come to appear before Me, who has required this from your hand, to trample My courtyards? 13 “Stop bringing futile offerings, incense, it is an abomination to Me. New Moons, Sabbaths, the calling of meetings – I am unable to bear unrighteousness and assembly. 14 “My being hates your New Moons and your appointed times, they are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing them. 15 “And when you spread out your hands, I hide My eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I do not hear. Your hands have become filled with blood. 16 “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Stop doing evil!”**

**Verse 10** – we see the clear command given by the words **hear** and **listen/give ear** – a repetition of **verse 2** given to the heavens and the earth; and this time to the rulers and people of Seđom and Amarah – a play on words to an apostate people who had backslidden and were living and worshipping like the pagan nations – and the call is to ‘**come out**’ by hearing and listening to His Torah!

Give ear to the Torah of Elohim!

This is still the call today to a people who are so intermingled with lawlessness and are living corrupt and compromised lives without listening to and paying attention to the Torah, while their attempts at worship are in vain as יהוה will not accept or hear our worship and prayer if it is not done His way!

Here Yehudāh were bringing slaughterings and offerings as the temple service was seemingly still going on while יהוה in essence says to them,

***“Why are you even coming with your offerings, since you also have idols in your homes and all you are doing is bringing mud into My House and your feet/walk is muddied with falsehood!”***

### **STOP MIXING WORSHIP UNTO יהוה WITH PAGANISM!!!**

He is unable to bear unrighteousness and assembly.

Yehudāh was wicked, while pretending to be righteous and to not walk in His Torah, yet claiming to be righteous is the great error they made back then, and the error that so many make today!

The false teaching that has set-aside Torah observance, is nothing more than a sick trampling of mud over His Torah with the appearance of assembling in righteousness while profaning His Word and His commands and His appointed Times, which He will not tolerate.

In **verse 14** – we see clearly the use of the term ‘**your** New Moons and appointed times’ being used. יהוה says that they are trouble to Him and is weary of bearing them!!!

Does this contradict the Torah and the commands to keep יהוה’s Feasts?

As much as many try to twist this verse, into teaching that keeping His Feasts is no longer necessary, we must note the key term in this verse, spoken by יהוה, is ‘YOUR’.

The way Yehudāh were carrying out His feasts showed that they had turned them into a creation of their own hands by doing it their own way and as it suited them and in the process they mixed in pagan worship practices with it – and this form of worship was no longer as יהוה had prescribed but had become their own, which He no longer saw as worship unto Him.

Today, it has even become worse, as the church not only worships their own way, but has at its root pagan influences and traditions that have even changed the appointed times to fit in with pagan sun-worship traditions - and יהוה hates – and I repeat – יהוה hates these man-made traditional feasts.

He also hates that which rabbinic tradition presents as a form of worship that sets aside the purity of Torah by the addition of oral laws and commands that יהוה has not commanded or instructed!

Adding or taking away from His instructions is forbidden and we must carefully hear and give ear to this and not fall into the trap of false worship that has been shaped by the hands of man – for when we do that we render His Feasts no longer His but make it our own and these He hates!!!

**Reason 7** – The prophets prophesied that God would abolish the old (with its laws and commandments) and make a new covenant (Isa 42:6; 49:8; 59:21; Jer 31:31-40; Jer32:37-44; Ezek 36:24-38). That this referred to the N.T. is very clear in Rom 11:25-29 and Heb 8:8-12; 10:16-18; Matt 26:28.

### Response:

Let us look at the Scriptures from the above reasoning:

**Yeshayahu/Isaiah 42:6** “**ו, יהוה, have called You in righteousness, and I take hold of Your hand and guard You, and give You for a covenant to a people, for a light to the gentiles,**”

Not sure how this can be used as a reference to the abolishment of a covenant???

**Yeshayahu/Isaiah 49:8** “**Thus said יהוה, “In a favourable time I shall answer You, and in the day of deliverance I shall help You – and I guard You and give You for a covenant of the people, to restore the earth, to cause them to inherit the ruined inheritances,**”

Once again, this is in no way a reference to the abolishment of a covenant

**Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 31:31-40** – verse 31-34 are the verses quoted in **Ib’rim/Hebrews 8** which I have already discussed above in reference to the Covenant being RE-newed in the Blood of Messiah!

In **Ib’rim/Hebrews 8:7-8** when it says that He ‘**found fault with them**’ – what we must understand is that it was the people He found fault with and not the Covenant.

Once again, the entire letter to the Hebrews deals with the change of the priesthood and how there was fault with the Lēwitical priesthood of man, in that every time a high priest died a new one needed to be ordained, and each priest was not without sin; yet He promised that He would conclude the Covenants of Promise with the House of Yehuḏah and the House of Yisra’ēl with a ‘re-newed’ covenant in that the blood of Messiah, our sinless High Priest and King, would make perfect in which there is no fault!

**Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 32: 37-44** once again makes the prophetic statement that Messiah would come and establish a Covenant in His Blood that would seal the Covenant forever, rendering an everlasting Covenant that need never require a Blood sacrifice again!

**Yeḥezqēl/Ezekiel 36:24-38** speaks of a restoration of a called-out nation who would be cleansed in the Blood of Messiah and be caused to WALK IN HIS LAWS and HIS RIGHT-RULINGS – TO DO THEM – no abolishment of the Sabbath!!!

**Romiyim/Romans 11:25-29** echoes these prophetic words of the prophets which promise how all Yisra’ēl shall be delivered and their sins/lawlessness be taken away – that means they will be a lawful serving priesthood!!!

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 26:28** “**For this is My blood, that of the renewed covenant, which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.**”

Once again, as in **Ib’rim/Hebrews** Messiah is declaring the restoration of his Covenant in His own Blood as the Greek word for ‘renewed’ is **καίνος kainos** – **Strong’s G2537**, which we have already discussed above!

**Reason 8** – In no passage is it stated that men should keep the Jewish Sabbath to commemorate the old creation. It was to commemorate deliverance from Egypt (Deut 5:15) This was what they were to remember (Exd 20:8)

### Response:

You are 100% correct in stating that there is no passage anywhere commanding us to keep a ‘Jewish’ Sabbath – for there is no such thing!!!



I think that the response to this reason has already been sufficiently answered already throughout this document!

Remembering that they were delivered from Mitsrayim (Egypt) in no way nullifies Sabbath keeping!

In fact, it was after they were delivered from bondage that they were commanded to 'remember' the Sabbath and were given strict instructions to not work on this set-apart day.

**Reason 9** – It was the only commandment that can be AND had been broken without breaking the moral law. Israel marched on that day (Num 33:3; Lev 23:5-11; Josh 6:12-16) searched Canaan (Num 13:25) and made war (1King 20:29; 2 King 3:9; Josh 6:12-16). David and others broke it and were blameless Mat 12:2-5

### Response:

**Bemidbar/Numbers 33:3** “So they departed from Ra’meses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month, on the morrow of the Passover the children of Yisra’el went out with boldness before the eyes of all the Mitsrites”

This day is NOT a Sabbath!!!

Nowhere in Torah is it defined as a Sabbath day, but rather it is a day where no work is commanded and we have a set-apart gathering (**Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23:7**)

**Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23:5-11** – this is the instructions regarding the observance of Pěsaḥ (Passover) and Matzot (Unleavened Bread). What we also have to remember is that while they came out of Mitsrayim on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the 1<sup>st</sup> month, the command to observe the Feast of Matzot had not yet been given until they came to Mount Sinai – so no breaking of commands was done by their leaving Mitsrayim (Egypt) at all!

**Yehoshua/Joshua 6:12-16** – the fall of Yeriḥo.

The pattern of seven times on the seventh day suggests a connection with the festival patterns of the seven weeks after Pěsaḥ, as well as the shouting in the seventh month.

**(Deḅarim/Deuteronomy 16:9)** What יְהוָה is showing them has little to do with literal warfare, but as we get into this pattern and circle everything with patterns of seven, our battles will be won.

Walk in His cycles, and you will be in the same pattern יְהוָה Himself is in and you will be able to see from His perspective.

So, pay attention to everything you see, and do not let it escape you.

But we must not only look at all the “sevens”; they went around the city a total of thirteen times. The total numerical value of letters that make up the Hebrew word “eḥad” meaning “one” or “united” is 13.

Unity is what wins battles when Israel is taking the Land, so this account pictures for us the need to keep His Appointed Times and Sabbaths, ensuring our triumphant walk of victory in Messiah!

**Bemidbar/Numbers 13:25** “And they returned from spying out the land after forty days.”

How does this verse reveal a breaking of any set-apart day???

**Mattithyahu/Matthew 12:2-5** – on the question of Dawiḍ eating the showbread when he and his men were hungry, which is recorded in **Shemu’el Aleph/1 Samuel 21** is a perfect shadow picture of Dawiḍ representing Messiah as King and High Priest.

Dawid asked for 5 loaves of bread and the priest told him that there was no bread except that which is of the showbread (12 loaves); and here, we already see a great prophetic shadow picture of the provision that Messiah would bring when He would take 5 loaves and feed a multitude of 5000 men besides women and children and have 12 baskets left over, which represents the full provision for the whole House of Yisra'el (12 tribes).

When Messiah was using this as an example, He was making a very clear statement of who He was. The showbread which was given to Dawid and his men would have been the bread that was from the day before which was permissible for the priests to eat, after fresh new bread was put on the showbread table every Sabbath (**Wayyiqra/Leviticus 24:8**).

