



SYMBOLISM AND THE TRUTH OF GOD'S PLAN

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Chapter One

The Sabbath Question

Jesus is clear that the Sabbath was meant for man. There are points of intent left in the remote antiquity of the past where only the vaguest of information is brought to light by the Holy Spirit.

In Christianity, the thought concerning the plan of God is often limited in one degree or another to the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, which is most essential to obtaining eternal life, John 3:16; Romans 5:8. As we study this detailed plan, we are introduced to categorization that leads in one way or another to Christ. This age of man and the influence of the God of this world wind down. Yet, for want of a better description, an ignorance prevails, and this with one of the basic intent of God. As praises go up weekly or on Sundays across the globe, a common theory in Christendom is that this crucial component was done away with. Yet Jesus is quick to counter this. **THINK NOT THAT I AM COME TO DESTROY THE LAW, OR THE PROPHETS. I AM NOT COME TO DESTROY BUT TO FULFILL**, Matthew 5:17.

As we proceed, we must insert that to negate scripture is to abrogate the truth. We run into an axiom of the irresistible force and the immovable object. Jesus informs us that **THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, AND NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH**, Mark 2:27, clearly the focal day of worship which is first mentioned in the book of Genesis. The flow of information in Genesis 2 is quite enlightening and sets the stage on into the millennium, Isaiah 66:23. At this time the Bible states that **ALL OF MANKIND WILL WORSHIP ON THIS DAY**.

Let us first deal with the idealism of a Sabbath day and then understand that this day, which is included in the index of the Ten Commandments written with **THE FINGER OF GOD**, Exodus 31:18, the works of God. Yet the truth which runs the gamut of time existed clearly before Sinai. First it is God who rested from His work, obviously creation or the re-creation after Lucifer's rebellion, Psalms 104:30. This example would cover all of human

history long after much of this knowledge would be replaced with Sunday, and while the idealism of the worship of God is carried with due diligence. Additional information is filtered down to us: AND GOD BLESSED THE SEVENTH DAY AND SANCTIFIED IT, Genesis 2:3. We are actually exploring additional hypotheses as well and which will be explored in a future book.

The Ten Commandments meet all the framework of a social agenda, which will be obligatory as a way of life, globally in the kingdom age, and we must include law is the basis of all civil order. But the Bible goes much further, both in the Old Testament and New. MY TONGUE SHALL SPEAK OF THY WORD, FOR ALL THY COMMANDMENTS ARE RIGHTEOUSNESS. WHEREFORE THE LAW IS HOLY AND THE COMMANDMENT HOLY, AND JUST, AND GOOD, Psalms 119:172 and Romans 7:12, respectively. Both of these scriptures champion God's law as the clearest avenue to obtaining of social good.

Simply put, for the general welfare of man, Paul drew the inspired conclusion that the law was, first, holy; secondly, just; and finally, good. When we are looking back in time, we are forced to ask this question as to what would have been the chronicled evolution of religion globally if the Sabbath HAD BEEN THE PREEMINENT RELIGION PRACTICED IN THE LETTER. We are not even dealing with the illustrations by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount example, Matthew 5:27-37. The point is that all of these examples can be extracted and traced in some way or another to the Ten Commandments.

In the next chapter we shall continue to explore the Sabbath and the rationale that links it and other portals of God's plan which reveal WHAT GOD IS DOING.

What the world would have been like in light of what Jesus states is an incredible articulation: THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, AND NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH, Mark 2:28. But we are told in Exodus 20, AND GOD SPAKE ALL THESE WORDS. So if we are to accredit this truth, we are forced to examine: Who is this who speaks from the mountain, that Moses said, I EXCEEDINGLY FEAR AND QUAKE, Hebrews 12:21.

From the mountain God set the agenda for a society based from civil law, but whose roots are spiritual, Romans 7:14. Paul outlines some very interesting concepts concerning the temperament of man and law and what

sin truly is, at least by biblical definition. The Bible does not make comparative arguments on the Sabbath question because that issue is **DEFINED BY GOD'S BLESSING AND SANCTIFICATION OF THE SABBATH, SETTING THE PACE FOR GOD'S TRUE INTENT**, Genesis 2:2-3. We have no answer that might lead us to a conclusion that the world would have gravitated toward Sabbath worship, taking into account that man is at variance with the law of God, Romans 8:7. But Jesus is quite clear to its design, which is met completely during **THE RULE OF JESUS CHRIST UPON THE EARTH**, Isaiah 2:3, 66:23.

