Refuting Sunday-Keeping II

Fred R. Coulter—April 14, 2000

Here's the book I told you about last time, Sunday Facts and Sabbath Fiction, 25 Reasons Why Christians Keep Sunday. We will see that in every case all of this has been absolute twisting of the Word of God, and turning it and changing it and turning it upside down, and making it say things that it really doesn't say.

Now we're warned about these things in the Scriptures. Let's come to 2-Peter 3, the third chapter, and let's see the warning that Peter gave concerning what would happen when they were twisting and turning the words of Paul, and twisting and turning all the other Scriptures as Peter says here. There are religionists out there, there are ministers, there are pastors, there are whole churches and organizations that have set warfare against God and His Word while claiming to use it and uphold it. It's really an absolutely damnable and dastardly thing that they are doing.

Now let me read it right here. 2-Peter 3:15: "And bear this in mind that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation, exactly as our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has also written to you; as he has also in all his epistles, speaking in them concerning these things; in which are some things that are difficult to understand... [And we're going to look at a lot of Scriptures, maybe not this time, but as we go through this whole series of 25 reasons why Sunday-keeping is practiced by the Christian-professing world, we are going to see that they go to hard-to-understand Scriptures and don't even know what they mean.] ...which the [unlearned] ignorant and unstable are twisting and distorting, as they also twist and distort the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction." (vs 15-16).

And that's exactly what they have done. Now let's come to 2-Corinthians and let's see

- exactly what has happened here
- exactly what people have been doing
- exactly how they have been turning things upside down

—and using the Word of God to their own destruction and the destruction of all of those that hear them, and all of those that believe them. I want you to understand that we're going to use *The Holy Bible In Its Original Order*, *A Faithful Version*. [transcriber's note: the *KJV* was used for the original audio] We're not going to use the *NIV*, or the *New American Standard*. I want you to know that one of the most subversive Bibles there is, is the *NIV* and the *New American Standard Bible*, which takes away the Divinity of Christ, takes away the understanding of

the Sabbath and the Holy Days, and removes those. Now we are in a spiritual warfare. This is not just a simple doctrinal thing. This is a salvational thing. This is the Word of God. This is His Truth. If that can't be plain and understood, then we're all in trouble and all of those who follow those teachers, and those preachers, which preach against the Sabbath, which condemn God, which ridicule those who keep the Sabbath. You're going head long right on down the path of destruction.

Let's see what's so important, what is so true. It was happening in Paul's day, the exact same thing, which has led to the *NIV*, the *New American Standard*, and other modern translations, was already taking place in Paul's day. They were twisting, they were perverting, they were bringing Gnosticism from the pagans and Gnosticism from the Jews, blending it into a Christianity, which later became known as the Roman Catholic Church, which is the one which champions Sunday-keeping.

2-Corinthians 4:1: "Therefore, having this ministry..." The ministry of what? *To preach*

- the Truth of Jesus
- the Truth of God's Word
- the Truth of salvation
- the Truth of grace
- the Truth of commandment-keeping

—and the great and glorious plan that God has for all of mankind. That's the ministry that is true ministry of Jesus Christ, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, preaching grace and salvation. And I want you to understand something very important: Sabbath keeping by those who keep Sabbath is not looked upon as a means of justification in place of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. That's one of the greatest sleight of hands and twisting and turnings that Sunday advocates have. They accuse us of looking to Sabbath-keeping as justifying us from our sins and no such thing is true. That is an absolute blatant lie and an ignorant and unlearned statement by those who do not know their Bibles and do not understand the Truth of God.

"...according as we have received mercy, we are not fainthearted. For we have personally renounced the hidden things of dishonest gain... [And, oh, there is so much dishonesty going on in the religions and the Protestant system of this world, it is unreal.] ...not walking in *cunning* craftiness... [And how many have secret agendas leading to ecumenical movement all roads going back to Rome, going back to Babylon the great?] ...nor handling the Word of God deceitfully... [That's exactly what all

of the Sunday-keepers do and we're going to see in this book, *Sunday Facts*, that they handle the Word of God deceitfully. They make claims and the author, Dr. Russell K. Tardo, makes unlearned claims, twisting and turning of the Scriptures, using them for his own destruction, destroying those who want to find God, leading them down the broad path, which we'll see in just a minute leads to destruction.] ...nor handling the Word of God deceitfully..." (vs 1-2).

You know one of the worst curses there could be—for any minister who claims to be a minister of Jesus Christ—is to take the Word of God and make a lie out of it by mishandling it and deceitfully using it. That's what happened with these New Age Bible versions, like the *NIV*. They have removed so many things from the Word of God that salvation is very hard to find through Jesus Christ, and God's judgment is going to be upon them. You can read that in 2-Peter 2.

"...but by manifestation of the Truth..." (v 2). I want you to remember how we saw that

- God's way is Truth
- Christ is the Way, the Life, and the Truth
- how that His commandments are true
- His statutes are true
- His judgments are true
- Christ is true from the beginning

and in the Word of God there is no lie. But when those men take and turn it and twist it, and bring in another gospel, and bring in another Christ, which is not really found in the true New Testament of God. There is raging battle going on to get rid of the King James Version of the Bible. But what they have done, they have gotten rid of what is called the Received Text or the Byzantine Text, from which the King James Version was translated. And in doing that, they have eliminated so many things by twisting and turning and leaving things out of context. We'll see this as we go along.

Now notice where this comes from: "...but by manifestation of the Truth, we are commending ourselves to every man's conscience before God" (v 2). Knowing

that God knows
that God is real
that Christ is the Head
that He is watching
that He is inspiring
that He is doing the things—through them

"But if our Gospel is hidden, it is hidden to those who are perishing in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of those who do not believe, lest the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is *the* image of God, should shine unto them" (vs 3-4).

No, Satan doesn't want you to know the Truth, and that's why he has invented the twisting and turning of the Scriptures, so that those who go to church on Sunday think they are doing the will of God and the Word of God.

