

## Which Sabbath should we Honor?

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**False Sabbath Keeping & the Mark of the Beast** According to our Lord, proper Sabbath observance is a **sign** unto Him of who we are. He stated, "...my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a **sign** between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I *am* the LORD that doth sanctify you. (Ex. 31:13 emphasis added, see also Ezek. 20:12). In D&C 59:8-12, He added, "Thou shalt offer a sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in righteousness, even that of a *broken heart and a contrite spirit*. And that thou mayest **more fully keep thyself unspotted from the world**, thou shalt go to the house of prayer and offer up thy sacraments upon **my holy day**; For verily this is a day appointed unto you *to rest from your labors, and to pay thy devotions unto the Most High*; Nevertheless thy vows shall be offered up in righteousness *on all days and at all times*; But remember that on this, **the Lord's day**, *thou shalt offer thine oblations and thy sacraments unto the Most High, confessing thy sins unto thy brethren, and before the Lord*" (bold added). *What day is the Lord's Day?*

The seventh day Sabbath was instituted to remember God and practice a pure form of worship according to His directions. *He rested after the six days of the Creation on the seventh day* (Moses 3:2). Does He expect us to do the same today? We currently worship on a **Sunday** Sabbath - on **the first day** of the Gregorian calendar week. Why? Where did this originate? Whose calendar are we using? In the Bible, the Lord's calendar was marked by *the heavens, His* great timepiece. This calendar, and the one in the Book of Mormon had no *named* days on it like Monday or Sunday, only **numbered** days, like the *seventh* day of the week. Our current Gregorian calendar was instituted by man, specifically the Roman Emperor Constantine, then spread worldwide by the Catholic Church. We are following their idolatrous traditions and few know it.

Scripture appears to provide evidence revealing that false Sabbath keeping contributes to worshipping "the Beast" and acquiring "*the mark of the Beast*." It was in the fourth century that the evolving and declining Christian Church headed up by the powerful Emperor Constantine forced the Jews to give up determining the New Moon in connection with their Biblical calendar - or face death. The later, modified Jewish Hillel II calendar (AD 320-385) was then put in place at the request of the president or *nasi* of the Great Sanhedrin. The Jews and the Sanhedrin were threatened with extinction if they continued to observe *the New Moon* as part of their calendar. Their new, changed calendar was based on mathematical and astronomical *calculations*, mixed with observation of the sun only, *not the moon*. This *compromised* Hebrew calendar is still used today. It utilizes a modern, **consistent** Saturday (7<sup>th</sup> day) Sabbath, however, unlike the Lord's two original Bible calendars. This means *the New Moon* (a special Holy Day) is not used as it once was to determine the important start day of the *month* and *year*, via *New Moon* observation (an inconsistent 1 or 2 day event today). For consistency sake, the modern Jewish and Gregorian calendars have divorced the moon from general usage. Both of these modern calendars now use standardized lengths for months based on the sun and calculation, not observation of the heavens as directed by their Creator (Gen. 1:14). Its consistency is simply more convenient for our modern telestial, idolatrous business-centered world.

**Three Sabbath Choices – Good, Better & Best** Today there are three basic choices for Sabbath observance as a "**sign**" unto the Lord - of who we worship and how - of where our heart is. They include a good, better and best choice.

1. **Good** – A *Sunday* Sabbath, the **1st day** of every week. This Sabbath originated with Roman worship of the sun, with the Roman Emperor Constantine, and with Catholic tradition. Most Christian faiths today follow this pattern established by the Catholic Church (Seventh Day Adventists are an exception). It is a consistent Sabbath, one preferred in the business world.

2. **Better** – a *Saturday Sabbath*, every **7th day** of the week. The Jews were forced to use a solar calendar by the Roman Emperor Constantine, eliminating observation of the moon in determining their Sabbaths. It has now become a consistent Jewish Sabbath, also useful for the business world. Jews and Seventh Day Adventists worship on this Saturday Sabbath.

