

Fundamental Belief Number Thirteen

The Remnant and its Mission

Part 22

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Memory Text

Matthew 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also **transgress** the **commandment** of **God** by your **tradition**?

Bible Study Summary Introduction Statement

The universal church is composed of all who truly believe in Christ, but in the last days, a time of widespread apostasy, a remnant has been called out to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This remnant announces the

arrival of the judgment hour, proclaims salvation through Christ, and heralds the approach of His second advent. This proclamation is symbolized by the three angels of Revelation 14; it coincides with the work of judgment in heaven and results in a work of repentance and reform on earth. Every believer is called to have a personal part in this worldwide witness.

BIBLE STUDY

The “Protestant” and “Orthodox” Churches are daughters of the Roman Catholic Church who claims to be the “Mother of all Churches”

Who are the daughters of the Roman Catholic Church that continue the traditions and abominations of their Mother Church?

Revelation 17:5 And upon her forehead *was* a name written, MYSTERY, **BABYLON** THE GREAT, THE **MOTHER** OF **HARLOTS** AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Babylon is said to be “the mother of harlots.” By her daughters must be symbolized churches that cling to her doctrines and traditions, and follow her example of sacrificing the truth and the approval of God, in order to form an unlawful alliance with the world like Aholah and Aholibah did in times of old.

September 5, the Vatican released a document designed to combat the idea that all religions are equal. Buried within its daunting title, “Dominus Iesus: On the Unicity and Salvific Universality of Jesus Christ and the Church,” is the implicit statement, *we are right while the others are wrong.*

"It must always be clear, when the expression sister churches is used in this proper sense that the one, holy, catholic and apostolic universal church is not sister but mother of all the particular churches" -- **Cardinal Ratzinger.**

by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger and Archbishop Tarcisio Bertone, SDB, June 30, 2000.

Notice this quote from Father James A. O'Brien: "That observance [of Sunday instead of Saturday] remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away.

One more statement taken from the book written by Reverend John A. O'Brien, The Faith of Millions, p. 473. “But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn’t it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the Church, observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course, it is inconsistency but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed. They have continued the custom even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text from the Bible. **That observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away like a boy running away from home but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair.**”

Above is the inscription at the base of the columns on either side of the central entrance door of St. John Lateran, the Cathedral of the Bishop of Rome, the pope. It reads:

SACROS(ANCTA) LATERAN(ENSIS) ECCLES(IA)
OMNIUM URBIS ET ORBIS
ECCLESIARUM MATER
ET CAPUT.

It translates to "**Sacred Lateran Church, Universally for the City and the World, Supreme Mother of Churches**", or "**Holy Lateran Church, Mother and Head of all Churches in the City and the World**", a fulfillment of Revelation 17:5.

The Protestant Churches admit that there is no Scriptural Basis for Sunday Worship therefore holding onto their Mother Churches Tradition

How do some of the Protestant Churches admit that they are holding onto Sunday Sacredness without Biblical authority? How does this tradition of man retain one of the two main abominations found in the cup of their Harlot Mother?

Revelation 17:4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden **cup** in her hand **full** of **abominations** and filthiness of her fornication:

Revelation 17:5 And upon her forehead *was* a name written, MYSTERY, **BABYLON** THE GREAT, THE **MOTHER OF HARLOTS** AND **ABOMINATIONS** OF THE EARTH.

Proverbs 28:9 He that **turneth** away his ear from **hearing** the **law**, even his prayer *shall be* **abomination**.

Ezekiel 22:1 Moreover the **word** of the **LORD** came unto me, saying,

Ezekiel 22:2 Now, thou son of man, wilt thou **judge**, wilt thou judge the bloody **city**? yea, thou shalt shew her **all** her **abominations**.

Ezekiel 22:26 Her priests have **violated** my **law**, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed *difference* between the unclean and the clean, and have **hid** their **eyes** from my **sabbaths**, and I am profaned among them.

Note: Protestant theologians and preachers from a wide spectrum of denominations have been quite candid in admitting that there is no Biblical authority for observing Sunday as a sabbath.

Anglican / Episcopal

Isaac Williams, **Plain Sermons On The Catechism**, vol. 1, pp.334, 336.