Let's come to 2-Corinthians 2 and let's see what else Paul said along these lines. You need to realize this: *Satan is the god of this world*.

- he is the one who wants to pervert and change the Word of God
- he is the one who wants to be worshiped
- he wants to bring you another Christ
- he wants to bring you another truth
- he wants to bring you another day of worship, and that is the first day of the week

In order to do that, here is what they have done: 2-Corinthians 2:14: "But thanks be to God, Who always leads us triumphant in Christ, and manifests the fragrance of His knowledge through us in every place. For we are Christ's sweet perfume to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing; to those who are perishing, we are a stench of death unto death..." (vs 14-16). That's exactly how Sunday-keepers view Sabbath-keeping, as death unto death. And we will see later on, that they accuse those of us who keep the Sabbath and Holy Days as being living in sin and rejecting Christ. Nothing could be further from the Truth!

"...but to those who are being saved, we are a fragrance of life unto life. And who is qualified for such things?.... [Christ is!] ... For we are not like the many... I want you to look at the word 'many.' I want you to circle it or underline it. Let's see what the 'many,' and we will see false preachers and teachers are doing.] ... For we are not like the many, who for their own profit are corrupting the Word of God... [By lying about the meaning of the words, by lying about what Christ has said, by lying against the truth, and corrupting it. Taking the Word of God and corrupting it. And, of course, those New Age Bible versions corrupt the Word of God worse than anything you could ever imagine.] ...but we speak with sincerity, as from God, and before God, and in Christ" (vs 16-17).

In other words what he is saying, he is viewing his life as in the sight of Christ continually in what he's doing. And Paul said something else here, let's go to Galatians 1, and let's understand something that is very important concerning pleasing men, concerning doing things to please men. He always did it for Christ's sake, in the sight of Christ, not on his own, now with a secret agenda, but in truth and sincerity and honesty. That's what we want to portray to you. We want you to

understand that the Word of God is *truth* and it is *salvation*. You can base your life on it. Now here's what Paul said. They had others who twisted the Scriptures, who perverted it, who handled it dishonestly, coming and bringing another Christ. And if you're a Sunday-keeper, you have another Christ. Now if those are fighting words to you, then you start proving it out of your Bible and make sure you have the right Bible not the perverted Bible, which leads to destruction.

Galatians 1:6: "I am astonished that you are so quickly being turned away from Him Who called you into the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, Which in reality is not another gospel..." (vs 6-7). The truth is, there is only one true Gospel, which Christ delivered. Now men like to come along and do just like Sunday-keepers do. 'Well, we'll take nine of the commandments, but we don't have to do the Sabbath commandment.' *That is another gospel*.

So if you think you believe in Christ, you have another gospel, and you have another Christ. 'Pervert the gospel of Christ.' Now notice this. I want you to understand this. I want you to understand how severe that this is in this warfare, and we know for sure from what we've learned concerning understanding of the Sabbath, that every Sunday-keeper—minister, member, denomination, church, organization—must cross the Sabbath bridge. They have no way around it.

As we said with all of those quotes, toward the end of the 19th Century, there was a movement afoot, when almost every major Protestant denomination was examining the Sunday question and they concluded that nowhere in the Bible can you find justification for Sunday-keeping. Now a hundred years later, we have it fully perverted. I think that at that time, if the Protestants would have renounced Sunday-keeping, renounced holiday keeping, and have gone to embrace the Truth of the Scriptures concerning the Sabbath, the whole world would be entirely different today. They were right at the edge of doing so, but because they bowed to the church at Rome, because they bowed to the pressure of people, they retained Sunday-keeping.

Now Paul didn't bow to the pressure of anyone. Notice what he says here in v 8: "But if we... ['we' means all the apostles and there is no such thing that they kept Sunday from the beginning. That is an utter lie. And yet most Christians believe it. Can you worship the God of truth with a lie? Can you believe the Truth of God and believe lies? No, you can't! You either have to have the Truth of God, or you're going to live in carnality and in lies of this world. And who's the father of liars and lies? Satan the devil!] ...but if we, or even an angel from heaven, should preach a gospel to you that is contrary to what we have preached, LET HIM BE

ACCURSED!" Which means, they're going into the lake of fire. It's that simple.

If you carefully read the book of Hebrews, you will understand this: You either believe Christ and follow Him, and love Him, and keep His commandments, or you are headed to the Lake of Fire. That is the message in summary of the book of Hebrews. And the message of what Christ has taught all along, salvation is for eternity, and God is not going to fiddle around with lies and half-truths and twisting of the Scriptures, political this and political that, and serving people in ways to please them, curry them, to merchandize them.

Verse 9: "As we have said before, I also now say again. If anyone is preaching a gospel contrary to what you have received, LET HIM BE ACCURSED!" So there's a double curse. God means business in this. God means business with His laws and His commandments and His Truth, and His grace, and His salvation through Christ. It is not something just to have a religion and to lead a nice life. There are many sincere people out there in the world. You can probably find some very sincere good, decent people who practice Buddhism. But they are not called to salvation. So being good is not what God wants you to be.

- being converted is what God wants you to be
- loving God is what He wants you to be
- keeping His commandments is what He wants you to do
- receiving the grace of Christ and the justification through faith is what He wants you to believe

And they all come together. You can't pick and choose and take part of it and throw it away.

Now notice v 10: "Now then, am I striving to please men, or God? Or am I motivated to please men? For if I am yet pleasing men, I would not a servant of Christ." Now when you go into your Sunday-keeping church and you hear your Protestant minister or Catholic priest up there purring away to please people, you better remember this Scripture. *If* they seek to please men

- by giving them license to sin
- preach another gospel
- preach another Jesus
- twist and turn the Scriptures
- corrupt the Word of God
- handle it deceitfully

they are not from God. God never sent them. It doesn't matter if the whole world follows them, God didn't send them. Let's prove that. Let's go back to Matt. 7, and let's see. You need to think about this. Next time you go to church on Sunday, you sit there

with the proper Word of God, have it right there so you can open up and look at it, and you check up on what that Sunday-keeping preacher tells you. You look at the Word of God to see whether it's true or not. And if he's giving you an easy way, a pleasant way, a fuzzy-wuzzy Jesus that you can just love and remain in your sins, he's not sent from God.