In this event of Dawid having been given the bread by the priest, who told them that that the only bread available was the showbread table and asked if they were clean and had not defiled themselves, Dawid shadow pictures for us the Beloved King and High Priest יהושע Messiah, who is also Master of the Sabbath; and therefore through the miracle of the feeding of the 5000 Messiah was in effect declaring to all Yisra'el that He is their beloved King, in whom they have much provision and access to the Bread of Life!!!

So Dawid did not in any way 'break' the Sabbath, and while many may have thought He did, Messiah shows them otherwise!

**Reason 10** – The N.T. permits Christians to keep any day as the Sabbath, it being one of the doubtful things not covered by commandments in the new covenant (Rom 14:1-13 ; Gal 4: 9-11 ; Col 2:14-17). The day early Christians observed, not by command but by choice, was the FIRST day, Sunday (Jn 20:1, 19; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 16:2)

### Response:

**Romiyim/Romans 14:1-13** - In order to have an excuse to do things a different way than Torah specifies, many have misconstrued this **verse 4** to say Sha'ul is downplaying the importance of keeping the Sabbath on the right day – but is he?

In the context of this chapter, what he is talking about is eating or not eating certain things on a certain day.

From **Luqas/Luke 18:12** we know that there were some Pharisees who fasted twice a week, and many different religious groups at that time had specific days on which they fasted, and in many ways, would argue with each other who would be able to fast closest to the Sabbath, as well as argue over other matters concerning their own laws too. Messiah was also asked by the religious lot of the day why His disciples did not fast on certain days (**Mattithyahu/Matthew 9:14-17**).

And this is what Sha'ul was addressing here – he was not giving licence to break the Sabbath!!! He was making it clear that while one may choose a specific day to fast and another choose a different day, they should not let this divide the body, and make it an issue that separates rather than build up.

The only commanded 'fast' in Scripture, for the whole body to keep each year, is on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement – 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> Month), which happens to also be the only day in Scripture, outside of the weekly Sabbath, that is referred to as a Sabbath Day!!!

The Weekly Sabbath we do not fast – it is a time to come together as a body in Messiah, as a commanded set-apart gathering, and we do not fast on that day!

Sha'ul (Paul) was emphasising how some may place more emphasis than others on choosing not to eat certain foods or abstain from foods on certain days while others do not, and this should not cause division in any way – he in no way is referring to the keeping of the Sabbath on any day each person chooses!

If everybody chooses a different day to remember Sabbath, when would the body gather as commanded???

Do you see how ridiculous this argument sounds!!!

**Galatyiim/Galatians 4:9-11** “But now after you have known Elohim, or rather are known by Elohim, how do you turn again to the weak and poor elementary matters, to which you wish to be enslaved again? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years. 11 I fear for you, lest by any means I have laboured for you in vain.”

Once again, we have a passage in Scripture which many like to use as their ‘proof’ that the keeping of Sabbath is not necessary – but I ask is this really what Sha'ul is teaching???

Sha'ul was writing to people who had come to the knowledge of the truth, and due to a little pressure were beginning to turn back and submit themselves under the yoke of man-made laws and traditions which had once enslaved them.

The day and months and seasons and years here, is NOT referring to יהוה's Appointed Times. I mean, just think logically about this – if these who were gentiles before and had come to the knowledge of the Truth and shown the Torah and Appointed Times contained in the Word for a Covenanted people, what would they be turning back to?

They would never have been keeping any Scriptural Feast days, but rather their own pagan rooted culture, which they had come out of – so for them to turn back and be enslaved again – to what – to their own corrupt worship practices and dogmas – was the problem Sha'ul was addressing!

Some of them may have even been treating the Set-Apart Feast days and Sabbaths as common and adopting their old pagan rooted practices into these days and Sha'ul was reminding them to get back to what he had taught them according to the Torah!

Sha'ul was wondering how he had spent show much time teaching them when they keep going back to vain traditions and corrupt and wicked practices. For more info on this letter to the Galatians, please see the article “**Understanding Galatians**” on our website: <https://atfoc.com>

**Qolasim/Colossians 2:14-17** I have already discussed in this article.

The First day of the week did not ‘replace’ Sabbath observance!

In the Scriptures given for this reason # 10, we must first understand when a day begins and ends.

A day, according to Scripture starts and ends at sunset, and therefore the ‘first’ day of the week begins at sunset at the end of the Sabbath day (7<sup>th</sup> day) which is commonly known in the world as ‘Saturday’ – therefore ‘Sat night’ is the beginning of the first day of the week – and this is when the disciples had been gathered together to eat bread after having spent the Sabbath day together as seen in Ma'asei/Acts 20:7!

Sha'ul had kept teaching them all through the night and at midnight one of the men fell asleep and fell out of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor window and was picked up dead, and was revived by Sha'ul, after which they continued listening until day break (still day 1) when he left them!

