

SABBATH DISPUTE

TEXTS:

Isaiah 58:13-14:

13 If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My Holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words;

14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Exodus 20:8-11:

8 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the LORD made Heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

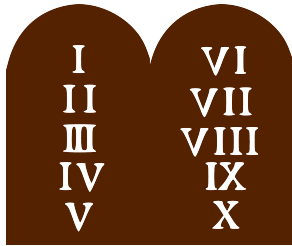
The following heading appeared in a Jewish newspaper: "Israeli Dispute Was Settled When Sabbath Duties Are Assigned to Non-Jews."

The dispute arose over Sabbath work at an Israeli paper mill. It ended when the plant manager agreed to let five non-Jews tend the paper-making machines on the Sabbath. Formerly, 20 Jews had performed Sabbath maintenance work on the plant.



As long as Jews were working on the Sabbath, the Chief Rabbi in Israel refused

to let prayer books, Bibles, and other religious works be printed on paper from this plant. As a result, 40 publishers in Israel were forced to use other brands of paper for five months.



This settlement is still in conflict with the Holy Scriptures. It shows again how those who do not know the Lord or are away from Him connive around the Word of God without realizing that God wrote His Laws so carefully that it will catch up with the shrewdest of them.

A PASTOR SAYS: “LET THE CONGREGATION GO ON SUNDAY”.

A rather startling suggestion for his church of the future was made by Dr. Myron E. Neil, Pastor of Chapel Hill Christian Church in Tulsa, at the Annual Meeting of the International Convention of Christian Churches in Cleveland, Ohio. He proposed that weekly church services be held on Thursday nights instead of Sunday mornings. He pointed out that with a shortened work week and an increasing leisure period, multitudes of Americans will travel to resort areas on Friday, and do not return until Monday. He proposed that the major weekly service of worship, including the sermon, be on Thursday evening. He suggested that a short communion service could be held on Monday morning before churchgoers return to work.



The reasoning behind such a change would appear to be that men were **lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God (2 Timothy 3:4)**.

2 Timothy 3:1-5:

- 1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.***
- 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,***
- 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,***
- 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;***
- 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.***

Some may ask, why be so narrow and old-fashioned as to expect people to give one day a week to the Lord? We do so because the Lord commands us to do so.

Contrary to this article by Dr. Neil, we read that there was a drive against Sunday shopping in Joliet, Illinois. About 25,000 stickers reading “Keep Sunday Holy — Don’t Shop” have been distributed to members of Joliet, Illinois, churches for use on autos and in homes. The stickers are part of a campaign to discourage Desecration of the Lord’s Day, with shopping being forbidden as stated in:

Nehemiah 13:15-21:

15 In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals.

16 There dwelt men in Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the Sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the Sabbath day?

18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath.

19 And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the Sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the Sabbath day.

20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? If ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the Sabbath.

How about you? How will you treat the Lord’s Day?

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