Matthew 7:13: "Enter in through the narrow gate... [that means difficult] ...for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter through it." Now I want you to think about the billions of Sunday-keepers. How can they be right when they are on the wrong path? They're on the *broad path* and they are told, 'You don't have to keep the commandments of God.' They're told, 'You don't have to keep the Sabbath of God.' They're told that 'you can be saved in your sins.' They say no one can keep the commandments of God, and they're liars. And if you sit there in your Sunday-keeping church and you believe that, you have no salvation. You have no Christ, because you're going down the broad way, which leads to destruction.

Now let's read this, v 14: "For narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life, and few are those who find it." Now that's interesting—isn't it? You've got to find it. You have to search for it. When you start analyzing all religious groups—and by the way God's way is not a religion, it is a way of life. But since in the world people think of God as a religion, I'll use that term. But if you begin analyzing every church and every denomination by the Ten Commandments of God, and then by whether they live by every Word of God or not, by whether they really preach it or not, and still preach the grace of God, and the justification by faith, you are going to find that there are so few who really believe it all.

You can't have your broad-based ecumenism of this world. It's going into utter destruction and Christ, when He returns, is going to utterly destroy it. No question about it! You need to understand that. Who leads the people in there, in those ways?

Verse 15: "But beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing... [Oh, they look nice, they purr nice, they sound nice, they're warm and fuzzy just like lambskin. Oh, yes, they'll be sweet, they'll be nice, there'll be flattery, they'll tell you it's easy, they'll tell you it's nice, they'll tell you it's good, and you just choose whatever you want to do.] ...for within *they* are ravening wolves." Why? Because they hate God and they hate His Word, and they twist it and turn it and deceitfully handle it. And preach to you another gospel, and

preach to you another Christ, and preach to you another day.

"You shall know them by their fruits. They do not gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles, do they? In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, but a corrupt tree produces evil fruit. A good tree cannot produce evil fruit..." (vs 16-17). *If it is the Truth, there is no lie in it.* Do you understand that?

- It cannot bring forth evil fruit
- It will not politicize with men
- It will not compromise for men
- It will not allow the evils of Satan the devil to get a foothold and run the whole church. You need to understand that

You need to think about that in your life. You need to pray about that before Christ. You need to ask God to open your mind so that you understand the Truth. You need to do as Christ said. 'He stands at the door and knocks and if any man will open the door, He will come in and sup with Him.' You need to think about that in your relationship with Christ.]

"...nor can a corrupt tree produce good fruit" (v 17). That why they can't preach the Sabbath, because they're corrupt. That's why they can't teach the truth of the Passover and the Feasts of God, because they're corrupt. Have you ever thought of it that way? Have you ever thought that that nice, intelligent, well-sounding, well-meaning preacher standing up in the pulpit of your Sunday-keeping church is corrupt according to the Word of God?

They have these beautiful buildings, beautiful choirs, all these lovely things, so they can commercialize you and entertain you, and give you sweet purrings by perverting the Word of God, and not calling you to repentance. If you're a Sunday-keeper, you've got to start repenting of Sunday-keeping, and if you keep the holidays of this world you've got to start repenting of that as well—repent of living an evil life under the guise of doing good; repent of believing lies as Truth and thinking that you're right with God.

Now let's see what happens if you don't. Verse 20: "Therefore, you shall assuredly know them by their fruits.... [We've read this before, but I want to read it again now in this section, Refuting Sunday-keeping, and then we'll get to Sunday-keeping number two, the reason why they say they are allowed to keep Sunday, which is a lie and a twisting and turning of God's Word.] ...Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord, Lord," shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but the one who is doing the will of My Father, Who is in heaven" (vs 20-21). 'Doeth' (KJV) in the Greek comes from the verb 'poieo,' which means to practice.

What is the will of the Father? The will of the Father was that He created all things by and through Jesus Christ. And as we saw in the Sabbath series, He created the Sabbath day, the seventh day, right at creation and made it Holy and sanctified it, because it was the will of the Father. Do you want to do the will of the Father? Remember what the daily prayer is? 'Our Father Who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is heaven.' Is the will of the Sabbath Day and Sabbath-keeping from God the Father in your life? Well, if you are keeping Sunday, you are not doing the will of God. Now let's notice what happens to them even though they use the name of Christ, even though they call Him, 'Lord, Lord.' Even though they do these things.

Verse 22: "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord...'" Now this is the day of judgment. This is the day when they're resurrected, expecting to be blessed and receive a reward for all of the things that they have done. And mind you, mind you, mind you, Sunday-keeping is a work that Sunday-keepers think will bring them salvation. They rely on it. They're looking to salvation by works while they preach grace and licentiousness to remain in sin. You think on that. Now maybe you've never heard anything like this, but you need to understand God is eternal, God is real, and God means business. God doesn't want you sitting around, playing around, playing religion, playing with the Scriptures, thinking you're all good and right before God when you're not.

Verse 22: "Many will say to Me in that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy through Your name?.... [That means preached and prophesied, both. Have ministries, have churches, have radio programs, television programs, all of those things, and do it in the name of God. Go watch the circus on Trinity TV channel. Listen to the radio religious programs. Listen to the circus that all goes on. All of them say, 'Lord, Lord.' All of them say, 'Oh, yes.'] ...And did we not cast out demons through Your name?" And haven't we seen that on television, like Benny Hinn, casting out demons, right in front of everyone. That doesn't mean that they have been sent from God. They preach lawlessness. If anyone preaches against the Sabbath and the Holy Days of God and keeping all the commandments of God and the grace of God and the justification by faith, *they* are preaching lawlessness. If anyone tells you it's all right to reject the Sabbath and keep Sunday, they are preaching lawlessness.