On the accounts of Miryam coming to the tomb on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week and seeing that the tomb was empty, we must note that it was still dark and the sun had not yet risen, therefore it is impossible for Messiah to have risen on 'Sunday'.

For more on the death and resurrection of Messiah and its correct timing, please see the two articles on our website called '**3 days and 3 nights**', as this will clear up the lie of a Sunday resurrection theory which is simply centred around pagan sun-worship practices!

In **Qorintiyim Aleph/1 Corinthians 16:2** Sha'ul is giving instructions for the set-apart contributions:

**Qorintiyim Aleph/1 Corinthians 16:1-2 "And concerning the collections for the set-apart ones, you are to do as I gave orders to the assemblies of Galatia: 2 On the first day of the week let each one of you set aside, storing up whatever he is prospered, so that there are no collections when I come."**

While many Christian pastors will use this Scripture, to defend the wicked practice of sun-day worship, as being the day to gather as opposed to the correct Scriptural day of the Sabbath, what we must see very clearly here is that nowhere in this passage is there any inclination of 'gathering as an assembly' on the first day of the week.

Sha'ul is simply saying that each person must set aside his contributions/tithes/freewill offerings etc. on the first day of the week – each in his own home – so that when Sha'ul does come he will not have to call for collections, and possibly embarrass those who neglected this duty!

This is a lesson on putting יהוה first, by making sure that the first thing you do in the week is set-aside that which is for יהוה, so that you do not use it for other things and neglect your giving because you used it up.

There is no hint of a gathering or assembling of the body in this text. Many will erroneously teach this text as such, simply because they want to manipulate people into funding their pockets by taking up an 'offering' every sun-day morning before the service, when this is not what Sha'ul is teaching here.

Sha'ul never teaches us to break the commands, or else he would be a false teacher who should not be listened to.

Many are erroneously taught that Sabbath changed to the first day of the week at Pentecost, which is an absolute lie.

Sabbath has not and never will change – it is the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week and 7 cannot become 1!!!

When the 120 Yehudim (Jewish) believers were gathered together on Pentecost, which correctly is called "**SHABUOTH**" which is the Feast of weeks, these faithful followers of Messiah were obeying the commands to gather on the Appointed Times of Elohim; and this feast of SHABUOTH will ALWAYS be on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week!!!

Why? Because it is the 50<sup>th</sup> day from the counting on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week during Unleavened Bread.

**Wayyiqra/Leviticus 23:15-16 "And from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, you shall count for yourselves: seven completed Sabbaths. 16 'Until the morrow after the seventh Sabbath you count fifty days, then you shall bring a new grain offering to יהוה."**

On the morrow after the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread (first day of the week), which is also known as omer rēshiyth – the sheaf of the first, the wave offering of the sheaf of grain is done and this is when Messiah ascended on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week and offered up the first-fruits of the Harvest of souls to the Father, by taking up those who were raised and came out of the tombs after His resurrection.

50 days are commanded to be counted from this day – for this will take us to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week, after 7 completed Sabbaths where we gather for the commanded Feast where the two loaves of bread are waved before

יהוה, which symbolises the fullness of the body and pictured by the two Houses of Yehudah and Yisra'el, which He came to renew a covenant with – on this day of SHABUOTH, by writing the law (Torah) on their hearts and no longer to be on tablets of stone!!!

**Further info:**

יהוה has given us His Sabbath Day as a sign of His everlasting covenant and what we must therefore also realise is that the enemy will always have a counterfeit sign in seeking any means at luring people into the delusion of false worship, making people believe that they are in fact worshipping the Creator when clearly, they are in error by having the wrong 'sign' of their worship.

**I have taken an excerpt from the book Fossilized Customs by Lew White showing some quotes by various theologians and preachers of the past:**

*(From pages 86 & 87 Fossilized Customs – sixth edition)*

Below are quotes from theologians and preachers from a wide spectrum of denominations who have been very open in ADMITTING that there is **no Scriptural authority for observing Sun-day as a Sabbath:**

### **ANGLICAN / EPISCOPAL**

**Isaac Williams, Plain Sermons on the Catechism, vol. 1, pp. 334, 336:**

*“And where are we told in the Scriptures that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded*

*to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day . . . The reason we keep the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the church has enjoined it.”*

**T. Enright, C.S.S.R., in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, Feb. 18, 1884:**

*“I have repeatedly offered \$1000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the Holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, ‘Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy’. The Catholic Church says: ‘NO. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep holy the first day of the week’. And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church.”*

**Canon Eyton, The Ten Commandments, pp. 52, 63, 65:**

*“There is no word, no hint, in the New Testament about abstaining from work on Sunday . . . Into the rest of Sunday no divine law enters . . . The observance of Ash Wednesday or Lent stands exactly on the same footing as the observance of Sunday.”*

