

11 - CREATED FOR SOMETHING BETTER



1

How to Satisfy Your Deepest Desires.



2

A story is told about the biologist, Thomas Huxley, arriving late in a city where he had to deliver a lecture. He jumped into a cab, which at that time was a horse-drawn carriage, and he yelled up at the driver, "Top speed!"



3

The cabby obediently cracked his whip and the vehicle went bumping along the streets at a wild clip. The frazzled Huxley settled into his seat for a second, greatly relieved, and then sat up with a jolt.

He called up, "Hear, hear do you know where I want to go?" "No, your honor," the cabby replied, "But I'm driving as fast as I can."



4

An awful lot of people are in motion these days. There's a lot going on in their lives. They're always going somewhere fast. But the fact is, too many don't really know where they're going; they don't know where their lives are headed.



5

It is for precisely this reason that God gives His final appeal in the Bible's last book, Revelation. In chapter 14, verse 7, the apostle John appeals to a world waiting for the coming of Jesus in these words . . .



6

(Text: Revelation 14:7)

"...Fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment has come;



7

and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."
Revelation 14:7.

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But if you have a map of your own town and you're trying to follow it to find a place, and the map is wrong, it makes a real difference!



8

**Worship who? Worship Him who made heaven and earth.
Worship the Creator of everything.
God invites us to slow down and gain a sense of where we are going.**

When we understand that we were created by God, it gives us a sense of why we are here and where we are going.



9

But today, people have forgotten that God is the Creator of the universe, our world, everything and everyone in the world. Some people say you can trust the Bible with absolutely no doubts. Others say you can't. Who is right?



10

(Video: 6 sec) Today, millions think we just evolved. Over billions of years we grew from single cells to sea animals to land animals to humans. They think everything happened by chance or accident we don't understand.



11

**But do you know God gave us a symbol of His work as our Creator?
He gave us something that would remind us every week that He made us, our world, our universe?**

**If the Bible is true, your whole eternal destiny depends on whether you believe and accept it.
What you believe about the Bible makes all the difference in what you believe about God.**



12

**In fact, He gave us this weekly reminder right at the end of Creation week.
But nearly the whole world has forgotten what that reminder is.**

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13

(Video: 15 sec) And without that reminder, most have forgotten that God is the One who created the world. So in our time we send people to the moon to look for clues as to how our world began.



14

We look far out into space with powerful telescopes, looking for clues as to how our universe began.

So let's take a look at this great Book—the Bible—also called God's Word—and see if we can find evidence as to whether it is true or not—whether it can be trusted or not.



15

Why all this effort and expense—intense interest? Because we want answers to our biggest questions. Are we alone in the universe? How did we get here? Why are we here? And where are we going?

So the search continues. Yet all along, the answers are right in front of us. But we're a world that has forgotten—we no longer remember where we came from!



16

To a world that has forgotten, God says, "Remember—remember that I am your Creator. And to help you remember, I have given you a sign—a symbol!"



17

(Video: 5 sec) At this time in history when evolution teaches that we are the result of chance, God says, "You didn't evolve—I created you!"



18

But, some may ask, "What is this sign or symbol that reminds us that God created us?" Remember when we studied about what God created during each day of Creation Week?

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(Text: Psalm 33:8, 9)

Creation was awesome! How did He do it—and so quickly? The Bible gives the answer: “Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

19



For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”

Psalm 33:8, 9

20



We can't understand how, but God was able to bring things into existence by His spoken word. God's word, whether spoken, or written down in the Bible is creative and powerful!

21

This agreement can only be explained by acknowledging that God gave this Book to us so that He might be able to communicate His will to us.



(Text: Genesis 2:1)

“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.”

Genesis 2:1.

22



In six days the Creator brought a world into being, clothed with shrubs and trees, flowers and streams.

23



He brought sunshine and glorious sunsets and a magnificent moon to enjoy by night.

24



But best of all, He created two perfect people. What an honor! Created in the image of their Maker! They were created to be rulers over the earth and all that was on it!

25

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26

(Text: Genesis 1:27)

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created them."

Genesis 1:27.



27

But, God wasn't through yet!

He had one more thing He wanted to do.