Verse 23: "...And *did we not* perform many works of power through Your name?'.... [Notice what Jesus will say]: ...And <u>then I will confess to them, 'I never knew you.</u> Depart from Me, you who work [iniquity] lawlessness'" In other words,

whose works are lawlessness. Now what is 'lawlessness'? Lawlessness by definition in the New Testament is setting aside the commandments of God and saying you don't need to keep them. Now have you heard that from your Sunday pulpit, from your purring little pastor, up there giving sweet little words about Jesus? We'll see that's exactly what they say. That's exactly what they believe and that's exactly what they preach and practice—lawlessness!

Now let's come back here to 1-John 3 and let's again understand the Word of God. And let's understand that John, who is called the apostle of love, the one who loved Jesus and the one whom Jesus loved more than the other apostles. Notice what he says that sin is, or what lawlessness is. You need to understand that this is New Testament doctrine. You need to understand that nowhere does God say that you are going to make it into the Kingdom of God by breaking the commandments of God and rejecting the sacrifice of Christ in so doing, by believing lies, by keeping Sunday and Christmas and Easter and New Years and all of those lying, pagan, Satan-inspired holidays of this world. You need to stop and ask yourself, 'Where am I standing before God and what is my life and what am I doing?' You might also ask, 'Why am I so miserable?' Because you're living in sin!

1-John 3:4: "Everyone who **practices** sin..." And the Greek there is 'poieo,' meaning practices sin. If you keep Sunday every week and don't keep the Sabbath, you are practicing sin! If you keep Christmas, if you keep Easter, if you keep all the holidays of this world, and all of the hundreds of them that the Roman Catholic Church has, you are practicing lawlessness, because it is against the laws of God.

- Do you understand that?
- Do you grasp that?

May God give you the strength and understanding to do so.

"Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness... [Read that, 'transgresses the law' (KJV) meaning you are breaking the law. Do you grasp that? The law is in effect for Christians, no question about it. Anyone who is lawless is not going to be in the Kingdom of God, as we saw. So if you think you're going to receive salvation in your state of lawlessness of Sundaykeeping and Sabbath-rejecting and Sabbath-breaking and rejecting the Passover and the Holy Days of God, and embracing the communion of this world, the Eucharist of this world, and their holidays, you have another thought coming. You are living and practicing sin.] ...for sin is lawlessness." Do you understand that? 'Transgressing' (KJV) means you're not keeping. And if you're not keeping, you

are transgressing and you are sinning, because 'sin is the transgression of the law.'

Now let's look at another Scripture, 1-John 5: 2. This is so important. You need to understand. You need to ask God to open your eyes and open your mind and open your ears and give you an understanding, tender willing heart before God, while there is time, while there is space for repentance, while there is an opportunity to come to God.

1-John 5:2: "By this standard we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep His commandments." There is no such thing as just loving God in your heart and everything is all right. Because it says 'we love God and keep'—practice His commandments.

 Are you practicing the commandments of God?

OR

- Are you going along with the religionists who teach you and thumb your nose at the Word of God?
- ridicule the Word of God?
- Say that Christ lied? He didn't mean what He said
- and the apostles lied? They didn't mean what they said.

Verse 3: "For this is the love of God... [Now if you think you love God, try this for the test.] ...For this is the love of God: that we keep His commandments.... [So you ask yourself the question: Am I loving God and keeping His commandments?] ...**and His commandments are burdensome**." Do you understand what that says?

The Sabbath commandment, the first commandment, second commandment—all commandments of God—are not grievous. If you believe that God gave the commandments as a harsh taskmaster to punish the Jews, you have believed a lie! *God never did such a thing!* He always gave the commandments for their good—always. But the Jews are under a curse because of sin. And because they have the Law of God in the Old Testament, but have rejected Christ, they are in sin. Those who profess to be in the New Covenant, who reject the commandments of God, and keep Sunday, are in sin. You need to understand that.

Let's look at the twisting and perverted reasoning that they have concerning Sunday-keeping. Remember the first one:

- 1. we refuted and we spent the whole study on it showing that Christ was not resurrected on Sunday
- 2. the Church was born on Sunday

Now in that there's an element of truth. So let's see what it is. Let me read from this book—Sunday Facts & Sabbath Fiction:

Interesting enough the Holy Spirit was poured out on Sunday, because Pentecost is always kept on the first day of the week, not on the 'Jewish' Saturday Sabbath.

I want you to understand something very important in all the writings of Sunday advocates. They say the 'Jewish' Saturday Sabbath. That is a lie, because Jesus said, 'The Sabbath was made for man,' and that means all of mankind, 'and not man for the Sabbath; therefore, the Son of man is Lord,' as we have seen, 'also of the Sabbath day.' You need to understand that. That's how they put it down.

Pentecost was reckoned as the fiftieth day from the morrow after the Sabbath (Lev. 23:11-15)...

True statement. Now what you'll find here is the best way to deceive is to ridicule the opposition and to also state some Truth and then twist it and make your justification for what you're doing. So he says, correctly so:

This would be the day following the first Sabbath after Passover.... [correctly so] ...On this fact, Wycliffe authority's state...

Now I don't know who was referring to Wycliffe authorities, if that is Wycliffe himself or not, I could not vouch for that. So here's the quote he gives:

"It would mean that the waving of the firstfruits of the sheaf of grain would occur the day after the first weekly Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread... [correct] ...and that Pentecost being fifty days of seven weeks completed would always come on the morrow after the Sabbath, that is on a Sunday."

That is correct, but let's rephrase that—on the first day of the week.

Wycliffe further states: "Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Church...
Almost correct, not really quite true, but almost correct.

...since Christ's resurrection fell on a Sunday...