“And where are we told in the Scriptures that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day The reason why we keep the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the church has enjoined it.”

Canon Eyton, **The Ten Commandments**, pp. 52, 63, 65.

“There is no word, no hint, in the New Testament about abstaining from work on Sunday into the rest of Sunday no divine law enters The observance of Ash Wednesday or Lent stands exactly on the same footing as the observance of Sunday.”

Bishop Seymour, **Why We Keep Sunday**.

“We have made the change from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the one holy Catholic Church.”

Baptist

Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, a paper read before a New York ministers' conference, Nov. 13, 1893, reported in **New York Examiner**, Nov.16, 1893.

“There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath day was not Sunday. It will be said, however, and with some show of triumph, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week Where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament absolutely not.”

“To me it seems unaccountable that Jesus, during three years' intercourse with His disciples, often conversing with them upon the Sabbath question never alluded to any transference of the day; also, that during forty days of His resurrection life, no such thing was intimated.”

“Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history But what a pity it comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of the sun god, adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!”

William Owen Carver, **The Lord's Day In Our Day**, p. 49.

“There was never any formal or authoritative change from the Jewish seventh-day Sabbath to the Christian first-day observance.”

Congregationalist

Dr. R. W. Dale, **The Ten Commandments** (New York: Eaton & Mains), p. 127-129.

“ it is quite clear that however rigidly or devotedly we may spend Sunday, we are not keeping the Sabbath — . . 'The Sabbath was founded on a specific Divine command. We can plead no such command for the obligation to observe Sunday <B...< B>There is not a single sentence in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of Sunday.”

Timothy Dwight, **Theology: Explained and Defended** (1823), Ser. 107, vol. 3, p. 258.

“ the Christian Sabbath [Sunday] is not in the Scriptures, and was not by the primitive Church called the Sabbath.”

Disciples of Christ

Alexander Campbell, **The Christian Baptist**, Feb. 2, 1824, vol. 1. no. 7, p. 164.

“But,' say some, 'it was changed from the seventh to the first day.' **Where? When? and by Whom?** No man can tell. No; it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again: for the reason assigned must be changed before the observance, or respect to the reason, can be changed! **It is all old wives' fables to talk of the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day.** If it be changed, it was that august personage who changes **times and laws ex officio - I think his name is Doctor Antichrist.**”

First Day Observance, pp. 17, 19.

“The first day of the week is commonly called the Sabbath. This is a mistake. The Sabbath of the Bible was the day just preceding the first day of the week. The first day of the week is never called the Sabbath anywhere in the entire Scriptures. It is also an error to talk about the change of the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. There is not in any place in the Bible any intimation of such a change.”

Lutheran

The Sunday Problem, a study book of the United Lutheran Church (1923), p. 36.

“We have seen how gradually the impression of the Jewish sabbath faded from the mind of the Christian Church, and how completely the newer thought underlying the observance of the first day took possession of the church. We have seen that the Christians of the first three centuries never confused one with the other, but for a time celebrated both.”

Augsburg Confession of Faith art. 28; written by Melanchthon, approved by Martin Luther, 1530; as published in **The Book of Concord of the Evangelical Lutheran Church** Henry Jacobs, ed. (1911), p. 63.

“They [Roman Catholics] refer to the Sabbath Day, a shaving been changed into the Lord's Day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it seems. Neither is there any example whereof they make more than concerning the changing of the Sabbath Day. Great, say they, is the power of the Church, since it has dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments!”

Dr. Augustus Neander, **The History of the Christian Religion and Church** Henry John Rose, tr. (1843), p. 186.

“The festival of Sunday, like all other festivals, was always only a human ordinance, and it was far from the intentions of the apostles to establish a Divine command in this respect, far from them, and from the early apostolic Church, to transfer the laws of the Sabbath to Sunday.”

John Theodore Mueller, **Sabbath or Sunday**, pp. 15, 16.

“But they err in teaching that Sunday has taken the place of the Old Testament Sabbath and therefore must be kept as the seventh day had to be kept by the children of Israel These churches err in their teaching, for Scripture has in no way ordained the first day of the week in place of the Sabbath. There is simply no law in the New Testament to that effect.”