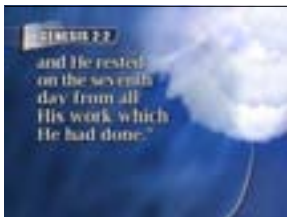
Notice carefully what the Bible says happened the next day- the seventh day of creation:



28

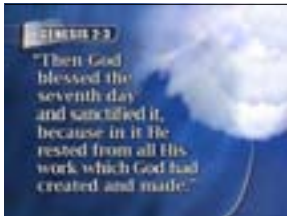
(Text: Genesis 2:2-4)

"And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done,



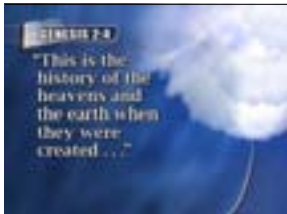
29

and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.



30

Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.



31

This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created."

Genesis 2:2-4.



32

Only God can make something holy, and the Bible says that He sanctified the seventh day.



33

To sanctify something is to set it aside for holy use. God set the Sabbath aside from all other days.

It was set aside as holy – dedicated totally to Him.

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There are some people who wonder – what difference does a day make? Maybe this illustration will help.



34

At a wedding one woman is sanctified or set apart for one man. Let's suppose its your wedding day. You are so excited. You have looked forward to this day for some time.



35

Let's also suppose your wife-to-be has six sisters. During the wedding ceremony one woman is united to one man. She is set aside. She is no longer one in seven. She is the sanctified one. Consecrated to her husband in marriage.



36

What if after the marriage, one of your wife's sisters said, "What difference does it make? One in seven will do. Any one of the seven sisters is as good as the next." What would you say? Does it make a difference?



37

What about you, Ma'am, does it make a difference to the bride?
It certainly does!
As a husband, you would say, "My bride was chosen, sanctified, set aside, dedicated to me?"

So God took a common, ordinary day of 24 hours – the seventh day – and chose it, sanctified it, set it aside, and dedicated it to Himself. The Sabbath is a blessed, sanctified day. According to God's word, it is not any day but the seventh day.



38

(Text: Mark 2:27, 28)
Here is what Christ said: "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."



39

Therefore the Son of man is also Lord of the Sabbath."
Mark 2:27, 28.

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40

God gave the Sabbath so that we could take time to remember that we did not evolve.

God had created him and all the rest of the wonderful world in six days!

This was to be a holy time when man and His maker would renew their pledge of love and devotion together each week. Every week, man was to “remember” that God made the heaven and earth in six days and rested the seventh.



41

God asked man to remember when He wrote with His own finger the law.

The fourth commandment is in the middle of that sacred Law of God.

He told mankind to “remember” this day, because in six days He had created the earth, the sea, and the fountains of water.



42

If the Sabbath had always been kept as a memorial of Creation there would not be an evolutionist, infidel, or skeptic alive today.

They would have been reminded each week of their roots and of their relationship to their Creator!

As sin increased on the earth, man forgot where he came from and why he was here and where he is going.

When this happened, he also forgot how he should live.



43

(Video: 10 sec) By the time of Moses, the people of Israel had almost completely forgotten about their God.

They were immersed in worshiping man made idols!



44

(Video: 7 sec) God miraculously delivered them from their enemies and led them through the wilderness on the way to the “Promised Land.”

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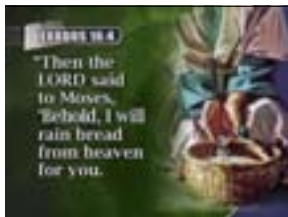
In this wilderness, He did two things to show them what He wanted them to do in connection with the seventh-day Sabbath He had made for them in the first week of this world's history.



45

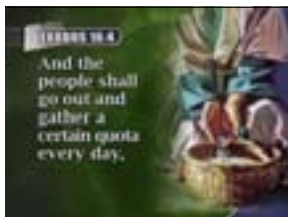
(Video:10 sec) First, God reminded them that He cared about them and that He had led them out of Egypt. They could not carry enough food. Soon they murmured because they had run out.

They didn't seem to have appreciated all the miracles and kindness God had shown them, but a loving God provided food for them!