As we progress from the early dawn of human history and come to other illustration in the Word, we find certain protocol platforms that are part of the Sabbath. The first initial test required defining the framework and what may or may not be done. Clearly the legal language of the Ten Commandments defines in more dense measure **WHAT JEHOVAH SOUGHT TO INSTILL UPON ISRAEL, THAT THE SABBATH WAS SANCTIFIED**, Genesis 2:2-3.

The amazing thing about the Bible is the unity of truth that flows from it. The scriptures **CANNOT BE BROKEN**, John 10:36. Are we to believe that Jesus would take another course, when the truth is **THAT THE ONE WHO SPOKE TO ISRAEL FROM MOUNT SINAI WAS THE ONE WHO LATER BECAME CHRIST IN THE FLESH**. In the test encounter, Israel was instructed to gather twice as much manna based on what one would gather on a daily basis. This would occur on what we know as the sixth day or on a Friday. The following day in succession and number logic is the Sabbath, and so we have arrived. Obviously ancient Israel was carnal to the core, but that is not limited to their ethnicity, but the nature of man outside of the agency of the Holy Spirit, Romans 8:7. The much-debated law of God will be the standard during the millennium; the very same Ten Commandments **WILL BE ENFORCED**.

Now clearly man is a creature graced with free moral agency. Within this framework is the Sabbath, which, in a sense, ties in the spiritual intent of God by basing it as a clear benefit of relationship and an avenue to education. The knowledge of God is most essential. Can men who know nothing of **THE TRUE GOD GROW INTO THE VERY SALVATION THAT ONLY COMES THROUGH CHRIST?** 2 Peter 3:18.

As we continue on in the subject, we are clearly compelled to address the Sabbath question not in the context of the point of view that the law, which the Sabbath as a unitary whole has been replaced and therefore done away with as is the teaching in much of the Christian world. Yet the Bible has a completely different view, and **IT IS THE ONLY ONE THAT IS ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE TRUTH**, John 17:17. This is the focus of the Bible and the avenues to understanding what God is doing and the clear outline of such a plan.

Our logic is completely overcome by both the scope of this bold plan and God's involvement in the plan through Christ. Jesus Christ is the center focus. As we continue in study, deep truths emerge that are linked to events long before the time of man and into the ages of eternity, Revelation 13:8; Isaiah 9:7. To understand the emblematic nature of the plan that **JEHOVAH HAS OUTLINED IN HIS WORD**, we shall continue to explore the Sabbath and its connection to each of these portals of truth and the plan of God.

A curious question emerges as to what the world would have been like if it had worshipped on the Sabbath. The stipulations that govern it in Exodus 20 are not even found in the earliest reference. The order of events are **THAT JEHOVAH FORMED ADAM FIRST**, 1 Timothy 2:13; Genesis 1:27. The reasoning follows that he was educated first, for Eve was created later, Genesis 1:21-23.

With Jesus' own statement that the Sabbath was made for man and that because of the choices made, the current religious order has evolved. The Bible is clear that the devil deceiveth the whole world, Revelation 12:8. The faithful version translates it in a more active sense, deceiving the whole world. We do know that for deception to be effective, it must have some elements that are perceived as the truth. And so centuries later Sunday has taken on a Sabbath mantle **WITHOUT BEING OF GOD**.

I will not go the path of stern judgement as was the case when I presented a paper on the Sabbath to a minister who thought it too soft. Perhaps, perhaps not. Are we quick to forget that Jesus addressed the Pharisees in a clear tone preserved by the Holy Spirit: **WOE UNTO YOU SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, HYPOCRITES FOR YE COMPASS SEA AND LAND TO MAKE ONE PROSELYTE AND WHEN HE IS MADE, YE MAKE HIM TWOFOLD MORE THE CHILD OF HELL THAN YOURSELVES**, Matthew 23:15.