Methodist

Harris Franklin Rall, **Christian Advocate**, July 2, 1942, p.26.

“Take the matter of Sunday. There are indications in the New Testament as to how the church came to keep the first day of the week as its day of worship, but there is no passage telling Christians to keep that day, or to transfer the Jewish Sabbath to that day.”

John Wesley, **The Works of the Rev. John Wesley, A.M.**, John Emory, ed. (New York: Eaton & Mains), Sermon 25, vol. 1, p. 221.

“But, the moral law contained in the ten commandments, and enforced by the prophets, he [Christ] did not take away. It was not the design of his coming to revoke any part of this. This is a law which never can be broken Every part of this law must remain in force upon all mankind, and in all ages; as not depending either on time or place, or any other circumstances liable to change, but on the nature of God and the nature of man, and their unchangeable relation to each other.”

Dwight L. Moody

D. L. Moody, **Weighed and Wanting** (Fleming H. Revell Co.: New York), pp. 47, 48.

“The Sabbath was binding in Eden, and it has been in force ever since. This fourth commandment begins with the word '**remember,**' showing that the Sabbath already existed when God Wrote the law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they will admit that the other nine are still binding?”

Presbyterian

T. C. Blake, D.D., *Theology Condensed*, pp.474, 475.

“The Sabbath is a part of the decalogue — the Ten Commandments. This alone forever settles the question as to the perpetuity of the institution Until, therefore, it can be shown that the whole moral law has been repealed, the Sabbath will stand **The teaching of Christ confirms the perpetuity of the Sabbath.**”

The Harlot Woman or Beast places “Man’s Tradition” above the Bible

Does the Roman Catholic Church base the change of the Sabbath on the Bible or Tradition?

Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and **think to change** times and **laws**: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

"From this same Catholic Church you have accepted your Sunday, as the Lord's day, she has handed down as a tradition; and the entire Protestant world has accepted it as tradition, for you have not an iota of Scripture to establish it. Therefore that which you have accepted as your rule of faith, inadequate as it of course is, as well as your Sunday, you have accepted on the authority of the Roman Catholic Church." (D.B. Ray, *The Papal Controversy*, 1892, p.179)

"If the bible is the only guide for the Christian, then ***the Seventh-Day Adventist is right*** in observing Saturday (Sabbath) with the Jew. **Is it not strange that those who make**

the bible their only teacher, should inconsistently in this matter follow the tradition of the Catholic Church?" - Cardinal Gibbons, in his book, *The Question Box*, pg. 179.

"Perhaps the most revolutionary change the Church ever did, happened in the first century [actually in happened in the fourth century]. **The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday. 'The Day of the Lord' [Dies Domini] was chosen, not from any direction noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church's sense of its own power....**People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become [Seventh-day] Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." **Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995.**

"The authority of the church could therefore not be bound to the authority of the Scriptures, **because the Church had changed the Sabbath into Sunday, not by command of Christ, but by its own authority.**" (Canon and Tradition, p. 263)

Understand how great is the authority of the [Roman Catholic] Church in interpreting or explaining to us the commandments of God-an authority which is acknowledged by the universal practice of the whole Christian world, even of those sects [i.e., protestants] who profess to take the Holy Scriptures as their sole rule of faith, **since they observe as the day of rest not the seventh day of the week commanded by the Bible, but the first day, which we know is to be kept holy, only from tradition and teaching of the Catholic Church.**" (Henry Gibson, *Catechism Made Easy (No.2)*, Ninth Ed., Vol. 1, pp.341,342)

What did Jesus say about following tradition and the commandments of men, even if they are taught by the church, rather than the Bible?

Matthew 15:1 Then came to **Jesus** scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, **Matthew 15:2** Why do thy disciples **transgress** the **tradition** of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

Matthew 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also **transgress** the **commandment** of **God** by your **tradition**?

Matthew 15:6 And honour not his father or his mother, *he shall be free*. Thus have ye made the **commandment** of God of **none** effect by your **tradition**.

Matthew 15:8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their **heart** is **far** from **me**.

Matthew 15:9 But in **vain** they do **worship** me, *teaching for doctrines* the **commandments** of **men**.