Now you see, here's the twisting. They never get in to prove it, they never get in to show that it was toward the end of the Sabbath that He was resurrected.

...since Christ's resurrection fell on Sunday, Pentecost also fell on the first day of the week, the day on which Christians worshiped and continue to worship.

That is an utter lie!

(go to the next track)

Now let's continue on with this quote:

Smith reporting on the birth of the Church on Pentecost, says, "On the day of Pentecost which in that year fell on the first day of the week, Sunday...

Now notice how they go right into it then:

...Sunday, the Lord's day, holds special significance to the Christian, not because of Jesus' resurrection on that day, but because the Church itself was born on that day.

Not so! The Church itself was born when Jesus Christ began calling the disciples and He said, 'I will build My church,' (Matt. 16). They received the Holy Spirit on that day.

While this fact alone may be insufficient to undergird Sunday worship...

They're going after the weakness of their argument to state 'it may not be sufficient.' Well, we're going to see that it really destroys their argument, because they don't know what happened on the day of Pentecost with the children of Israel. And not knowing that, they are not understanding whatsoever the meaning of Pentecost. Pentecost is a Holy Day of God, which happens to fall on the first day of the week. That is not endorsing Sunday-keeping whatsoever. Just finish the quote here:

While this fact alone may be insufficient to undergird Sunday worship, it nevertheless weakens the Sabbath so-called hold on the very institution born on a Sunday.

We're going to see that that is not true. What happened on Pentecost for the children of Israel when they came out from the land of Egypt? Now if you don't have the sermon you can write for it, From the Red Sea to Sinai, which shows and gives a chronology leading up to the giving of the law on Mount Sinai. What really happened what this: the law was given on Pentecost. Do you grasp the significance of that? Because if you believe in Pentecost, then you must believe in the Ten Commandments of God, including the Sabbath day.

Not only was the Sabbath created by God in the beginning, not only was it re-instituted again for the children of Israel who lost the knowledge of it while they were slaves in Egypt, it was re-instituted in Exo. 16 before they got to Mount Sinai. But Mount Sinai, where the commandments were given, was the day of Pentecost. So if you accept and you endorse Pentecost, you must accept and endorse all the Ten Commandments, which include the Sabbath day.

Let's go back to Exodus 20. Let's see that. Most people don't even know that it occurred on Pentecost, so this gives an entirely different meaning. Since Pentecost is always on the first day of the week, when did God give His law? On the first day of the week! Did He authorize Sunday-keeping on that first day of the week when He gave the law? Answer—NO!

Now let's just go through the first four commandments, and let's understand something. Just as James has said, 'If you keep all the law and offend in one point, you have broken the whole law.' Now think on that in relationship to Sunday-keeping. If you offend in Sabbath-keeping, plus keep Sunday, you have broken the whole law! Now here Exodus 20 and this was on the day of Pentecost.

Exodus 20:1: "And God spoke all these words... [Will you listen to God? This is not Moses. Moses didn't get up on the mountain and speak these words. God spoke them! Which God? The One Who became Jesus Christ! Because if you believe in the New Testament in John 1:1 says, 'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. There was not anything made that was made that He did not make.' So the one Who became Christ spoke these words] ...saying, 'I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me" (vs 1-3). So if you keep Sunday, you have another God, you have another Christ, you're breaking the commandment.

Verse 4, second commandment: "You shall not make for yourselves any graven image, or any likeness of *anything* that *is* in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the waters under the earth" (vs 1-4). Not even to make them.

- If you have idols and statues in whatever church you go to, you are committing idolatry.
- If you wear crosses and crucifixes and things of ancient religions, you are committing idolatry.
- If you pray to saints, you're committing idolatry.

Not even to make it, let alone have it there so you can—as the Catholics say—venerate it, or reverence it. If you have an idol, do you know you're worshiping the created, instead of the Creator. God will not give His honor to anything that any man makes. God will not be bound by the injunctions of men, regardless of how they may sanctify and claim that it's Holy.

"You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them, for <u>I, the LORD your God</u> am a jealous God..." (v 5). He made the world, He

made the universe. He made everything that there is. Do you think He's going to give honor to a stick or a stone or metal or gold or silver? Now, you just look at every idolatry nation and religion in this world and you will see that they are under this curse right here in the Ten Commandments. Meaning that the Ten Commandments apply to all people everywhere at all times, not just to you, but to every human being on earth. You need to get your eyes and mind and ears open to understand the Truth. You may think, 'Well, my, these are strong words.' Well, you want to meet Christ face-to-face and say, 'Depart from Me, you that work iniquity,' and go into the Lake of Fire prepared for the devil and his angels? Is that what you want? If you don't repent and change, that's what you're going to get. Christ said so, not

But you look at these nations with idolatry where God says: "...for I, the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me... [And what is hating God? Not keeping His commandments, saying that God can be found in all religions. That's hating God. Christ is 'the Way, the Truth, and the Life.'] ...but showing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments" (vs 5-6). And that is New Testament doctrine, John 14:15, Jesus said, 'If you love Me, keep My commandments.' And He is the one Who spoke these words on Mount Sinai on the day of Pentecost. So for these Sunday-keepers to come along and justify Sunday-keeping by saying that the Church was born on Pentecost, well so was the nation of Israel born on Pentecost and He gave the law.

So if you endorse Pentecost, you must by that very fact endorse the Ten Commandments of God, *including the Sabbath*. So the whole reasoning is twisted and perverted and maligned, because they have an agenda. They believe a lie, won't believe the Truth of God. They don't love God. Oh, they may purr and have nice fuzzy, warm words, but they don't love God. Because we saw that if you love God, you will keep His commandments and His commandments are not burdensome. Have you found any burden here on any of this? *None whatsoever!*

The third commandment: "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain... [And the way it's taken in vain is by saying 'God said,' when He never said. Cursing and swearing by carnal unconverted people in the world is the least of taking the name of God in vain. The greatest way to take it is pretend to serve God, pretend to be a minister of God, pretend to speak for God, and preach lies. That is the uttermost of taking the name of God in vain.]