3. **Best** – a *lunar Sabbath* on the **7th day** of the week. This Sabbath requires looking up to the heavens to determine season, month, day, and time of the day. Scripture tells us that the sun and the moon are God's two faithful witnesses – *His heavenly timepiece* (Psalm 89:37). To use God's calendar requires close observation of the *inconsistent* one or two-day *New Moon* – a perfect alignment of the sun, moon, and earth – where the moon is completely invisible (we are then in alignment with the fully shadowed *dark side of the moon* – there is NO crescent shape at all). The New Moon did not fall on a consistent "day" each month after the Flood, when the length of the year changed from a 360-days to 365.24 days. Businessmen and others did not like this, thus the Roman calendar was further modified and instituted as it is today by Constantine. It makes use of consistent, *named* days in the week, whereas the original Bible calendar (and that of the Book of Mormon) had only *numbered* days. This avoided *idolatrous* days, named after Roman gods (like Janus for January) and the planets, including **Sun**-day (worship of the sun), Saturday (Saturn), or Monday (Moon-day - the moon). The first day of the year (New Year's Day) and the first day of each month were marked on God's original calendar by *the New Moon*.

Instead of being a clear start day for the month and year, today this and other moon phases on our current Gregorian calendar move around in each month. Each month features different moon phases to start it. It is thus a modified, calculated, solar calendar that no longer uses the moon. She has been divorced from our current calendar.

In Genesis 1:14 and Moses 2:14-18, we read of the Creation. God stated, “And I, God, said: Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven, to divide the day from the night, and let them be for **signs**, and for **seasons** [the “appointed” Hebrew Holy Days], and for days, and for years; And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth; and it was so. And I, God, made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night, and the greater light was the sun, and the lesser light was the moon; and the stars also were made even according to my word. And I, God, set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And the sun to rule over the day, and the moon to rule over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and I, God, saw that all things which I had made were good” (Moses 2:14-18). In Psalm 89:37 we read that the sun and the moon are God’s two faithful witnesses in the heavens. Our modern calendars have eliminated the female portion of our calendar. It clearly marked days in the month via its *phases*. We cannot look at the sun to determine *days*, only the four “seasons” via the sun’s position on the horizon *relative to* a specific landmark (like mountains or pillars anciently), thus indicating equinoxes and solstices.

### **Where did today’s Hebrew Saturday Sabbath Originate?**

Today’s consistent Hebrew Saturday Sabbath came from both Rome and Babylon, after the moon was divorced from the calendar for convenience sake. “The introduction...of the custom of celebrating the Sabbath every 7th day, *irrespective of the relationship of the day to the moon’s phases*, led to a complete separation from the ancient view of the Sabbath...” (Encyclopedia Biblica, 1899 ed, p. 417, emphasis added). The Bible *and* Book of Mormon both use *numbers* to designate days of the week and months of the year, not pagan, *names* that came later via Roman idolatry and Babylonian Rabbis after the Babylonian captivity. In 153 B.C. Rome changed the beginning of its year from March 1 to January 1. In addition, Saturday had been the first day of the Roman seven-day week, tied to the planetary god Saturn (a dominant heavenly body in antiquity, especially at night due to its closer proximity to earth, according to David Talbot, Immanuel Velikovsky, and others). In 321 AD the Roman Emperor Constantine venerated the day of the sun instead, making *Sun-day* the first day of the week rather than Saturday. With this, Saturday was moved to the seventh day on the Roman calendar, remaining there ever since.