Mark 7:8 For laying **aside** the **commandment** of **God**, ye **hold** the **tradition** of **men**, *as* the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

Mark 7:9 And he said unto them, Full well ye **reject** the **commandment** of **God**, that ye may **keep** your own **tradition**.

Mark 7:13 Making the **word** of **God** of **none** effect **through** your **tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Mark 7:7 Howbeit in **vain** do they **worship** me, *teaching for* doctrines the **commandments** of **men**.

Would you like to keep all the commandments of God and refuse to follow the traditions of men to show you loyalty and love for Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour? Yes!

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How does Revelation 13:5 describe the Roman Catholic Church under the symbolism of a Woman riding the seven headed scarlet beast? **The mother of harlots**

Which Church claims that she is not the sister of all other churches but indeed their mother? **The Roman Catholic Church**

What practice by almost all the Protestant and Orthodox Churches shows that they are holding on to their mother churches tradition? **Sunday Sacredness**

What translated inscription at the base of the columns on either side of the central entrance door of St. John Lateran, the Cathedral of the Bishop of Rome, the pope shows the Roman Catholics belief of their relationship to other churches? **It reads:**

**SACROS(ANCTA) LATERAN(ENSIS) ECCLES(IA)
OMNIUM URBIS ET ORBIS
ECCLES(IA)RUM MATER
ET CAPUT.**

It translates to "Sacred Lateran Church, Universally for the City and the World, Supreme Mother of Churches", or "Holy Lateran Church, Mother and Head of all Churches in the City and the World", a fulfillment of Revelation 17:5.

How does Proverbs 28:9 describe one of the abominations in the cup of the Harlot Woman representing the Roman Catholic Church? **He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.**

How does Ezekiel also describe this abomination? **Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed *difference* between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.**

Do the Protestant Churches in their official writings admit that there is no Scriptural basis for Sunday Sacredness? **Yes**

Name some Protestant Churches who have had some authoritative writers who admit that there is no Bible command to keep Sunday sacred as the Sabbath instead of the Biblical Seven-day Sabbath that is Saturday? **Anglican / Episcopal, Baptist, Congregationalist, Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian and Lutheran**

Which Bible Text prophesied that the Roman Catholic Church would think they could change the law of God? **Daniel 7:25**

What is the official claim of the Roman Catholic Church from her writings that show the fulfillment of this prophecy? **From this same Catholic Church you have accepted your Sunday, as the Lord's day, she has handed down as a tradition; and the entire Protestant world has accepted it as tradition, for you have not an iota of Scripture to establish it. Therefore that which you have accepted as your rule of faith, inadequate as it of course is, as well as your**

Sunday, you have accepted on the authority of the Roman Catholic Church." (D.B. Ray, The Papal Controversy, 1892, p.179)

Which Church according to the Roman Catholic Church is one of the only Protestant Churches that follows the Bible in this regard and not the tradition of the mother Church? "If the bible is the only guide for the Christian, then the Seventh-Day Adventist is right in observing Saturday (Sabbath) with the Jew. Is it not strange that those who make the bible their only teacher, should inconsistently in this matter follow the tradition of the Catholic Church?" - Cardinal Gibbons, in his book, *The Question Box*, pg. 179

Whose authority did the mother Roman Catholic Church use to think they could change the Sabbath from Saturday the Biblical Seventh-day Sabbath to Sunday? "Perhaps the most revolutionary change the Church ever did, happened in the first century [actually in happened in the fourth century]. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday. 'The Day of the Lord' [Dies Domini] was chosen, not from any direction noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church's sense of its own power....People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become [Seventh-day] Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995

What did Jesus say in Matthew 15:3 that one following the tradition of man does? **Transgresses or breaks the Commandments of God**

What comment did Jesus make in Matthew 15:6 about what the tradition of the Jews did to the fifth Commandment? **It made it of none affect**

Where did Jesus say the heart of those who follow tradition and not the Bible are? **Far from Jesus**

What did Jesus say worshipping by tradition and not the commandments of God was in Matthew 15:9? **Vain or empty in other words a waste of time and effort**

What did Jesus say the following of tradition does to the Word of God in Mark 7:13? **Makes it of no effect**

What did Jesus say we do to the Commandment of God by following tradition in Mark 7:9? **Reject the Commandment of God**