

What Man Missed In Jesus' Message – Ten Commandments – Keep The Sabbath Holy

Perhaps there is no better place to resume our study of **What Man Missed in Jesus' Message and The Bible** with the Ten Commandments. And what better commandment to start with than keeping the Sabbath Holy. Notice I did not say which of the Commandments this was. That's because the number differs on whether you are reading a Catholic or Lutheran (3rd) or Protestant (4th) Bible. It differs because there are *17 verses* in **Exodus 20** that various Christian religions divide differently into the Ten Commandments. If you practice **Sola Scriptura** it again raises the question which Bible and translation do you use that represents the "*sole infallible Word of God*"?

Before exploring What Man Missed about keeping the Sabbath Holy It is interesting to note that in the Old Testament and for early Christians the Sabbath was Saturday, the last day of the week, the "*Seventh Day*". Modern Christians celebrate the Sabbath on Sunday, the first day of the week.

I can find no passage in the Bible where Jesus changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, but that is another topic for another day. For today let's consider that keeping the Sabbath Holy also included a prohibition against doing any work. The Pharisees went to great lengths to make laws detailing exactly what constituted "work" and was therefore prohibited on the Sabbath. Then Jesus came along and showed them just how much they had missed about the Commandments.

Recall how Jesus had His Disciples gather food and how He had cured the afflicted on the Sabbath, causing great consternation among the Pharisees. Jesus had to teach them that "*doing work*" was no prohibition against "*doing good*", showing them, and us, the dangers of making our own laws for our own purposes "*in the name of God*". For complete Bible passage see **Matthew 12**.

Herein lies one of the great problems with man's misunderstanding of the Bible. Man feels the need to "*make more laws*" to describe in detailed minutia what should be obvious to true followers of Christ. Jesus upheld that we should keep the Sabbath Holy, but many Churches have "*made laws*" changing that to an "obligation" to attend their hour-long Sunday Service. Carried to its logical absurdity we have millions today who take an hour to attend service, whether on Sunday or Saturday (*to fulfill your Sunday "obligation"*) and then go about business as usual. Do you really believe that is what God meant by keeping the Sabbath Holy? Do you see the logical absurdity in allowing you to go to service on Saturday, the true Sabbath, to fulfill your obligation for Sunday Service? Do you see here where *Man Missed Jesus' Message* about the Sabbath?

Man has totally missed the meaning of doing no work to keep the Sabbath Holy and Honor God. For by honoring God we honor ourselves. The sabbath day of rest and religious reflection is a way to give rebirth to our souls and recharge our spirits so that for the next six days we may be more successful at doing both God's Work and our work to support ourselves and our families.

What man has missed is by placing so much emphasis on our material comforts and excesses we have no time left for our spiritual needs and souls. We have pushed God away so that most people think that finding a *single hour* for Him each week fulfills the Commandment of keeping the Sabbath Holy. Many will say: *I need to work on Sunday to support my family. My family needs me to take them to soccer, baseball, the beach.* You name it. What you're really saying is that you are so busy you have no time for God. And if you can't find time for God you have truly missed what God meant in his Commandment to keep the Sabbath Holy. If you must work to feed your family (*even the Disciples gathered food*), then set aside time before or after work. But find time.

Find time for God. Keep the Sabbath Holy. And God will Bless you for it.

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