Saturday was based on worship of the *planet* Saturn from Babylonian and other influences, where Sunday is based on worship of the sun (Egypt and Babylon). Miller states that Saturday became the 7<sup>th</sup> day in current Hebrew Tradition by way of Turkish *converts* to Judaism – the Khazars. They are not real bloodline Jews through Jacob. He states, “So, how did [Saturday or] satyrday [Satyr’s day, after Saturn] become recognized as the Sabbath in Jewish tradition? Israel apostatized, forgot the Sabbath, and were later scattered. Later, the Khazars adopted a half pagan form of the Hebrew religion from the Babylonian Rabbis and became known as the Jews, who because of their religion have been accepted as Israelites. Satyrday was the seventh day of the pagan planetary week when the Khazars adopted Judaism, so the Jews keep satyrday, the seventh day of a pagan/papal calendar week. From their own mouth, the Jews admit they are Edomites, and history proves they are also of Japheth’s seed, and it is self-evident that because they know not calendar of YHVH, they willfully adopted a pagan calendar. All the proof you need that the Jews know not YHVH is the fact that they keep satyrday, the seventh day of a pagan/papal week. *This day wasn’t the seventh day of ANY week until 321 A.D.* The Khazars/Jews adopted their Sabbath in the 8th century...Lamentations 2:6 says that YHVH caused Israel, when in apostasy, to forget the Sabbath. Israel is STILL in apostasy. Couple that with what Hillel II did to the Hebrew calendar in about 341 A.D., changing it from a lunar-solar calendar to a more fixed calendar, one Rome could understand and you have a recipe for a falsified calendar, one that still exists in Israel to this day ” (Troy Miller, creationcalendar.com).

Jewish historian, Arthur Koestler supports the Khazar theory addressed by Miller. He stated that “the people known as Jews today *are* descendants of Abraham, *but not of Isaac and Jacob*. History reveals that they originate in the fierce Turkish, Khazar tribes who once roamed southern Russia. They adopted Judaism between 7th and 9th centuries AD. “Today, the Khazars are known as ‘Jews,’ **not** because of any racial question [bloodline], but because of their [adopted] religion.” (Arthur Koestler, *The Thirteenth Tribe*, Random House). Miller concludes, “The Khazars had no problem going along with the powers that be, thinking only of *making money* and mixing with the local population. The Khazars adopted and retained their understanding of the 7th day Sabbath, but this was the Catholic version of the seventh day accepting the “Sabbath” long AFTER the Catholic Church had changed the calendar of the Roman Empire. In 321 A.D., satyrday was made the seventh day of the week by Constantine, prior to that, it had been the first day of the pagan week. And all of the Roman Empire eventually accepted this calendar, including the Khazars some four centuries later” (Troy Miller, creationcalendar.com). See Arthur Koestler, *The Thirteenth Tribe*, <http://rense.com/general89/notjws.htm>

*Babylonian Rabbis* Following destruction of Herod's Temple in 70 AD, the Jews appear to have had a difficult time maintaining control over their calendar. According to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, "The calendar was originally fixed by observation, and ultimately by calculation. Up to the fall of the Temple (A.D. 70), witnesses who saw the new moon came forward and were strictly examined and if their evidence was accepted the month *was fixed by the priests*. Eventually the authority passed to the Sanhedrin and ultimately to the patriarch. When necessary, a second "Adar" was inserted in order that the reaping of the corn should come at Passover. Gradually *observation gave place to calculation*. The right to determine the calendar was reserved to the patriarchate; the Jews of Mesopotamia tried in vain to *establish their own calendar* but the prerogative of Palestine was zealously defended." As long as Palestine remained headquarters for Jews it was the place where the calendar was fixed and maintained throughout the region. In the 4th century AD, however, after the Babylonian captivity, the Talmud addresses *various* New Year's Days. In Palestine the New Year [Rosh Hashanah] began in the first month of Nissan (Ex. 12:2), whereas in Babylon it remained the seventh month of Tishri. Today there are both New Year's Days, one sacred (Nisan 1) and one civil (Tishri 1).

