

# "CATHOLICISM SPEAKS" "PROTESTANTISM SPEAKS"

## CATHOLICISM SPEAKS

"Sunday is a Catholic Institution, and its claims to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles. . . .From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first." —The Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia, August, 1900.

"Protestantism, In discarding the authority of the (Roman Catholic) Church, has no good reasons for its Sunday theory, and ought logically to keep Saturday as the Sabbath." —John Gilmary Shea, American Catholic Quarterly Review, January, 1883.

"It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of Sunday. Sunday is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church." —Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, N.J. "News", March 18, 1903.

"Ques.- Have you any other way of proving that the (Catholic) Church has power to institute festivals of percept (to command holy days)?"

"Ans.- Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her: she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority." —Stephan Keenan, A Doctrinal Catechism, page 176.

"Reason and common sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday, or Catholicity and the keeping holy of Sunday. Compromise is impossible." —The Catholic Mirror, December 23, 1893.

"God simply gave His (Catholic) Church the power to set aside whatever day or days, she would deem suitable as Holy Days. The Church chose Sunday, the first day of the week, and in the course of time added other days, as holy days. —Vincent J. Kelly, Forbidden Sunday and Feast-Day Occupations, page 2.

"Protestants. . . .accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change. . . .But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that . . . in observing the Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope." —Our Sunday Visitor, February 5, 1950.

Not the Creator of the Universe, In Geneses 2:1-3,—but the Catholic Church "can claim the honor of having granted man a pause to his work every seven days." —S.D. Moana, Storia della Domenica, 1969, pages 366-367.

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty." —Pope Leo XIII, in an Encyclical letter, June 20, 1894.

"The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under veil of flesh." —The Catholic National, July, 1895.

"If Protestants would follow the Bible, they should worship God on the Sabbath Day. In keeping the Sunday, they are following a law of the Catholic Church." —Albert Smith, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, replying for the Cardinal in a letter, February 10, 1920.

"It was the Catholic Church which, by the authority of Jesus Christ, has transferred this rest (from the Bible Sabbath) to the Sunday. . . Thus the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the (Catholic) Church." — Monsignor Louis Segur, Plain Talk about the Protestantism of Today, page 213.

"We observe Sunday Instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." —Peter Geiermann, CSSR, A Doctrinal Catechism, 1957 edition, page 50.

"We Catholics, then, have precisely the same authority for keeping Sunday holy instead of Saturday as we have for every other article of our creed, namely, the authority of the Church. . . whereas you who are Protestants have really no authority for it whatever; for there is no authority for it (Sunday sacredness) in the Bible, and you will not allow that there can be authority for it anywhere else. Both you and we do, in fact, follow tradition in this matter; but we follow it, believing it to be a part of God's word, and the (Catholic) Church to be its divinely appointed guardian and interpreter; you follow it (the Catholic Church), denouncing it all the time as a fallible and treacherous guide, which often 'makes the commandments of God of none effect' quoting Matthew 15:6." —The Brotherhood of St. Paul, The Clifton Tracts, Vol. 4, tract 4, page 15.

"The Church changed the observance of the Sabbath to Sunday by right of the divine, infallible authority given to her by her founder, Jesus Christ. The Protestant claiming the Bible to be the only guide of faith, has no warrant for observing Sunday. In this matter the Seventh-day Adventist is the only consistent Protestant." —The Catholic Universe Bulletin, August 14, 1942, page 4.

## 1 (PROTESTANTISM SPEAKS)

**Baptist:** "There was and is a command to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath day was not Sunday. It will however be readily said, and with some show of triumph, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week, with all its duties, privileges and sanctions. Earnestly desiring information on this subject, which I have studied for many years, I ask, where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament —absolutely not. There is no scriptural evidence of the change of the Sabbath institution from the seventh to the first day of the week." —Dr. E. T. Hiscox, author of the Baptist Manual.

**Congregationalist:** "It is quite clear that however rigidly or devotedly we may spend Sunday, we are not keeping the Sabbath. . . The Sabbath was founded on specific, divine command. We can plead no such command for the observance of Sunday. . . There is not a single line in the New Testament to suggest that we incur any penalty by violating the supposed sanctity of Sunday." —Dr. R. W. Dale, The Ten Commandments, pages 106-107.

**Lutheran Free Church:** "For when there could not be produced one solitary passage in the Holy Scriptures which testified that either the Lord Himself or the apostles had ordered such a transfer

of the Sabbath to Sunday, then it was not easy to answer the question: Who has transferred the Sabbath, and who has had the right to do it?" —George Sverdrup, A New Day.

**Protestant Episcopal:** "The day is now changed from the seventh to the first day. . .but as we meet with no Scriptural direction for the change, we may conclude it was done by the authority of the church. —Explanation of Catechism.

**Baptist:** "The Scriptures nowhere call the first day of the week the Sabbath. . .There is no Scriptural authority for so doing, nor of course, any Scriptural obligation." —The Watchman.

**Presbyterian:** "There is no word, no hint in the New Testament about abstaining from work on Sunday. The observance of Ash Wednesday, or Lent, stands exactly on the same footing as the observance of Sunday. Into the rest of Sunday no Divine Law enters." —Canon Eyton, in The Ten Commandments.

**Anglican:** "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." — Isaac Williams, Plain Sermons on the Catechism, pages 334, 336.

**Disciples of Christ:** "There is no direct Scriptural authority for designating the first day 'the Lord's Day.'" —Dr D.H. Lucas, Christian Oracle, January, 1890.

**Methodist:** "It is true that there is no positive command for infant baptism. Nor is there any for keeping holy the first day of the week. Many believe that Christ changed the Sabbath. But, from His own words, we see that He came for no such purpose. Those who believe that Jesus changed the Sabbath base it only on a supposition." —Amos Binney, Theological Compendium, pages 180-181.

**Episcopalian:** "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, Apostolic Church of Christ." —Bishop Symour, Why We Keep Sunday.

**Southern Baptist:** "The sacred name of the Seventh day is Sabbath. This fact is too clear to require argument (Exodus 20:10 quoted). . .On this point the plain teaching of the Word has been admitted in all ages. . .Not once did the disciples apply the Sabbath law to the first day of the week—that folly was left for a later age, nor did they pretend that the first day supplanted the seventh." —Joseph Judson "Taylor, The Sabbath Question, pages 14-17, 41.

**American Congregationalist:** "The current notion that Christ and His apostles authoritatively substituted the first day for the seventh, is absolutely without any authority in the New Testament." —Dr. Layman Abbot, in the Christian Union, June 26, 1890.

**Christian Church:** "Now there is no testimony in all the oracles of heaven that the Sabbath is changed, or that the Lord's Day came in the room of it." —Alexander Campbell, in The Reporter, October 8, 1921.

**Baptist:** "To me it seems unaccountable that Jesus, during three years' discussion with His disciples, often conversing with them upon the Sabbath question, discussing it in some of its various aspects, freeing it from its false (Jewish traditional) glosses, never alluded to any transference of the day; also, that during the forty days of His resurrection life, no such thing was intimated. Nor, so far as we know, did the Spirit, which was given to bring to their remembrance all things whatsoever that He had said unto them, deal with this churches, counseling and instructing those founded, discuss or approach the subject.

"Of course I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of Paganism, and christened with the name of the sun-God, then adopted and sanctified by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism." —Dr. E.T. Hiscox, report of his sermon at the Baptist Minister's convention, in New York Examiner, November 16, 1893.

Sunday sacredness is not commanded or practiced in the Bible.