

Jesus said, *“If you love Me. Keep My commandments.”* John 14:15 And, one of those commandments tells us to “remember the Sabbath day” - a sign between man and God forever!

The same Jesus who asks you to “remember” stretches out His hands-hands once nailed to the cross of Calvary for your sins-and gently calls, “Follow Me.”

My Personal Decision: *“Yes, Jesus, I will stand with You. I will put You first. I will follow you all the way.”*

THE VOICE OF PROPHECY SPEAKS

WHAT BIBLE PROPHECYSAYS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

LESSON 8 CREATED FOR SOMETHING BETTER

The scientific world is challenged today as never before as space exploration shows evidence of “Intelligent Design”. Credible critical thinkers challenge the theory of Darwinism! If there is a design, there must be a Designer!

Rev. Billy Graham has said that the last message of God to this world is found in the 14th chapter of Revelation. *“Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment **has** come.”* Vs.7 When the Beast power of Rev.13 is calling the world to “forget” the Seal of the Creator, God’s messengers call everyone to “Remember” the Creator and His Sign of Creation.

The Bible says that Jesus created all things in the beginning. *See: Ephesians 3:9* The book of Genesis 1:1 –2:1 tells us what Jesus and the Holy Spirit created in the beginning of the world. But carefully look at what happened next on the seventh-day of creation! *“And on the seventh-day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh-day from all His work which He had done. Then God **blessed** the seventh-day and **sanctified** it, because in it He rested from all His work which God has created and made. Genesis 2:2-4 ONLY GOD can make something HOLY! *See: Mark 2:27,28.* **Jesus** is Lord of the Sabbath!*

In the 4th Commandment, God said, “Remember...” but man “forgot” as sin increased on the earth. God provided a miracle every day to feed the children of Israel *See: Exodus 16:4-6*. ON the 6th day (Friday) they gathered twice as much Manna. *Ex.16:21-26*. On Sabbath there was NO Manna! This occurred weeks **before** Mount Sinai. *See:Ex.16:28-30*

At Mount Sinai, God “encoded” the Ten Commandments by writing them on stone with His own finger! Notice that the Sabbath is in the centre, or the heart, of those ten precepts. His promised blessing for “Remembering” His memorial of creation is found in *Isaiah 58:13,14*. **Nowhere** in the bible is the seventh-day called “the Sabbath of the Jews”. **Jesus** made it clear that it was made for humanity! *See: Mark 2:27*

The Sabbath is **also** “a sign” between God and man! *See: Ezekiel 20:12* The One who made the Sabbath holy during creation week is the same One who makes sinful people holy. Our Creator is also our Saviour! *Ezekiel 20:20*

The Sabbath was instituted before sin reared its head on Planet Earth and will be celebrated after sin is forever banished from Earth. *See: Isaiah 66:22,23*.

The identity of the day of rest was never questioned during Jesus’ life on Earth! The only controversy arose over how He kept it because of the distorted/cumbersome regulations of the rabbis. *See: Matthew 12:12*

- Friday (preparation day): Jesus died!
- Saturday (Sabbath day): Jesus rested in the tomb.
- Sunday (1st day of the week): Jesus rose from the dead!

Jesus hung on the cross on the preparation day and cried, “...It is finished!’...” *See: John 19:30* His work of redemption was completed! He rested in the tomb over the Sabbath and rose on Sunday, the first day of the week. Even in death Jesus kept the Sabbath! As we stand near the cross, we get the feeling that any day in seven will **not** do! For to tamper with the Sabbath would be to tamper with creation, with Sinai, and with Calvary itself!

Jesus expected His followers to keep the Sabbath for all time.*See: Matthew 24:20* You see, Jesus expected Christians in A.D. 70 (after the cross/New Covenant ratified), when Jerusalem was destroyed, would still be keeping the Sabbath! Galatians 3:15 says, “*nothing can be added or taken away from a covenant after a person is dead!*” *See: Hebrews 9:16,17, 22*. Jesus shed His blood and **ratified** the New Covenant on the cross **on Friday**, therefore Sunday could not be a part of the New Covenant because it was three days too late. Historical church records show that “the change” of the day of Christian rest took place many years **after** the death of Jesus!

The New Testament records that Jesus’ followers kept the Sabbath **after** the resurrection; “...*the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath...*” Acts 13:42,44. In fact, the book of Acts records 84 meetings that Paul held on the Sabbath! The Sabbath runs like a golden thread from Genesis to the book of Revelation, and Revelation is a book which describes those who are prepared to meet Jesus at His second Coming! “*Here is the patience of the saints: Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*” Rev.14:12