### **The Modern Christian Sunday Sabbath**

Rome instituted the continuous seven-day week with the Sabbath occurring on the first day of the week, not the seventh. This was supported with the new *interpretation of a single scripture*, calling the Lord's resurrection day, the first day of the week, "**the Lord's day**" (Rev. 1:10). According to Canright, "When it [Sunday] was introduced, it did **not** come in as a sabbath. Look at the word itself, 'Sunday.' Webster defines it as 'so-called, because this day was anciently *dedicated to the sun*;' and the *North British Review* styles it '*the wild solar holiday of all pagan times*.' Now, how did it creep into the church? I'll tell you how. When the early Christians evangelized the heathen tribes, they would go to the head, or chief, and labor with him . . . to be baptized. They were pagans, *and had kept Sunday as a festival of honor to one of their gods, the sun*; and when they **outwardly** accepted Christianity, they kept up their observance of Sunday, which gradually supplanted the Lord's Sabbath. . . . [originally a **numbered, 7<sup>th</sup>** day]. The observance of Sunday, introduced as a holiday, or festival, gradually assumed more importance as a rival of God's 7<sup>th</sup> day Sabbath, until, by the influx of half-converted pagans into the church, bringing with them their *solar holiday*, it began to supplant its divinely appointed rival" (D. M. Canright, *Tabernacle Lectures*, pp. 80-83).

The Roman Catholic Church was a significant part of these changes, especially under the Roman Emperor Constantine. He worshipped the god *Sol Invictus*, "the Invincible Sun" until the day he died. He declared **Sun-day** to be **the official day of rest** throughout the empire on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 321 AD, also establishing Christ's official birth on the pagan date of December 25, after the *return of the unconquerable sun* following the winter solstice. Constantine also minted coins with Helios (the sun) crowned by spiked rays, like those of the Statue of Liberty. Note the following eight revealing statements from Roman Catholicism and another relative to our current Sunday Sabbath.

1. "If you want to know the days to keep, go to the Catholic Church, not to the Mosaic Law. **We have power to put down feast days**, and we have power to institute feast days." *Cardinal James Gibbons*

2. "**The Catholic Church abolished not only the Sabbath, but all the other Jewish festivals**...There is but one church on the face of the earth which has power, or claims power, to make laws binding on the conscience, binding before God, binding under penalty of hell-fire. For instance, **the institution of Sunday**. What right has any other church to keep this day? You answer by virtue of the third commandment [the Papacy changed the fourth commandment and called it the third], which says, 'Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.' . . . **It was the holy Catholic Church that changed the day of rest from Saturday, the seventh day, to Sunday, the first day of the week. . . . And lo! the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church.**" *Thomas Enright, C.S.S.R.*

3. "From this same Catholic Church **you have accepted your Sunday**, and that Sunday, as the Lord's day, **she had 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**. There 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*, p. 179.

4. On November 11th of 1895, H. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, stated, "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [Saturday Sabbath to Sunday] was her act...And *the act is a mark of her [false] ecclesiastical authority in religious things.*" Daniel 7:25 states that the Beast, "*shall think to change time and laws.*"

5. "They [the Papacy] allege the Sabbath changed into Sunday, the Lord's Day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it appears, neither is there any example more boasted of than the changing of the Sabbath day. **Great, say they, is the power and**

**authority of the church, since it dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments.”** Martin Luther, *Augsburg Confession of Faith*.

6. “It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians [Mormons] 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 of March 18, 1903.)

7 “The Bible says, Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. The Catholic church says, No! **By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep the first day of the week. And lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic church!**” (Fr Enright, C.S.S.R. of the Redeemptorial College, Kansas City, Mo., History of the Sabbath, p. 802.)

8. “**Sunday is a Catholic institution and its claim 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.” (Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia, August, 1900.

9. “In 46 B.C., Julius Caesar asked astronomer Sosigenes to suggest ways to improve the calendar. Acting on Sosigenes suggestions, **Caesar ordered the Romans to disregard the moon in calculating their calendars.**” World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 3, p. 28.