**Bishop Seymour, Why We Keep Sunday:**

*"We have made the change from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the one holy Catholic Church."*

**Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, a paper read before the New York ministers' conference, Nov. 13, 1893, reported in New York Examiner, Nov. 16, 1893:**

*"There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath day was not Sunday. It will be said, however, and with some show of triumph, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week. Where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament—absolutely not. To me it seems unaccountable that Jesus, during three years' intercourse with His disciples, often conversing with them upon the Sabbath question . . . Never alluded to any transference of the day; also, that during forty days of His resurrection life, no such thing was intimated. Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history. . . But what a pity it comes branded with the mark of Paganism, and christened with the name of the sun god, adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!"*

**William Owen Carver, The Lord's Day In Our Day:**

*"There was never any formal or authoritative change from the Jewish seventh-day Sabbath to the Christian first-day observance."*

**Dr. R.W. Dale, The Ten Commandments (New York: Eaton & Mains), p. 127-129:**

*"It is quite clear that however rigidly or devotedly we may spend Sunday, we are not keeping the Sabbath . . . The Sabbath was founded on a specific Divine command. We can plead no such command for the obligation to observe Sunday . . . There is not a single sentence in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of Sunday."*

**Timothy Dwight, Theology; Explained and Defended (1823), Ser. 107, vol. 3, p. 258:**

*The Christian Sabbath [Sunday] is not in the Scriptures, and was not by the primitive Church called the Sabbath."*

**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

**Alexander Campbell, The Christian Baptist, Feb. 2, 1824, vol. 1, no. 7, p. 164:**

*"'But', say some, 'it was changed from the seventh to the first day'. Where? When? And by whom? No man can tell. NO; it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again; for the reason assigned must be changed before the observance, or respect to the reason, can be changed! It is all old wives' fables to talk of the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that august personage changed it who changes times and laws EX OFFICIO— I think his name is DOCTOR ANTICHRIST."*

**First Day Observance, pp. 17, 19:**

*"The first day of the week is commonly called the Sabbath. This is a mistake. The Sabbath of the Bible was the day just proceeding the first day of the week. The first day of the week is never called the Sabbath anywhere in the entire Scriptures. It is also an error to talk about the change of the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. There is not in any place in the Bible any intimation of such a change."*

## **LUTHERAN**

**The Sunday Problem, a study book of the United Lutheran Church (1923), p. 36:**

*"We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish Sabbath faded from the mind of the Christian Church, and how completely the newer thought underlying the observance of the first day took possession of the church. We have seen that the Christians of the first three centuries never confused one with the other, but for a time celebrated both."*

**Augsburg Confession of Faith., art. 28; written by Melanchthon, approved by Martin Luther, 1530; as published in The Book of Concord of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Henry Jacobs, ed. (1911), p. 63:**

*"They [Roman Catholics] refer to the Sabbath Day, as having been changed into the Lord's Day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it seems. Neither is there any example whereof they make more than concerning the changing of the Sabbath Day. Great, say they, is the power of the Church, since it has dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments!"*

**Dr. Augustus Neander, The History of the Christian Religion and Church, Henry John Rose, tr. (1843), p. 186:**

*"The festival of Sunday, like all other festivals, was always only a human ordinance, and it was far from the intentions of the apostles to establish a Divine Command in this respect, far from them, and from the early apostolic church, to transfer the laws of the Sabbath to Sunday."*

**John Theodore Mueller, Sabbath or Sunday:**

*"But they err in teaching that Sunday has taken the place of the Old Testament Sabbath and therefore must be kept as the seventh day had to be kept by the children of Israel . . . These churches err in their teaching, for Scripture has in no way ordained the first day of the week in place of the Sabbath. There is simply no law in the New Testament to that effect."*

## **METHODIST**

**John Wesley, The Works of the Rev. John Wesley, A.M., John Emory, ed. (New York: Eaton & Mains), Sermon 25, vol. 1, p. 221:**

*"But, the Moral Law contained in the Ten Commandments, and enforced by the prophets, he [Christ] did not take away. It was not the design of His coming to revoke any part of this. This is a law which never can be broken . . . Every part of this law must remain in force upon all mankind, and in all ages; as not depending either on time or place, or any other circumstances liable to change, but on the nature of God and the nature of man, and their unchangeable relation to each other."*

**DWIGHT L. MOODY D.L. Moody, Weighed and Wanting, pp. 7, 48:**

*"The Sabbath was binding in Eden, and it has been in force ever since. This fourth commandment begins with the word 'remember', showing that the Sabbath already existed when God wrote the law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they will admit that the other nine are still binding?"*

## **PRESBYTERIAN**

**T.C. Blake, D.D., Theology Condensed, pp. 474:**

*“The Sabbath is a part of the Decalogue-the Ten Commandments. This alone forever settles the question as to the perpetuity of the institution. Until, therefore, it can be shown that the whole Moral Law has been repealed, the Sabbath will stand . . . The teaching of Christ confirms the perpetuity of the Sabbath.”*

*(Taken from Fossilized Customs by Lew White – sixth edition pages 86-87)*

Ok, I am sure that if you had never read or heard of any of these clear confessions before, then you may be a little stunned to say the least... and you should be!

