



PS-11

17. Do you desire to build a better relationship with God through regular Sabbath keeping?

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PROPHECY SEMINAR

HOW THE LITTLE HORN CHANGED GOD'S LAW

Changing God's law is unthinkable, and yet amazingly Daniel predicted that this would be attempted by the church in its apostasy. In the last lesson we saw that the Ten Commandments are the eternal reflection of the character of God. They

cannot be altered without changing God's character. But praise God, He is unchangeable! Even though the little horn power would think to change God's law, the inescapable fact remains that God has not changed it. In this lesson, we will uncover the shocking story of the little horn's attempt to change the times and the law.

THE COMMANDMENT THAT HELPS ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP

1. What is it that the little horn power attempts to change? Daniel 7:25

"Shall intend to change _____ and _____."

NOTE: Notice that the little horn is not just attempting to change the law, but the times and the law.

2. Which of the Ten Commandments In the law deals with Own? Exodus 20:8-11

"Remember the _____ day, to keep it holy."

NOTE: Only the fourth commandment, in which God commands people to keep the Sabbath day holy, deals with time.

The purpose of the Sabbath, as Lesson 10 revealed, is to give God and His people time to get better acquainted. People need to spend time every day with God in Bible study and prayer.

If a deep, personal relationship with God is going to be formed, God says we need one day a week to spend in contemplation of God and His blessings to us. It is like a marriage; if a husband and wife spend some time together each day, they will develop a relationship, but their marriage and their relationship will never be as deep as it would be if they took an additional day each week to be together.

The only way we can get to know someone is to spend time with them, and the only way we can get to know God is to spend quality time with God. The fourth commandment performs a special function, because it ties time with our relationship with God.

If anyone obeys the fourth commandment as God intended and builds a solid relationship with God, there will be little question about that person keeping the rest of the commandments. It is not surprising, then, that Satan has attacked this commandment. He well knows that if he can destroy a person's relationship with God, that person will end up serving Satan. No wonder God has warned us against this power that would think to change the times in the law - the one commandment that ties time to our relationship with God.

earth as we spend even more time together.

15. Of what is the Sabbath a sign? Ezekiel 20:12

It is a sign between the believer and God, "that they might know that I am the LORD who _____ them".

NOTE: The Sabbath is God's great sign of sanctification. Sanctification describes the process whereby God lives out His life in the believer, transforming the believer into the divine image. The sign that it is the Lord who is sanctifying is the sacred Sabbath. The keeping of the Sabbath indicates that a Christian is taking time to build a solid relationship with God, which is the basis of sanctification.

16. Of what else Is the Sabbath a sign? Ezekiel 20:20

It is a sign "that you may _____ that I am the LORD your God".

NOTE: How clearly the scriptures bring out the special significance of God's Sabbath. It is a special sign that people know the Lord. It is a sign that people have a relationship with God. That's why the Sabbath, to the Christian, becomes such a beautiful day of delight and joy in the Lord. The Scriptures do not enjoin a legalistic keeping of the day, but rather the setting aside of this special day to build a relationship with God. That's why the Christian gets excited about the Sabbath, and why the Sabbath is such a blessing in the midst of the troubles of the world. The Sabbath is a relief from the burdens of life, a time when God and His people can draw apart and develop an intimate relationship.

The troubles of the last days are going to be so great that unless people have a deep, personal relationship with God, they will not make it through the end times. That's why the Sabbath is so important in these last days and why Daniel warns against the power that would

think to change the day that God had set aside for a relationship with Him. If there ever was a time in earth's history when people needed the Sabbath, it's today. Let us make certain that we use this special time to build a solid relationship with Jesus, that we might be prepared for the climactic scenes of earth's history soon to take place everywhere.

And _____ the Sabbath.

NOTE: God gave us an example by resting Himself. He blessed this day as He blessed no other day. He sanctified this day. The word "sanctify" means to "set apart for holy usage." Notice that God did not bless the ACT of resting, He blessed a specific DAY. If the whole world rested on a day it wouldn't make that day a Sabbath. What makes it the Sabbath is that God rested, blessed and sanctified it. People do not have the authority to change what God has sanctified. Some people feel that it makes no difference what day is kept as long as they keep one day in seven. But please remember that God blessed and sanctified only one specific day — the SEVENTH day.

12. Did the Sabbath exist before sin, or only affix sin? Exodus 20:11; Genesis 2:2-3

_____ sin.

NOTE: This point is very clear in Scripture. The Sabbath is a creation remembrance, coming to us from the Garden of Eden before Adam and Eve sinned. On the cross, Christ dealt with sin. Since the Sabbath existed before sin, there is absolutely no way it could be altered by the cross.

13. Was the Sabbath given for the Jews only? Mark 2:27

"The Sabbath was made for _____."

NOTE: The Sabbath existed thousands of years before there was a Jew. It is true that the Jews kept it, because they were the covenant people of God. But the Sabbath was made for the entire human race. It was given to them in the innocence of the Garden of Eden. God does not intend to establish a relationship with Jewish people only. Every born-again person needs a relationship with God. To say that the Sabbath belongs only to the Jews is virtually to say that God only wants to establish relationships with Jewish people. But God is not a respecter of persons. He wants to know everyone.