46

(Text: Exodus 16:4, 5)
"Then the Lord said to Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you.



47

And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day,



48

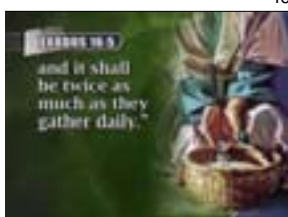
that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not."
Exodus 16:4

The "bread" spoken of here is commonly called "manna."



49

"And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in,



50

and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.
Exodus 16:5

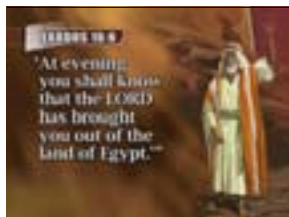
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51

(Text: Exodus 16:6)

"Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel,



52

At evening you shall know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt."

Exodus 16:6

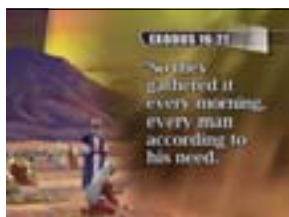


53

(Video: 16 sec)

The manna came at night as the dew settled. In the morning after the dew evaporated the manna covered the ground.

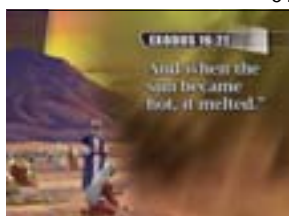
The people went out and gathered it in the early morning hours and by mid day the remaining manna disappeared
But wait—notice what happened on the sixth day of the week:



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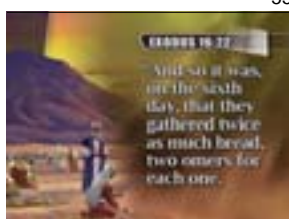
(Text: Exodus 16:21, 22)

"So they gathered it every morning, every man according to his need.



55

And when the sun became hot, it melted.



56

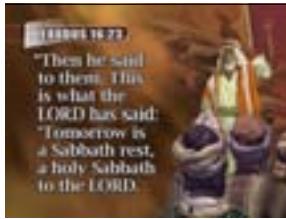
And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two homers for each one.



57

And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

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58

(Text: Exodus 16:23)

“Then he said to them, This is what the Lord has said: Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord.



59

Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil today; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.”

Exodus 16:21-23.



60

(Text: Exodus 16:25, 26)

Regarding the seventh-day: “Then Moses said, ‘Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the Lord; today you will not find it in the field.



61

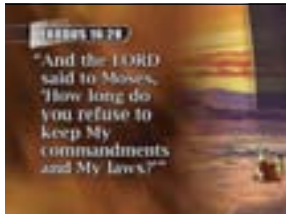
Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none.”

Verses 25, 26.



62

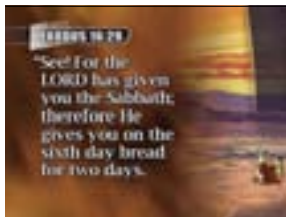
Most of the people did what God had commanded, but some went out on the Sabbath to gather manna. Notice what God had to say about that!



63

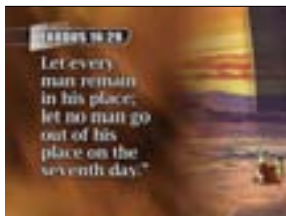
(Text: Exodus 16:28-30)

“And the Lord said to Moses, ‘How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?



64

See! For the Lord has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days.



65

Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.’

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66

So the people rested on the seventh day.” Exodus 16:28-30.



67

The Sabbath was instituted at creation and was observed by God’s people before they came to Sinai, where God gave them the Ten Commandments.



68

In the third month of the Exodus journey, God brought the people to Mt. Sinai, and there He appeared to Moses and gave him a message to share with the people:



69

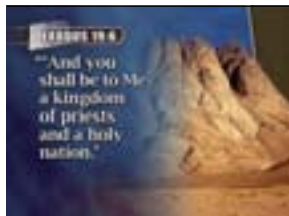
(Text: Exodus 19:5, 6)

“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant,



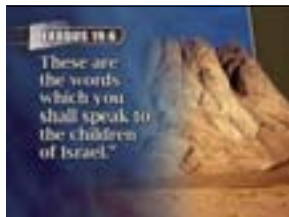
70

then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.