So why then is there still such a fight and struggle to simply follow the Truth of Scripture?

The enemy wants control and so through the paganised programme of Christianity, which has syncretised Truth with sun-worship, has in fact drawn many to take on the ‘mark of the beast’. The papacy has declared that Sun-day observance is **her ‘mark’** of Authority. Now for many people reading this, the common error often too quickly jumped to is in declaring that they are not Catholic so it does not apply to them.

The plain truth is that the Catholic Church is the mother of Christianity – she is the whore who has made the nations drunk with here maddening adulteries and has brought forth many children – consisting of the 1000’s of denominations that exist within Christianity today and the sign or mark of the authority and worship of the whore and the Beast is none other than sun-day observance.

One only has to look around the Vatican website at the Catechisms to see how man has deliberately changed the Word of Elohim to suite his own agenda and have power and control over man – and the sign of this authority has been established by the institution of Sun-day observance that according to traditions of man now instituted as law has replaced the Sabbath, listen to this quote from the Catholic Catechisms, # 2190:

***2190 The sabbath, which represented the completion of the first creation, has been replaced by Sunday which recalls the new creation inaugurated by the Resurrection of Christ.***

**WHERE DOES IT SAY THIS IN SCRIPTURE??? NOWHERE – YOU WILL NOT FIND THIS ANYWHERE IN THE WORD OF ELOHIM – WHY? BECAUSE HIS SABBATH HAS NEVER CHANGED AND NEVER WILL!**

Some more quotes taken from the Vatican website, in their catechisms regarding the Sabbath and what they call the Lord’s Day (Bearing in mind that we dealt with what ‘Lord’ means in Chapter 1 – it means Ba’al):

*(Copied and pasted directly from the website: [http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_P70.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_P70.HTM))*

**106** St. Justin, I Apol. 67: PG 6, 429 and 432.

We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day [after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day] when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world; and on this same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead.

**108** St. Ignatius of Antioch, Ad Magn. 9, 1: SCh 10, 88.

Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.

**109** St. Thomas Aquinas, STh II-II 122, 4.



2176 The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all."

Notice this last statement (109) by St. Thomas Aquinas – ‘Sunday observance as a sign’.

But wait a minute – יהוה has given us a sign – **His Sabbath** – so who is man to change that? – the Word is clear – do not add or take away – man has clearly taken away and added in this one severe change of what יהוה has instituted from the Creation week as a perpetual sign of His Everlasting Covenant with His children.

What we need to understand is that there is a clear wrestle for worship – Satan wants man to worship him and will stop at nothing in doing everything he can to achieve this.

What each person needs to ask themselves is simply this:

“Who am I worshipping?”

And this will become clear by the ‘sign’ or ‘mark’ of their worship and that is in keeping the Sabbath of יהוה or in subjecting themselves to Sun-day observance (which is *‘the dare of the Church’*)!

For unity in the Roman Empire, Emperor Constantine, while bowing down to the sun and praying to the sun-deity Mithras, saw an image in the sky as he looked up – that image was the “cross” – which happened as the light of the sunrise defrags and causes the light to be ‘split’ – yet he saw this as a sign of how he would be able to gain control over the world through religion and thus he declared ‘Christianity’ to be the state religion and while he continued to worship the sun, moon and stars he declared that everyone was to give honour to *‘Sol Dies’* or *‘Sol Invictus’*, which means *‘the unconquered sun/ unconquerable sun’*.

This decree was made under a penalty of death for all who refused to bow down to the ‘sun’. Many true believers did flee while most submitted to this new religious system in fear of their lives.

In the formulation of this decree it was declared that all ‘Christians’ must now worship on the **‘Day of the Sun’** and anyone who was found to be ‘keeping’ what he called the ‘Jewish’ Sabbath would be put to death!!!

### **‘Mark’ on the hand and/or forehead**

**Ḥazon/Revelation 13:16 “And he causes all, both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave, to be given a mark upon their right hand or upon their foreheads.”**

What is this ‘mark’ being spoken of here?