...for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain" (v 7).

Now let's understand something else. If you look at the way the Catholics have designated the Ten Commandments, they completely remove the second one concerning making idols and worshiping them. Why? Because if they left it in, they would condemn themselves by the very fact of their existence and St. Peter's Basilica and every cathedral and every Catholic Church everywhere in the world filled with idols and superstition. So they have to remove it.

Now then, are you going to go along with removing the Word of God? Maybe the Protestants keep it in, but they come along and just like the Catholics, they also remove the fourth commandment. Not by taking it out, but by lying and saying that it has been shifted to Sunday. Now remember, on Pentecost *God gave the law*. Do you understand that? And in the law is contained the Sabbath commandment. Do you understand that?

Verse 8: "Remember the Sabbath to keep it Holy." You can't keep Sunday Holy. Do you know why you can't keep Sunday Holy? Because God never blessed it and sanctified it! That's why. Pentecost is a Holy annual Sabbath of God, but this gives no license to keep every Sunday on a weekly basis. This came once a year and still does come once a year and is on the first day of the week, but it has nothing whatsoever to do with license or permission to change the Sabbath commandments and to keep Sunday on a weekly basis. Nowhere does it say that.

These lying and twisting words by men who want to shove their way right up into the nose of God are going to stand before the throne of God and they are going to be judged for these lies. Now if you want to believe them, go follow them, go do that. But know everyone's going to stand before the judgment seat of Christ—Who is God—and give an account of himself. What will your accounting be?

Now back to the fourth commandment here. "'Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God...'" (vs 8-10). He owns it! He rules it! 'Therefore the Son of man is also Lord of the Sabbath day' also. No other day, no other day. Sunday is not the Lord's day. The seventh day weekly Sabbath which is Saturday, today, and God preserved the knowledge of the Sabbath all down through history, so that people would not have an excuse to say, 'Oh, time got lost and I couldn't find which day it was.' Listen, every Sunday-keeper knows which day is the Sabbath and they refuse to keep it. You think on that.

- Are you in that group?
- Are you going to refuse God?
- Will you really?

""...In it you shall not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter; your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your livestock, nor the stranger within your gates; for *in* six days the LORD made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and sanctified it" (vs 10-11). No other day.

As we're already seen in the series we did on the Sabbath, that it was *man* who made the edict concerning Sunday. It was the *pagan Roman*, that so-called 'Christian' Emperor Constantine, who gave the first law and that it was reinforced with the Council of Laodicea in 364 _{A.D.} And they always put it in the term 'Judaizing.' Well, we'll have something to say what Judaizing is. Listen, understand, and mark this clear: *If you love God and keep His commandments, you are not Judaizing*. Judaizing is something else entirely different, which we will cover when we come to it.

Now let's come to Deuteronomy 5—the second giving of the law. And we're going to see something that is very important. Then we will see why God gave the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, and we'll go to Acts 2 and see. After He gave the Ten Commandments and all the people said, 'Well, Moses, you speak to us and we'll listen to you. All that God says, we'll do.' So that's what they did here.

Here's another account of it that's a little different than we find in Exo. 20, though it's a parallel account and gives the same story. Deuteronomy 5:27: "You go near... [They told Moses.] ...and hear all that the LORD our God shall say. And you speak to us all that the LORD our God shall speak to you, and we will hear it, and do it.' And the LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me. And the LORD said to me, 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people, which they have spoken to you. They have well said all that they have spoken. Oh, that there were such a heart in them... [They needed the Holy Spirit. And another thing that most of the Sunday-keepers do not understand is that God never offered salvation to Israel under the Old Covenant. That did not come until Christ. Do you understand that? Their good news was that they would be in the 'promised land.' Our good news is we're going to be in the Kingdom of God.] ...Oh, that there were such a heart in them that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always, so that it might be well with them and with their children forever!" (vs 27-29). Because God loved them and God wanted them to do well.

But the whole lesson of the Old Covenant is this: Without the Spirit of God you cannot keep the commandments of God from the heart. You can keep them in the letter for a certain period of time, which the children of Israel did. And the whole history of the children of Israel and Judah was that, as we have seen, that they would keep the commandments of God and then they'd go into Sunday-keeping and Ashtaroth-worship and Baalworship. Then God would raise up a judge, or raise up a king, who would help them come to repentance. They'd come back and start keeping the commandments of God again. The reason that happened time and time and time again is because they didn't have the heart.

So when we come to the Church being born, supposedly, Acts 2, let's go back there to the New Testament. What we have here is this: We have on the same day, Pentecost—being a first day of the week—God gave the Ten Commandments. So if you accept and endorse Pentecost, then you have to accept all the Ten Commandments of God. You can't pick and choose. You can't add to or take away from. It's or nothing at all. Now you may pick and choose by choice, but then you're living in sin. So that's why it's all or nothing at all in reality before God. So on the day of Pentecost what God did was send the Holy Spirit on the same day He gave the law, and the Holy Spirit is that which enables you to love God and keep His commandments from your heart.

Now let's begin right here in Acts 2:1: "And when the day of Pentecost, the fiftieth day, was being fulfilled... [And you can write in for the booklet, What is the Meaning of Acts 2:1, because the Greek makes it very clear. This should be translated 'and during the accomplishing or fulfilling of the fiftieth day, or the day of Pentecost.'] ...they were all with one accord in the same place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like the rushing of a powerful wind..." (vs 1-2). Now what happened when they were at Mount Sinai and received the Ten Commandments?