71

And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.



72

**These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”
Exodus 19:5, 6.**



73

God had made a most gracious offer to His people. If they obeyed His laws and commandments, they would be a special people and a holy nation!

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One of those commandments was given to make certain His people would never forget their relationship to their Creator. In fact, it begins with the word remember.



(Text: Exodus 20:8-11)

(Video: 5 sec) "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

74



(Video:2 sec) but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work:

75



(Video:2 sec) you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor

76



(Video:2 sec) your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made

77



(Video:2 sec) the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.

78



(Video:2 sec) Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-11.

79



The Sabbath is in the center, or the heart, of those ten precepts.

The Sabbath day is a memorial of creation.

It is as old as the world itself!

80

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God promises His people many blessings if they obey Him and remember His memorial of creation.



81

(Text: Isaiah 58:13, 14)

"If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight,



82

the holy day of the Lord honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways,



83

nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words,



84

**then you shall delight yourself in the Lord..."
Isaiah 58:13, 14**

If man remembered the memorial, many problems he faces– a forgotten God, a meaningless life, an identity crises–would all be solved.

There would be no evolutionists!



85

(Video: 8 sec) But sad to say, God's people forgot. They forgot to worship Him on His holy day and,



86

before long they began to worship gods of sticks and stones. They lost sight of their roots!

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87

There were revivals of Sabbath observance during the centuries as God's prophets called attention back to God the Creator.

Isaiah emphasized that God never intended to confine the Sabbath to the Jewish people.



88

**The Sabbath was instituted before the Jewish race came into being.
God did not restrict such a blessing to one nation.**



89

**(Text: Isaiah 56:6, 7)
He invites everyone, everywhere to remember and keep the Sabbath with Him. "Every one that keepeth the sabbath . . .**



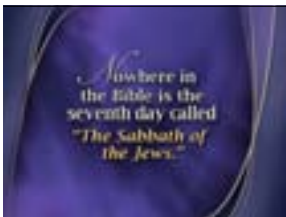
90

Will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer:



91

**. . . For mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.
Isaiah 56:6, 7.**



92

**Nowhere in the Bible is the seventh day called "the Sabbath of the Jews."
Jesus made clear that it is a day for all mankind when He said,**



93

**(Text: Mark 2:27)
"...The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath."
Mark 2:27.**

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94

(Text: Exodus 20:10)

And God said, "...The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord, your God..."

Exodus 20:10.



95

(Text: Matthew 12:8)

Jesus also said that He is "Lord even of the Sabbath day" (Matthew 12:8) because He made it.



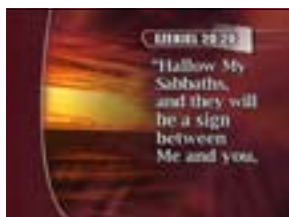
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(Text: Revelation 1:10)

That is why John the Revelator called it "the Lord's day." Revelation 1:10.

The Sabbath is more than a memorial of creation and the Creator.

It is a sign between God and man.



97

(Text: Ezekiel 20:20)

"Hallow My Sabbaths; and they will be a sign between Me and you,



98

that you may know that I am the Lord your God."

Ezekiel 20:20.

The One who made the Sabbath holy during creation week is the same One who makes sinful people holy.

Our Creator is also our Savior!



99

(Text: Ezekiel 20:12)

"Moreover also I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and me,



100

that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them." Ezekiel 20:12.

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101

(Video: 12 sec) The Sabbath was instituted before sin came to Earth, and will also be celebrated after sin is forever banished from Earth.



102

(Text: Isaiah 66:22, 23)

“For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,’ saith the Lord,



103

so shall your seed and your name remain.”



104

And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another,



105

shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord.”
Isaiah 66:22, 23.



106

(Video: 6 sec) Throughout all eternity, God’s people will celebrate the Sabbath to honor Him as their Creator and Redeemer.

If the Sabbath was celebrated before sin came to Earth, and it will be celebrated when the earth is made new, doesn’t it make sense that God’s people should celebrate it now?