PS-II

THE PERPETUITY OF THE SABBATH

14. Will the human race still keep the Sabbath in the New Earth? Isaiah 66:22, 23

"From one _____ to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me, says the Lord."

NOTE: In God's newly recreated earth after sin is removed, people will still be keeping holy God's sacred Sabbath. What a delight and what a joy it will be for people to enter the Sabbath rest of God in the new earth, where they can get even better acquainted with God than they can here. This verse clearly indicates that our relationship with God will grow deeper in the new

THE SEVENTH DAY

3. Which day has God specified to be set aside as the special day in which God and His people build a solid relationship together? Exodus 20:10 (71) [75].

"The _____ day."

NOTE: Notice that God has set aside a specific day, the seventh day, as a special time to get better acquainted with His people.

4. Which is the seventh day?

NOTE: To discover which is the seventh day, one only has to take a quick look at the calendar to see that the seventh day is the day we commonly call Saturday, not Sunday.

5. Has there been any change in the calendar that has affected the weekly cycle?

NOTE: Since the time of Christ there has been only one major change in the calendar. This was the switch from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar in 1582. The Julian calendar had allowed too many leap years. As a result, the calendar was out of kilter with the solar system. In order to rectify it, ten days were dropped from the calendar in October of 1582.

(The weekly cycle was not broken)

October 1582						
sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	1	2	3	4	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Even though ten days were dropped from the calendar, the weekly cycle was not changed at all. The order of the days of the week remained the same.

6. What other evidences are there that the day of the week called Saturday is the same as the Biblical seventh day?

a. In 105 languages in use today, the word for Saturday has "Sabbath" as its root meaning. For example, the Latin **Sabbatum**, the Greek **Sabbaton**, the Russian **Subbota**, the Italian **Sabbato**, the Spanish **Sabado**. In other words, in over 105 languages of earth today, the word currently used for Saturday basically means "Sabbath."

b. The history of the Jews, who have consistently kept the Sabbath from the Exodus event, and still keep the Sabbath on Saturday today, indicates clearly which is the seventh day. During the Exodus event, God, by a double miracle of the manna, clearly revealed which was the seventh day. On every day, a certain portion of manna would fall. There was always enough for everyone every day, but they were not to keep excess for the next day. However, on Friday, a double portion of manna fell and people had enough for two days, whereas on Saturday no manna fell. For forty years, God performed this double miracle every week to thoroughly establish which day was the seventh. The Jews have kept that same seventh day until this present time (see Exodus 16).

7. What further Biblical evidence is there that the seventh day Is Saturday?

a. Jesus died on Good Friday. The day that He died is called in scripture "the day _____ the Sabbath." Mark 15:42

b. The next day was Sabbath. The disciples "rested on the _____ according to the commandment." Luke 23:56

c. Following the Sabbath came Sunday. Jesus rose on Sunday, the first day of the week. The Bible says that the day He rose was the day _____ the Sabbath. Mark 16:1, 2, 9

NOTE: The Bible clearly indicates that the Biblical Sabbath was the day between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Since Saturday is the only day in between, the inescapable conclusion is that the Biblical seventh-day Sabbath is Saturday.

THE CHANGE OF THE SABBATH

Since the Scripture is very clear that the original Biblical Sabbath was on Saturday, the seventh day of the week, it might well be asked, "Why do most Christians today observe Sunday, the first day of the week?"

Somehow, somewhere, a change has come about. God says that He never changes, and that His law never changes. He embodied the seventh-day Sabbath in His holy law. Who then changed it?

8. Who did Daniel declare would think to change times and laws? Daniel 7:25

The little _____.

NOTE: The Bible predicted that the little horn, the papacy, would attempt to change the times and the law. The Sabbath is the only commandment in the law dealing with time. An attempted change has been made in the time for the Sabbath, from Saturday to Sunday. Could it be that the papal power is the very one who has attempted to change the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday? (For the amazing story of how the papal power attempted to change the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, see Exhibit 1.)

ORIGIN OF THE SABBATH

9. When did the Sabbath originate? Exodus 20:11; Genesis 2:1-3

At _____.

NOTE: Notice that even in the giving of the Ten Commandments, the origin of the Sabbath is clearly identified as in the Garden of Eden rather than at Mount Sinai.

10. With what word does God begin the Sabbath commandment? Exodus 20:8

"_____."

NOTE: God chose the word "remember" to begin the Sabbath commandment. The word "remember" denotes three possibilities:

a. You cannot remember something you have never heard of before. Therefore the origin of the Sabbath must be before Sinai, and not at Sinai.

b. The word "remember" signifies that a person should pay special attention. "Remember" is generally used to indicate things that are of special importance that people should not forget. God chose this word to introduce the Sabbath at Sinai.

c. The word "remember" indicates that God looked down the stream of history and saw that this would be the one commandment that the world would forget. And so He tells us to remember it, and not to forget this commandment. God knew that we would never forget the other commandments if we would remember the Sabbath, because the Sabbath would help us to develop a relationship with God. Amazingly, the one commandment that many would forget is the one that deals with time set aside to establish a relationship with God.

11. What three things did God do when He instituted the Sabbath at creation? Genesis 2:2, 3

God _____, then _____