There is a lot said to the efforts that men advance for religious reasons. Yet Christ will be the final judge, Romans 14:12. Obviously when God introduced the Sabbath to Adam, there was no church in the wilderness nor the New Testament equivalent, Acts 7:38; Matthew 16:18. Obviously this was the most personal of relationships.

Jesus states that the Sabbath was made for man, and here we see somewhat more clearly its spiritual nature by its blessing, which Adam could not have known by human means. As the logic is developed, we come to a most essential built feature: the concept of sanctification. The primary idea that is developed is a thing set aside for a holy use. This meets the means to an end but not its conclusion. The truth is from the time of this revelation until the end of the millennium and into the white throne judgement, however broad or minuscule, there will be some who will never keep the Sabbath. Notice I did not say “perfectly,” for perfection is a spiritual thing and man is not spiritual, 1 Corinthians 15:50. That is their choice, but not before the opportunity of presentation.

So the first Sabbath, God and Adam kept in spirit, John 4:23-24. The question often arises because of the prohibitions written in the law as to what may be done or not on the Sabbath. First, Adam had no job, wife, sons, daughters, servants, or cattle, Exodus 20:10-11. Even here we see some glimpse of a world that could have developed totally different. Also the implied structure included Adam’s extensive education over a length of time. Who can say how extensive was Eden? It was not the entire earth. And we see development that was to be built into a structure outward. The objective was certainly a world that linked physical perfection into spiritual obtainment. On this day at this time, ADAM WAS TO GROW INTO THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS CHRIST, 2 Peter 3:18, 17:3, 17. The Bible does not record every single point, and the fact that we are dealing with a being who is made directly BY JEHOVAH THE ALL-POWERFUL GOD, WHO ALSO WAS THE CREATOR NON THAN JESUS CHRIST, Ephesians 3:9.

This opens so many doors and the waters proverbially are deep. To educate one, the knowledge first of who created, in whose image, and what purpose, all of these things, I AM INCLINED TO SAY ADAM KNEW IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER AND OF ALL PLACES THEY ARE CONTAINED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. Now we will not argue that they have been done away with; they have not, and we have the authority of

Jesus, Matthew 5:18. Also self-awareness must have some level of information to function in intellect, not disclosure. THIS CAME DIRECTLY FROM JEHOVAH. But also did all the accompanying knowledge of the Sabbath, AND THE REST OF GOD'S ETERNAL PLAN.

As we progress, we will open many portals that are unified in truth and the knowledge of what God is doing, and His irresistible will.

Upon examination of the Ten Commandments a daring social order emerges that protects rights by defining, of all things, SIN, 1 John 3:4. Who can say where is the origin of this dark nemesis? The book of Genesis, in the account of Cain, almost in a play on words, grants a type of personification on this condition. Yes, there was sin before the time of Adam and the earth, which once in stunning beauty, lay in ruins, and the LOGOS OR WORD RECREATED IT. The waters here are quite clouded with things we cannot answer with human insight. These things emerge as end objectives, LIFE. That has been what God's plan has been about in a most sense, IN THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE WHICH GOD THAT CANNOT LIE PROMISED BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN, 1 Titus 1:2; Numbers 23:19.

Now let us deepen our logic by comparing two facts: God is eternal with life never-ending; and man is limited, physical, temporary. Any relationship will only last so long and then it's over. Whatever value is lost on a temporal plane. From this point of view we see the Sabbath as a type of means, giving access to God by imposing rest long enough TO LEARN ABOUT THE TRUE GOD, John 17:3; Jeremiah 9:24. With this we examine the compartment of the law which imposed certain prohibitions on the Sabbath. These things regulated the socio-economic fabric of ancient Israel. Their spiritual roadway was a projection so far, BECAUSE ISRAEL WAS, ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE, CARNAL AND REBELLIOUS, Romans 8:7. No doubt if they had taken the high road, the example set would have been astounding.

Yet we are left again with Jesus' valuation, THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, Mark 2:27. This technically erases Sunday worship completely, and I now inject because of all the holy days contained in the various portals we will explore THE POWER AND UNITY OF GOD'S WORD, John 10:35. The truth is the social energy of Israel had to be taken

off-line weekly BECAUSE THE LAW WAS SPIRITUAL BUT THE MAN WHO COLLECTED STICKS PRESUMPTUOUSLY WAS PHYSICAL, Numbers 15:32-35; Romans 7:14. What a comparison, and with this we come to understand much of human history and man's failure outside of spiritual means to even meet righteousness by any power of his own, but do not despair, God has not failed, Isaiah 64:6; Romans 3:10.