107

If we have any questions about God and the Sabbath, we can look at how Jesus treated it.

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108

Luke tells us what Jesus did on the Sabbath:



109

(Text: Luke 4:16)

(Video: 3 sec) “He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up:



110

and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.”

Luke 4:16.

The Bible says that was Jesus’ custom!



111

Webster’s dictionary says, “Sabbath;



112

the seventh day of the week (Saturday).”

–Webster’s New World Dictionary, second college edition.



113

(Video: 9 sec) Had the day been changed or forgotten between the time of Adam and Moses, God would have remedied it when He wrote the Ten Commandments at Sinai.



114

(Video: 11 sec) Had the day been lost between the time of Moses and Jesus, Christ would surely have set the record straight.



115

(Video: 9 sec) Had the day been changed during the lifetime of the disciples they certainly would have written about it.

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116

(Video: 9 sec) And of course the Jews, who keep strict record of time, still worship on the seventh-day, or Saturday.



117

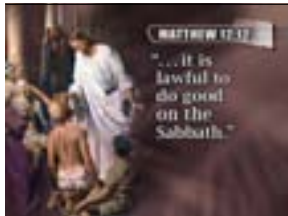
**(Video: 19 sec) The identity of the day of rest was never questioned during Jesus' life on Earth.
The only controversy arose over how He kept it.**

**The rabbis had distorted Sabbath observance by instituting difficult, cumbersome regulations.
Jesus tried to eliminate man-made requirements and show the meaning of Sabbath observance.**



118

When they accused Jesus of breaking the Sabbath because He healed people on that day, He answered,



119

**(Text: Matthew 12:12)
“...It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath days.”
Matthew 12:12.**



120

**(Video: 18 sec) The Bible says that Jesus healed and ministered,
The Sabbath is for making us whole, setting us free from guilt, prejudice, and selfishness, and giving us peace of mind;**

**It is for restoring us to the image of God and pointing us back to our Creator!
This was the work Jesus came to do, and it was the work the disciples did after He left them.**



121

(Video: 11 sec) The meaning of Sabbath observance was demonstrated by the followers of Jesus at His death.

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In this crisis, Jesus' friends rested according to God's command, leaving the work of anointing Jesus' body until after the Sabbath hours.



122

(Text: Luke 23:54-56)

"And that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on."



123

And the women also, which came with Him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how His body was laid.



124

Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments, and rested the Sabbath according to the commandment."
Luke 23:54-56.



125

(Video: 8 sec) The day before the Sabbath, their hope in Jesus had been crushed.

They witnessed Him dying a cruel death on the cross. Their dreams and hopes lay in a darkened tomb.

They wanted to anoint His dead body.

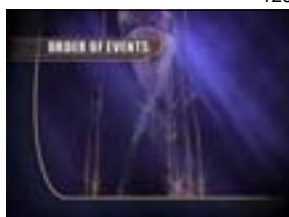


126

(Text: Luke 24:1)

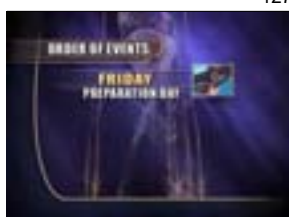
"...Upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing spices which they had prepared."

Luke 24:1.



127

Let's take another look at the events of those three memorable days.



128

1. Friday: Jesus died; the women prepared spices and ointments.

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129

2. Saturday (Sabbath day): Jesus rested in the tomb; His followers rested.



130

3. Sunday (first day of the week): Jesus rose from the dead! Ladies came to anoint Jesus. There can be no doubt as to which day was the Sabbath at Jesus' death.



131

**(Text: John 19:30)
Jesus hung on the cross on the preparation day and cried, "...It is finished!..."
John 19:30.**



132

**His work of redemption was completed!
He rested in the tomb over the Sabbath**



133

(Video: 6 sec) and rose on Sunday, the first day of the week. Even in death Jesus kept the Sabbath; He rested in the tomb on 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!**



134

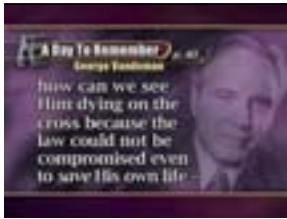
**Yes, it matters which day in seven we celebrate.
A Christian writer named George Vandeman wrote:**



135

"How can we see His followers refusing to desecrate the sacred hours even with their labor of love,

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136

how can we see Him dying on the cross because the law could not be compromised even to save His own life-



137

how can we stand in the blazing light of Calvary and say it doesn't matter?"
-A Day to Remember, p. 40.



