

* So - First - The New Testament:

1. Pattern Of The Lord's Day!

- There Are Some Who Believe:
 - That When Jesus Rose From The Dead:
 - On The First Day Of The Week:
 - That - As The "Lord Of The Sabbath":
 - He **Changed** The Sabbath Day:
 - From Saturday To Sunday!
 - I Don't Believe This Is The Case:
 - Because - Nowhere In The New Testament:
 - Do We Find The Sabbath Day:
 - Changed!
 - Nor Do We Find The Sabbath Day:
 - Even Commanded!
 - In Fact - We Find Just The Opposite!
 - In The Book Of Acts:
 - There Are Times When The Apostle Paul:
 - Even When He Went Into Predominately Gentile Cities & Communities:
 - He Went Into The Local Jewish Synagogue On The Regular Sabbath Day:
 - And Still Referred To It As The Sabbath Day!
 - And Then - Since The Fourth Commandment:
 - Is Never Clearly Repeated In The New Testament:
 - It Seems That The Day Itself:
 - Is No Longer Binding On The Christian Church!
 - Instead - Whenever The Church Meets:
 - On Sunday - The Holy Spirit Seems To Almost:
 - Purposefully Avoid Turning It Into:
 - A New Sabbath - Instead:
 - Focusing On The Spiritual Rest We Find In Jesus Christ!
 - So - The Lord's Day Is Observed:
 - As A Matter Of:
 - Christian Liberty & Unity:
 - Than Legality!
 - So - Why Should We Use Sunday:
 - As The Primary Day Of Rest & Refreshment:
 - As Christians?
 - Because Of The Pattern:
 - Initiated By Christ:
 - On The Day Of His Resurrection:
 - And Then:
 - Carried On By The Early Church:
 - In Remembrance Of Christ:
 - As Both The Creator & Spiritual Redeemer:
 - Of The Church!
 - Which Is Parallel To:
 - Why The Lord Originally Established:
 - The Sabbath Day:
 - For The Children Of Israel!
 - Because He Was Also The Creator & National Redeemer:
 - Of The Jewish People!
 - So - The First Day Became The Lord's Day:
- By Of The Resurrection:
 - Of Jesus Christ!
- See This In John 20:1-18 - Early In The Morning Of The First Day!
 - 1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.
 - 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto

- them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.
- 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.
- 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.
- 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.
- 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,
- 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.
- 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.
- 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.
- 10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.
- 11 ¶ But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,
- 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.
- 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.
- 14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.
- 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.
- 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.
- 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.
- 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.
- Then - From John 20:19-25 - Toward The **End** Of The First Day:
- 19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.
- 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.
- 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.
- 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:
- 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.
- 24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.
- Then - From John 20:26-28 - Eight Days Later - On **Another** Sunday:
- 26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.
- 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.
- 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.
- Already - It Seems Like Jesus Is Suggesting To His Disciples:
- That The First Day Of The Week:
 - Is A Special Day!
 - After This - Jesus Spent Several More Weeks With His Disciples Until:
 - The Day Of Pentecost:
 - Which Traditionally Was The Fiftieth Day After:
 - The Sabbath Following:
 - The Passover!
 - So - The Fiftieth Day:
 - After 7 Sabbaths Had Passed:
 - Would Also Have Been Sunday!
 - And - What Happened Then?