As we continue, we will weave into deep truths that are neither understood nor ignored on purpose, but own their clarity is dependent on our destiny and entrance into THE VERY KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Protocol of the Sabbath

Oftentimes truth is made in a direct statement where there is little room for speculation that leads down another path. The Sabbath is one such case, combined with the spirit of the Old Testament that is, with the New, THE TOTAL WORD OF GOD, 7 Timothy 3:16. There are many compartments to this subject but we must, in the spirit of objective study, preserve the intent of this book, THE ETERNAL PLAN OF GOD.

As we explore further the Sabbath, we find restrictions in the form of clear regulations that are WRITTEN WITH THE FINGER OF GOD, Exodus 31:18; Deuteronomy 9:10. There is clarification later in the form of statutes and judgements. The cycle of the Sabbath revolved around God, Who identifies Himself in an exclusive manner as the God WHO BRINGS THEM OUT OF EGYPT. And with clear constraints, which are foreign to the Western mind, THERE IS NO FREEDOM TO WORSHIP ANOTHER, Exodus 20:3-4.

This extensive thread runs even in the millennium where the entire earth will worship on the Sabbath, Isaiah 66:23. The world will no doubt be different with a built-in educational system secured by study of the Bible and UNIVERSAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, Isaiah 2:3. The requirements of the Sabbath weekly was to come squarely up against the same procedure of sanctification found in Genesis 2. The knowledge therein was spiritual. As one wise minister stated, YOU CANNOT RETAIN SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE IN A PHYSICAL BRAIN, THUS REPETITION.

The Sabbath is weekly but its purpose is a tool that is a gateway to eternity. That is because the weekly Sabbath is tied to annual convocations

that explore many more truths that are not apparent without probing other factuality that outlines the plan of God. The primary requirement of the weekly Sabbath is to simply remember it. This is not to be ignored, the continual alliteration that is imposed by the REQUIREMENT TO KEEP IT HOLY, or as one translation, the New International Version, REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY BY KEEPING IT HOLY. The letter and spirit of the law is preserved; in other words, an immutable factor involved.

What I am advancing is that the Sabbath, being part of the unified whole, is called a royal law and in a sense, like all scripture, CANNOT BE BROKEN, John 10:35. James refers to the law obviously written with the finger of God as the whole law, James 2:10. Now also there are statutes, various judgements which find expression in God's law. The truth is, THE SABBATH AND THE TERM MY SABBATHS ARE AVENUES INTO JEHOVAH'S PLAN FOR MAN, Ezekiel 20:12. Like icons on a computer screen when clicked on, various functions can be accessed in a spiritual sense, if I borrow a run of thought by a minister concerning, of all characters, Melchizedek, who was a king of, of all places, Salem, as well as a priest of God. The debate rages on as to his origin, if he was the incarnate Jesus Christ and many other conclusions drawn. One thing the scripture is clear about: he was the ruler of a physical city called Salem, and he was its direct access to God.

Now let us advance two steps in a single logic. That being, any avenues relating to the true God in worship, this being was responsible for; and part B, THAT INCLUDED THE WEEKLY SABBATH, Genesis 2:1-3. At this geographical location on a weekly basis, the worship of the true God went on, and since this place now lost to us except being preserved by the Holy Spirit in scripture, we can safely say immune to any measure of paganism. This is the strongest deduction available because GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH, John 17:17.

Remember Adam began his journey by being taught by God. As I heard a very knowledgeable minister in the Church of God say, spiritual knowledge cannot be retained in a physical brain. On the journey within the context of this grand plan is the door that leads to life and the only true God, John 17:3. The Sabbath serves this purpose all too well because it is a road marker, a sign.

Now we will address this here and now, citing Jesus Christ, THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, Mark 2:28. Then how did the paganism of our day occur, confusion and the road that had led away from God? Simple: Man chose to go that way. There were other options available, Genesis 2:16-17. The strongest winds of freedom blow in the circuit of choice.