- there was the trumpet blowing
- there was the darkness
- there was the whirlwind
- there was the sound
- there was the voice of God

Now here on this day of Pentecost it is the Holy Spirit which is coming, which is the power of God. And if you believe the Holy Spirit is a God and part of a trinity, then you need to write for the booklets that we have on that

- God is Not a Trinity
- The Two Jehovahs of the Psalms
- The Two Jehovah's of the Pentateuch

You need to understand. If you believe in a trinity—and that's one of the hallmarks of Sundaykeepers—you'll believe also another lie. You can write in for a whole 55-page study in going through the New Testament showing clearly through the New Testament, the Old Testament, verse-by-verse and word-by-word, that the Holy Spirit is the power of God. That's what came here—the power of God. This then, gave the power to preach, the power to teach, the power to keep the commandments of God from the heart. That's why God began the Church on this day, not to endorse weekly Sunday-keeping. This is an annual Sabbath. And if you endorse this day, you're also endorsing the Holy Days of God, and all of His annual Sabbaths, because you can't one without the other. Do you understand that?

God is not here to divide His word. Christ said, 'Think not that I've come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have come to fulfill. Until heaven and earth pass away, one jot or on tittle,' which is from the Old Testament, 'shall not pass from the law until all be fulfilled.' I tell you in the name of Christ, it has not all been fulfilled. If you don't believe that, you just step outside the door of your house and you look and see. Is the heaven and earth still here? Yes! Then one jot or one tittle has not passed from the law. If you don't believe that, then you're calling Jesus a liar. Now you think on that!

"And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like the rushing of a powerful wind, and filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them divided tongues as of fire... [And this is not a baptism by fire. And all of the Pentecostals who believe in speaking in tongues and baptism by fire, that's another deception of Satan the devil, which I don't have time to go into here today, because we're talking about refuting Sunday-keeping. You can write in for that information. We'll send it to you.] ...and sat upon each one of them.... [That's all the apostles.] ...And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit; and they began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the words to proclaim" (vs 2-4).

What for? This was not a time of babbling and confusing. This was a time of preaching the wonderful works of God. "Now there were many Jews who were sojourning in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.... [And a lot of them did not speak Hebrew. They spoke many different languages.] ...And when word of this went out, the multitude came together and were confounded... [here's the reason why]: ...because each one heard them speaking in his own language... [It was intelligible.] ...And they were all amazed, and marveled, saying to one another, 'Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that we hear each one in

our own language in which we were born?" (vs 5-8). Then it lists all the nations there, where they were from, even including strangers or Gentiles from Rome.

Verse 11: ""...we hear them speaking in our languages the great things of God." They understood! God gave the power to keep His commandments on the day of Pentecost, the same day He gave the Ten Commandments to Israel.

Now notice one thing else, too, that's important. The apostles began at the temple, and it had to be at the temple because that is where God placed His name. And if it would have been at any other location than the temple, it would not have been a sign and a witness to all of the Jews, because the Gospel says, 'To the Jew first, then the Gentile.' It would not have been a sign to those Jews that this was from God. It had to be there and start right there.

"And they were all amazed and greatly perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others were mocking *and* saying, 'They are full of new wine.' Then Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke out to them: 'Men, Jews, and all those of you who inhabit Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and pay attention to my words'" (vs 12-14). See, because there were two miracles:

- 1. Each one of the apostles were speaking in their language, which was Greek.
- 2. Every one of the Jews, wherever they were born heard them speaking in their own languages and tongues.

What a miracle that was! What a tremendous thing that was! And then he gave a great and a profound sermon showing about the coming of the Spirit of God, showing about the resurrection of Jesus Christ, showing the promise that applied to Christ to not leave His soul in hell, or that is in the grave. Then he said, 'David's tomb is with us to this day, but it is Christ Who is risen, not David. Christ Whom God sent, Who did the miracles, Who was in the tomb as we have seen three days and three nights and was resurrected at the end of the Sabbath.'

Now notice what else he did, see what he preached here. Verse 32: "This Jesus has God raised up..." And they saw Him, they felt Him, they handled Him, they heard Him speak, they ate with Him. He explained to them all about the prophecies concerning Himself and the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms so they would understand. Now what do we have in the Law and the Prophets and the Psalms?

- Commandments of God
- Sabbaths of God

Holy Days of God

Do you grasp what we're talking about here? If you keep Sunday, you don't know anything about the plan of God! If you think you're going to heaven, you don't have a clue! You need to get your nose in Bible. You need to believe what it says, and not the lying, twisting interpretations of men who justify their own sin.

"This Jesus has God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.... [They didn't count their lives dear to them. No!] ...Therefore, having been exalted by the right hand of God... [They knew where He went. They knew He was the High Priest. They understood that.] ...and having received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He has poured out this that you are now seeing and hearing" (vs 32-33). So all of this was prophesied to happen in the Old Testament—wasn't it? And it happened, and it happened on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Day of God, on the same day that He gave the Ten Commandments, which included the seventh-day Sabbath.

Verse 34: "For David has not ascended into the heavens, but he himself said, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand... [Now if you don't have the series of the Prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament, you write for it—going through verseby-verse, every one of the prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament. Absolutely astounding!] ...Until I have made Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."".... [notice what Peter preached here:] ...Therefore, let all the house of Israel know with full assurance... [Not just to the Jews. The Jews came from Judah. The house of Israel includes all the twelve tribes.] ...with full assurance that God has made this same Jesus, Whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ" (vs 34-36). And He was resurrected at the end of the Sabbath, not on Sunday.

"Now after hearing this, they were cut to the heart... [It's the Holy Spirit that leads you to repentance by the power of God the Father. And that's what happened here. They repented! They were pricked in their hearts! The Holy Spirit is to do that for those that God is calling.

- Will you allow the Holy Spirit to work in your life?
- Will you allow yourself to look at your sins and look at the things that you have been doing which you considered righteous and good, but are nothing but filthy rags before God, which Sunday-keeping and Christmas and Easter is?

Nothing but filthy, rotten rags! And repent!

- Can your heart be pricked? Can your conscience be stirred?
- Can God speak to you, as it were, through His Spirit?

"...cut to the heart; and they said to Peter and the other apostles, 'Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?' Then Peter said to them, 'Repent..." (vs 37-38).