138

The Creator said "Remember," yet so many forget! But that was not God's intention.
Jesus expected that Christians would keep the Sabbath for all time.



139

(Text: Matthew 24:20)
"And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath."
Matthew 24:20.



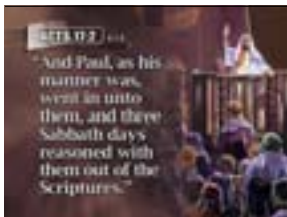
140

(Video: 6 sec) Jesus expected that Christians in A.D. 70, when Jerusalem was destroyed, would still be keeping the Sabbath!



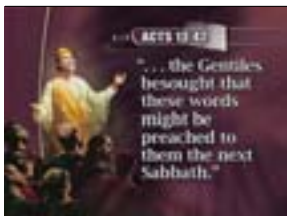
141

(Text: Acts 17:1, 2)
The New Testament records that Jesus' followers kept the Sabbath after the resurrection:
"They came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:



142

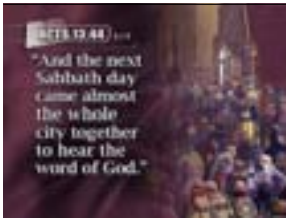
And Paul, as his manner was, went in to them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures."
Acts 17:1, 2.
On another Sabbath when Paul was preaching, some Gentiles came with a request:



143

(Text: Acts 13:42, 44)
"...the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath.

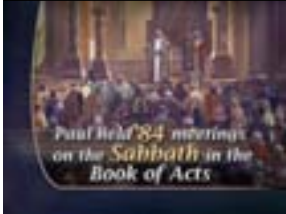
11 - CREATED FOR SOMETHING BETTER



144

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

Acts 13:42, 44.



145

In fact, the book of Acts records 84 meetings that Paul held on the Sabbath.



146

The Sabbath runs like a golden thread from Genesis to the book of Revelation, which describes those who are prepared to meet Jesus at His Second Coming!



147

(Text: Revelation 14:12)

“Here is the patience of the saints: Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

Revelation 14:12.



148

(Text: John 14:15)

Jesus said, “If you love Me, keep my commandments.” (John 14:15)

and one of those commandments tells us to “remember the Sabbath day”



149

If we worship God our Creator each week on the seventh-day Sabbath, we’ll never forget where we came from or Who created us and the world around us.



150

If we keep the Sabbath each week, we’ll never need to wonder who we are—the sons and daughters of God, the King of the universe!



151

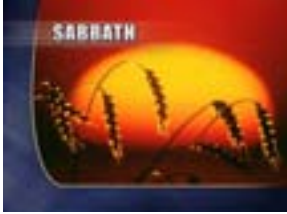
We’ll never need to wonder how we got here—we are here because God wanted us, because He made us.

11 - CREATED FOR SOMETHING BETTER



152

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



153

Will you follow your Creator now?

Will you obey His command to remember the Sabbath day He made for you?

Will you worship Him each week from now on when His Sabbath comes around every seventh day?

Will you follow the example of Jesus and the apostles in worshipping your Maker on the seventh-day Sabbath?



154

The Sabbath is not simply a matter of which day we worship on, friend. It is a matter of following Jesus all the way. It is a matter of standing with Adam and Eve as they worshiped in Eden on that first Sabbath.

It is a matter of obeying God’s command with Moses when God said, “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.”

It is a matter of worshipping on the same day as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel and all the giants of faith of the Old Testament.

It is a matter of praising God each Sabbath as the Creator of all with Peter, James and John.

It is a matter of being part of God’s end-time people who, according to Revelation, keep the commandments.

Would you like to say, “Yes, Jesus, I will stand with you. I will put you first. I will follow you all the way.”

If this is your desire, lift you hand as we pray.