Now certainly distortions exist and the devil has deceived the whole world, Revelation 12:9. There you have it, an evil influence in the midst OF INTENDED GOOD. I think that the term “worship” has become associated with a certain set of procedures, song, talk by a speaker, and no doubt these are useful and necessary to a point. Yet the well-intended on a Sunday morning follow this false yellow brick road. My job is not judgement, as often is the case, Matthew 7:1.

As a side, I believe there will be men who ultimately will be in the kingdom of God who knew very little of Sabbath but whose hearts were right with God. It is the purpose of the Sabbath, when adhered to, that meet the strongest threshold of relationship. Consider Abraham. Did he attend the local Seventh Day Adventist Church? Or the First Baptist Church in any town or locale anywhere in America? No, but he will be in the VERY KINGDOM OF GOD, Matthew 8:11.

Question: Is Sunday the day God would have us assemble in an organized fashion of worship? No. Yet God must begin His work of calling men out of error, and the single defining measure of this plan which makes it 100 percent effective is the fate of every single person who has ever lived, or who will live, is left to God. Read from your own Bible these powerful words: NO MAN CAN COME TO ME, EXCEPT THE FATHER WHICH HATH SENT ME DRAW HIM, John 6:44. Remember this scripture as pivotal.

This is an important scripture in the sense this is a most personal invitation, and its clarity extends all the way to the end of the Bible, Revelation 22:17. While this is for another book, the point is that God the Father extends this approachable invitation. As we swim deeper into the Sabbath, we must realize that it is Jesus who defends it by first defining its reason and secondly its current government. Compare Matthew 5:17 and Mark 2:27-28. All other recorded instances either cite some extension of Genesis 2 and Exodus 20:8-11.

No doubt Israel was to be a model but for their carnal nature, which ran at variance to the contemporary enlightenment written with the finger of God. One will search in vain to find any justification for Sunday worship and the current world system. But to be fair, so much depended on the earliest of times, and even if Adam continued to observe any amplitude of this information given to him by his CREATOR, Genesis 1:27. Thus the need to restore or reset things, Acts 3:21. There is a stunning characteristic of truth that one hundred percent of the time it needs no human energy or defense, Jesus in the true Lord's prayer of John 17:17, YOUR WORD IS THE TRUTH. It is we who are in dire need of being sanctified through truth.

Much has been written concerning the weekly Sabbath and its current relevance. This book, however, must build many layers to prove the plan of God to be far different in truth and scope than has been divulged. As we progress we shall enter into many other truths that give us additional light. The outline in Leviticus 23:1-44, the term used in scripture is the feast of the Lord. In some Bibles the word convocation is used. The Hebrew word *môwed* is used, the meaning generally an assembly, as convened for a definite purpose, technically the congregation, by extension a place of meeting. Other points emerge which evolve around the spirit of the word, such as signal, appointed beforehand, place of solemn assembly.

As we examine this, the grasp of the truth sets in, God's feast or appointed time with His people. How far back in antiquity does this occur? We see the example of Melchizedek, the priest of God as well as king of Salem, Genesis 14:18. We also know that GOD CALLED ABRAHAM ALONE, Isaiah 51:2; Genesis 12:1-3. The question lies not in the wisdom of God in selection but His prepotence of freedom in doing so. It is Jesus who states, NO MAN CAN COME TO ME, EXCEPT THE FATHER WHICH HATH SENT ME DRAW HIM, John 6:44.

Now let us consider desideratum or essential points of view in the planning process. It is obligatory that one must be separate to FULFILL HIS OR HER DESTINY. Also Abraham had to be separated from his family environment, Genesis 12:1-3; Joshua 24:2-3, a pagan domain that WORSHIPPED OTHER GODS THAN JEHOVAH. The greatest objective in the plan of God is RELATIONSHIP, John 17:3. TO DO SO ONE MUST COME DOWN THE AVENUE OF LOVE OF GOD, THE FIRST AND

GREATEST COMMANDMENT, AND SECONDARILY, LOVE OF NEIGHBOR, Matthew 22:37-39; Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18.

These concepts, when examined, are points of the highest social objectives, to understand they are also the simple definition of sin. As we progress we shall look deeply into this dark shadow that has warped the universe, requiring the sacrifice of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, Revelation 13:8.

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