There are so many theories and much guess work in this, however as one looks at Scripture the reality of what this mark is becomes clear. I have just discussed how the Sabbath is a ‘sign’ between us and יהוה, and also how the catholic church are very vocal in their arrogant declaration in saying that they changed the Sabbath to Sun-day worship and the mere fact that people observe this is proof of their ecclesiastical power:

“The Convert’s catechism of Catholic Doctrine” pg. 50, third edition tells us more of where the Sunday Sabbath came from. ***“We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.”***

Who changed the day, Elohim or man? We find this answer declared by Cardinal Gibbons, ***“The Catholic church by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday.”***

“A doctrinal Catechism” by Stephen Keenan, pg. 174 tells us that the Universal Church authorities was asked, ***“Have you any other way of proving that the church (RC) has power to institute festivals of precept? They responded with, “Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her- she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for which there is no scriptural authority.”***

So, on one hand, you have the Catholic Church declaring her authority in the fact that she claims to have the authority to ‘change’ Scripture.

יהוה makes it very clear in Scripture that HE does not change!!!

The dilemma that those who claim to worship the Creator are faced with is whether they will follow man or follow the Truth – the unchangeable Word of Elohim – will they accept the Truth or the Dare?

**Let us look at the true understanding of the right hand and the forehead:**

The ‘**mark of the beast**’ described in **Ḥazon/Revelation** is not necessarily a visible mark alone – but rather it is an **“action”**.

To have the mark received on the right hand means that it is **‘performed’** – in other words an action is performed but does not necessarily mean that the person believes it to be the right thing to do as they may just be ‘going with the flow’ in ignorance.

To have the mark upon the **‘forehead’** represents one’s intellect and cognitive decision-making process where one chooses to accept the action of submission to an authority that they follow. To receive the ‘mark’ on the forehead then, implies that the action is performed without any regret or remorse – like a whore without shame and therefore indicates that the person performing the action is in full agreement with the act.

So, in line of what we are discussing here in regards to worship, it is clear that the one who actively performs the agreed submission to the decrees of the one they worship will reveal whose mark or sign they have upon their right hands and foreheads.

**Mal’aki/Malachi 3:16 “Then shall those who fear יהוה speak to one another, and יהוה listen and hear, and a book of remembrance be written before Him, of those who fear יהוה, and those who think upon His Name.”**

This is such a powerful verse in clearly telling us that when we ‘think upon His Name’ we are written in the book of remembrance!

This is a key pointer to our ability of meditating upon the Torah of Elohim, so as to be marked in Him, through our loving obedience to do His will and walk steadfastly in His commands, and on Shabbat we get to do this together as a body, as we fear יהוה and delight in His presence, ensuring that His sign be continually upon our heads and hands!

If one chooses to **'work'** on the Sabbath and observe sun-day worship, then they must realise that they are taking on the mark of the beast upon their right hand and when they do this willingly and are in agreement with all the decrees of man, in following the lies that the Sabbath is done away with or changed, then they are taking the mark upon their forehead.

**"Right hand"** implies work and **"forehead"** implies a clear conscious choice.

When you willingly choose to walk in obedience to the commands of the Creator and remember to keep the True Sabbath and do not work on the Sabbath and willingly choose to 'delight' in the Sabbath then we are 'marked' by יהוה.

The Sabbath in יהוה's set-apart day for us to come together and delight in Him and not do our own pleasure nor even think our own thoughts:

**Yeshayahu/Isaiah 58:13-14 "If you do turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My set-apart day, and shall call the Sabbath 'a delight,' the set-apart day of יהוה 'esteemed,' and shall esteem it, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, 14 then you shall delight yourself in יהוה. And I shall cause you to ride on the heights of the earth, and feed you with the inheritance of Ya'aqob your father. For the mouth of יהוה has spoken!"**

Sabbath observance is a necessity, in the life of any claiming believer and to neglect such a duty, simply reveals a lack of knowledge, for which one will perish under the cup of drunken teachings being given out by the mother whore, who is leading the masses astray.

It is time for the True worshippers to Worship the Father in Spirit and Truth, and hear the call,

**"Come out of her my people!"**

In closing this article, I would like to share some pictographic words, from the Ancient Hebrew text, in order to emphasise the importance of a proper Sabbath keeping that remains for the children of Elohim.

In the Hebrew language, we have the text available to us today, as seen in what is called the Biblical Hebrew, which are the 22 letters of the Hebrew Alphabet in a block letter form. The letters were originally depicted in a pictographic form, where each letter was represented by a unique pictographic symbol, which carried great insight and meaning, in order to express clarity in its use. Over time this was developed into the middle text or Paleo Hebrew and then progressed into what we have as seen in Hebrew lettering today.

The AHL (Ancient Hebrew letters) often give us some insight into a greater ability of grasping the meaning of a word that is constructed to bring forth its intended message and we are therefore able to see form many Hebrew words, in their ancient pictographic form, some wonderful revelational understanding, helping to us to grow in the wisdom of the Word of Elohim.