And that means turn from the way that you've been living, and you need to do that concerning Sunday-keeping. You need to turn from the *broad way* of pleasing men and Sunday-keeping and the false gospel and the false Christ and the false gospels, and things that you have heard.

- You need to *repent* of that!
- **Repent** of believing these lies!
- **Repent** of letting false ministers take you down the road!

You need to come out of it. God says, 'Come out of her My people.' And you come out by repentance, just like they did here.

"...and be baptized each one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins... [And that remission of sins comes *through grace by faith*. Don't mistake one minute that we believe that Sabbath-keeping justifies you for forgiveness of sin. *That is a bald-faced Sunday-keeper lie.*

- We believe in the grace of God.
- We believe in justification by faith, just as the Scriptures say.

...for *the* remission of sins, and you yourselves shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (v 38). And that's what you need, the gift of the Holy Spirit

- so that you can do the will of God
- so that you can love God
- so that you can understand His Word
- so that you can truly grow in grace and knowledge
- so that you can truly comprehend the plan of God.

This is just the beginning. When you begin, you bury the old self in baptism. You bury the old way and you say, 'Lord, not my will, but Your will and I am willing to die the very death of Jesus Who died for me.' And you're joined in His death and you are raised out of that watery grave to walk in newness of life

- with God's Spirit
- with keeping His commandments
- with loving God, with serving Him
- with doing His will

That's what it's all about. How tripe, how absolutely lying and foolish and silly it is to go through these things. But millions of people believe it, millions believe it, and they believe a lie.

Peter finishes here: "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all those who are afar off, as many as *the* Lord our God may call" (v 39).

- Is God calling you?
- Will you answer the call?

Jesus said, 'Many are called, but few are chosen.' And the reason that few are chosen is because few repent. Very few are willing to repent and be totally broken in heart, and in mind, and say, 'Ah, Lord God, forgive me for my sins, which have crucified my Lord, that I personally have done this.' You need to understand as if you are the only one in the world, you sins would have killed Christ. Do you understand that? And if you want the sacrifice of Christ applied to you, you need to repent and you need to have your life, and your heart, and your mind changed through the power of the Holy Spirit to love God and keep His commandments. That's what Jesus said.

Now, there's no such thing as Christ authorized Sunday-keeping that will give you salvation. No such thing. And Sabbath-keeping does not bring forgiveness of sins, it keeps you from sinning.

Let's see what Jesus said. He said this on the Passover night of His last Passover. And by the way, if you keep a Lord's Supper and if you keep a communion or a Eucharist, you don't have Christ. You need to write for our book, *The Christian Passover*, which tells all about the very purpose of God and the plan of God, which begins with Jesus Christ Who is our Passover sacrificed for us. Now here's what Jesus said on that night as they left, after having the Passover, and they were on their way to the Mount of Olives and then the Garden of Gethsemane. And He told His disciples just before they left, just before they were ready to go.

John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life... [Do you believe that?] ...no one comes to the Father except through Me."

- it's going to be Christ, or nothing
- it's going to be His way, or nothing
- it's going to be truth or a lie
- it's going to be righteousness or sin

What do you choose?

Verse 15: "'If you love Me, keep the commandments... [and the Greek has the force here, 'If you love Me, keep My commandments,' because He was God in the flesh. He was the one Who gave the Ten Commandments. When He says, 'Keep My commandments,' it includes all the commandments of God.] ...And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age" (vs 15-16).

I'm going to read it correctly from the original Greek. It is 'it'; it's not he. "Even the Spirit of the Truth, which the world cannot receive because

it perceives it not, nor knows it; but you know it because it dwells with you, and shall be within you" (v 17). The Holy Spirit is the begettal from God the Father. And I tell you something, beginning with Sabbath-keeping is just a start. That is just a start to understand the great and marvelous plan of God as unfolded through the Word of God and through the Holy Days of God. And everything that it pictures is so absolutely marvelous. What a silly thing that we have to sit here and argue and fight the spiritual warfare concerning Sabbath-keeping and Sunday-keeping. And Sunday-keeping cuts you all off from knowledge of these things.

Now let's come here to v 20: "In that day, you shall know that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. The one who has My commandments and is keeping them... [Again the Greek 'poieo,' is *practicing* them.] ...that is the one who loves Me... [So if you don't keep them, you don't love Him.] ...and the one who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him'" (vs 20-21). The way that God is going to manifest Himself to you is through His Spirit and His Word when you repent.

Now v 23: "Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word... [Now it's not just the commandments, it's Word. Remember where we started with this? 'Man shall live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.' Do you believe the words of Christ?] ...and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." By the power of the Spirit of God dwelling within you. Christ in you is the hope of glory.

Now notice v 24: "The one who does not love Me does not keep My Words... [That's what Sunday-keepers do, they reject it.] ...and the word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father's, Who sent Me."

So God did not authorize Sunday-keeping because the Church began on the day of Pentecost. If you accept and believe Pentecost, though it is the first day of the week, you must accept all the Ten Commandments, because that's the day on which it was given and you must also accept the Holy Days of God, because Pentecost is a Holy Day of God and if you have one, you must have them all.

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- 1) 2-Peter 3:15-16
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- 4) Galatians 1:6-10
- 5) Matthew 7:13-17, 20-23

- 6) 1-John 3:4
- 7) 1-John 5:2-3
- 8) Exodus 20:1-11
- 9) Deuteronomy 5:27-29
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- Holy Sabbath
- Prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament

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- Sunday Facts & Sabbath Fiction, 25 Reasons Why Christians Keep Sunday by Dr. Russell K.
- The Christian Passover by Fred R. Coulter

Booklets:

- What is the Meaning of Acts 2:1?
- God is Not a Trinity
- The Two Jehovah's of the Psalms
- The Two Jehovah's of the Pentateuch

FRC:lp Transcribed: 6-20-10 Formatted: bo - 6/21/10