- Acts 2:1-4 - “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. / 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. / 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. / 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance!”
- The Day Of Pentecost:
 - Is Considered To Be The Day:
 - When The Church Was Born:
 - Because It Was The Day When Jesus Sent The Holy Spirit To Dwell Within His Church - 10 Days After His Ascension Into Heaven!
 - And The Church Was Born:
 - On A Sunday!
- Now - Even Though:
 - Later - In Acts 2:46 - We Are Told That:
 - “They [Continued] *daily* with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart!”
 - Yet - By The Time We Come To Acts 20:
 - When The Apostle Paul Was Already On His Third Missionary Journey:
 - When He Arrived In The City Of Troas - We Read This:
 - Acts 20:7-8 - “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. / And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together!”
 - It Was Also On This Occasion:
 - That A Young Man Named Eutychus Fell Out Of An Upper Level Window & Died:
 - Because Of Paul’s Long-Winded Preaching - On What Special Day?
 - “The First Day Of The Week!”
 - It Seems - By This Time:
 - It Was An Established Pattern:
 - For The Church To Meet Together:
 - For Fellowship & To Remember:
 - The Lord’s Supper!
 - And Then - In The First Letter Of Paul:
 - To The Corinthian Church - As He Was Taking Up:
 - A Special Collection For The Poor Christians:
 - In Jerusalem - He Wrote:
 - 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 - “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. / Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come!”
 - Even In The City Of Corinth:
 - There Was A Special Day:
 - Already Used By The Church:
 - To Come Together & Gather Their Offerings:
 - To Support The Needs Of The Church!
 - So - From The Very Beginning Of The Church
 - A Pattern Emerges!
 - Not Just One Day In Seven:
 - But - A Particular Day In Seven!
 - The First Day Of The Week - Which Came To Be Known:
 - Even By The Apostle John - In Revelation 1:10 - As The Lord’s Day!
 - When He Wrote:
 - “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet!”
 - So - It Was Also On The Lord’s Day:
 - That Jesus Gave To John This Final Vision & Prophecy:
 - About The End Of Days!
 - Not Long After John Wrote The Book Of Revelation:
 - We Find The Term “Lord’s Day” Applied:
 - To The First Day Of The Week:

- By A Number Of Other Early Christian Writers!

- Albert Barnes Writes This:

- "The term was used generally by the early Christians to denote the first day of the week. It occurs twice in the Epistle of Ignatius to the Magnesians (about 101 a.d.), who calls the Lord's day "the queen and prince of all days." Chrysostom (on Ps. 119) says, "It was called the Lord's day because the Lord rose from the dead on that day." Later fathers make a marked distinction between the "Sabbath" and the "Lord's day"; meaning by the former the Jewish "Sabbath," or the seventh day of the week, and by the latter the first day of the week, kept holy by Christians. The strong probability is, that the name was given to this day in honor of the Lord Jesus, and because he rose on that day from the dead. No one can doubt that it was an appellation given to the first day of the week!"

- So - The Pattern Of The Lord's Day:

- Is Clearly Suggested:

- By The Practice Of The Early Church:

- And - Has Continued To This Day!

- And So - Sundays:

- Have Become The Best Days For:

2. ***The Practice Of The Lord's Day!***

- When We "Remember The Sabbath" Now:

- It Becomes An Opportunity:

- To Remember & Experience:

- A Taste Of:

- The Lord's Own Rest!

- The Lord's Day Is An Opportunity To:

- Rest From Your Toil!

- Even As Jesus Encouraged His Disciples To Do:

- In Mark 6:30-31 - "And the apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught. / And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat!"

- The Lord's Day Is An Opportunity:

- To Rest From Your Trouble!

- Even As Paul Wrote In:

- Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be *careful* (Anxious / Restless) for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. / And the *peace* of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus!"

- The Lord's Day Is An Opportunity:

- To Rest From Your Temptations!

- As You Gather Together With God's People:

- So That - As Hebrews 10:25 Tells Us - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching!"

- The Lord's Day Is An Opportunity:

- To Rest In The Truth!

- As We Gather And - Like The Early Church:

- Acts 2:42 - "Continue stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers!"

- It Has Often Been Said That:

- The Lord's Day Should Be A Day:

- Reserved By God's People For:

- Acts Of:

- Worship, Necessity, And Mercy!

Conclusion:

1. And In This Way:

- We Can Observe The Spirit:

- Of The Fourth Commandment:

- Of God's Moral Law!
- 2. So - Even Though It Is Not Mentioned:
 - Explicitly In The New Testament:
 - By Way Of Pattern & Practice:
 - The Lord's Day Is Offered To The Church:
 - As A New Day Of Rest:
 - For The People Of God!
 - A "Day Of Rest And Gladness!"
- 3. And - Even Though:
 - **Every** Day Of The Week:
 - Ought To Be Devoted & Consecrated:
 - To The Lord - Yet:
 - **This** Day Can & Ought To Be Used By Believers:
 - For An All-Around Rest & Refreshment:
 - Physically!
 - Mentally!
 - But - Most Importantly:
 - Spiritually!

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