It is with that in mind, that I would like to close this article, by presenting the pictographic representation of Sabbath being the clear sign that our Master and Elohim has given between us and Him, forever!

In closing, here are the two Hebrew root words, is אֹת **oth** – Strong’s H226 meaning, *‘a sign, banner, pledge, witness, token, proof’* and שַׁבָּת **Sabbath** - Strong’s H7676, which is the intensive form of שָׁבַת **shabath** – Strong’s H7673 which means, *‘to cease, desist, rest, observe, observe the rest, put an end’*.

The ancient pictographic rendering of the Hebrew word אֹת **oth** – Strong’s H226 which means, *‘a sign, banner, pledge, witness, token, proof’*, and comes from the primitive root אָוָה **avah** – Strong’s H184 which means, *‘to sign, mark, describe with a mark’*, looks like this:




#### Aleph - א:

The ancient script has this letter as  and is pictured as **‘the head of an ox’**, and represents **‘strength’**, meaning **‘muscle’** as the ox is the strongest of the livestock animals. This also carries the meaning of **‘yoke’**, as an ox is placed in a yoke in order to plough or pull a heavy load in the right direction. This can also picture for us the **‘red heifer’** sacrifice that יהושע Messiah fulfilled!


#### Waw/vav - ו:



The Ancient picture for this letter is , is pictured as a **peg** or **‘tent peg’**, which was used for securing or tying the tent or other items. The possibility of it having a Y-shape is to show that it prevents the rope from slipping off. The root meaning of this letter is **‘to add, secure or hook’**.

**Taw - ת:**



The ancient pictograph for of this letter is  - which carries the picture of **‘two crossed sticks’**. It was a type of a mark as being displayed by two crossed sticks and has the meaning of mark, sign or signature or identification, used as a marker to identify people, places or things. It can also carry the meaning of **‘seal’** or **‘covenant’**.

As we consider these three pictographic letters, for the root word for **‘sign’**, we take note that it is the **Aleph - א** and the **Taw - ת** (The Beginning and the End) that secures for us His Covenant, showing us the clear sign of His sealing of the Covenant, through His life, death and resurrection, for He took the nails in His hands and feet; and secured His Covenant for us, in His Own Blood, setting His seal upon those who guard to keep His Appointed Times. He is the Beginning of our Strength and He secures for us His Covenant, having set His seal upon us, by His Spirit, as we observe His Appointed Times.


Elohim's sign, the Sabbath, represents His mighty power to rule as Creator and Saviour, and it is a sign forever between us as children of Yisra'el and Elohim!!!

When looking at the word **שַׁבָּת** **Sabbath - Strong's H7676**, in the ancient pictographic text, we recognise the importance of our proper observance of His Sabbaths as we see the following being rendering in the pictographic letters:




**Shin - ש:**



This is the letter **‘shin’** which in the ancient script is pictured as, , which is **‘two front teeth’** and carries the meaning of **‘sharp or press, chew or devour’**; which is what the teeth do, and also speaks of the sharpened word that comes forth from the mouth as the teeth **‘chew’** or **‘meditate’** on the Truth, making what comes forth pure and sharp! It also carries the understanding of **consuming** or **destroying** – as teeth do to food.


**Beyt – ב:**



The ancient script has this letter as , which pictures a tent floor plan and means, **‘house’** or **‘tent’**. It represents family and the importance of those who are inside the tent as opposed to the tent structure itself.

Taw – ת



The ancient script has this letter as  which is pictured as **two crossed sticks**, and can represent for us '**seal, covenant, mark or sign**'; as this once again points to the complete work of Messiah in the renewal of the Covenant in His Blood that brings the two Houses of Yisra'el and Yehuḏah together in Him, as One, for He is not only the '**aleph**', but is also the '**taw**' – the beginning and the end of all creation!

As we consider this Sabbath of Sabbaths, we can see from the rendering of the word שְׁבֻתָּהּ **Sabbath - Strong's H7676** in the ancient pictographic lettering, the following:

## THE WORD OF THE HOUSE IS SEALED

This emphasises how the Sabbath is a sign, showing that we are the House of Elohim, for it is His Word that marks us and the sign of that mark, is our proper observance of His Sabbaths! If we do not guard to keep and observe His Sabbaths, then we are not sealed, nor are we guarding His Covenant that His Blood causes us to be grafted in to. And the one who does not observe the Sabbaths of Elohim, shall be cut off from His Everlasting Covenants of Promise!

May this article cause you to see the importance of a proper Sabbath-Keeping and the need to call the Sabbath a delight, as you enter in to the wondrous rest of our Master, as a continued rehearsal of obedience, looking forward to the completed work and eternal rest that is coming.

יהוה bless you and guard you; יהוה make His face shine upon you and show you favour;  
יהוה lift up His face upon you and give you Shalom!