### The Mark of the Beast

Scripture addresses a number of “beasts” that will arise in the last-days to diminish Christ and His gospel. This includes a great army invading this land from the north, like ancient Syria into Israel. Most believe it will be Russia with the aid of China and select nations of the European Union. Another beast appears to be the European Union, whose symbol is a woman riding a great bull or beast. A third beast tied to Sunday worship is a unique kingdom in the last-days, one revived again from the dark ages; a unique “kingdom” combining the powers of *Church* and *State* (religious and civil leadership), which *is* the Vatican of the Catholic Church. “Beasts” are addressed in Revelation and are often equated with a woman, a great whore riding it (Rev. 13). This beast has risen up again in the last-days under a new Jesuit Pope. It appears to be fulfillment of prophecy in Revelation 17:8, where the controlling government of the Catholic Church combined with the state - “*was*” (538-1798 AD), “*is not*” (1798 – 1929 AD), and “*yet is*” (1929 to the present). The Vatican, a recognized modern church and state, ruled for **1260 years** from 538 to 1798 AD (see Dan. 7:3, 17, 23). It was during that time that this particular “Beast” made war with the Saints, the woman, the Bride of the Lamb, which fled into the wilderness for John’s 1260 *days* as years (mirroring the prophetic days for years pattern of the Bible, see Ezek. 4:6). During that time it is estimated that 100 million souls lost their lives. Napoleon eliminated this powerful “beast” in 1798, capturing the Pope and taking him to France. Then in **1929** the Vatican was reborn, a united church-state once again, now embracing the ways of *the New World Order*. A Jesuit Pope commands her, the first ever. He is from South America. He rules from Vatican headquarters established on seven hills or mountains in Rome (Rev. 17:3, 9). “It is within the city of Rome, called The City on Seven Hills, that the entire area of the Vatican State Proper is now confined” (The Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 529). According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, “The Seven Hills of Rome are Palatine, Capitoline, Quirinal, Viminal, Esquiline, Caelian, and Aventine. Together they span approximately 110 acres.”

The current Pope is about to exert more control. He recently made four visits to the U.S. on Sept. 24-26; (1) to Pres. Obama, (2) to the U.S. Congress, (3) to the U.N. and (4) at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Note his various titles below with ties to the number 666, the number tied to the “man” leading “the Beast” in Revelation 13:16-18:

“Vicar of the Son of God”	The Latin, VICARIVS - 112, FILII - 53, DEI - 501	=	666
“Vicar of the Court”	The Latin, LVDOVICVS		666
“Captain of the Clergy”	The Latin, DV X		666
“King of the Latin Priests”	The Latin, REX LATINVS SACERDO		666
“Holy light of God”	The Latin, SANCTA LVX DEI		666

Daniel suggests that this particular “beast” is a *kingdom*, one “*diverse from all other kingdoms*” (a combined church and state, Dan. 7:3). It is the Pope who leads it. He is the man with the number 666 (above). Some suggest that **the sign** of those that worship on **Sun**-day, the pagan day the Catholic Church substituted for 7<sup>th</sup> day Sabbath worship - are those with “**the mark of the Beast**” – Satan’s **sign**. It is worth repeating that on November 11th of 1895, H. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, stated, “Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [Saturday Sabbath to Sunday] was her

act...And *the act is a **mark** of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things.*” Daniel 7:25 states that the Beast, “*shall think to change time and laws,*” and it did so with **Sun**-day worship - that nearly all modern churches now conform to. Those submitting to the rules and changes of *the beast* have its mark in the *right hand* or *forehead*. This particular *mark* may not be a literal, physical one in the traditional sense, but one visible by God and his select angels, or those permitted to see it spiritually (see Eph. 6:12). What then is the *mark* in the forehead or hand as addressed in scripture?

In prophecy, the *forehead* is tied to:

- Where the law of God is written, under the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:10-11; 10:16)
- Where the servants of God were marked in the past (Ezek 9:4; Rev. 9:4)
- Where the wickedness of Babylon is written – in the name “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (Rev. 17:5)
- Where ancient Israel was stubborn and rebellious (Jer. 3:3)
- Where the Seal of God will be placed in the future (Rev. 7:2-3; 14:1), not in the hand.
  - A seal is a type of mark (Rom. 4:11). God’s law is sealed amongst His people (Isa. 8:16).
- Where the name of Christ will be for the redeemed (Rev. 22:4)
- The righteous serve God with their minds (Rom. 7:25)
- The place referring to the brave, fearless, God’s true servants, etc. (Prov. 28:1; Ezek. 3:8-9)

In prophecy, the *right hand* is tied to:

- Being forced against your will (Jer. 34:3; 38:23; 42:11; Ezek. 21:24)
- To be in someone else’s control (Gen. 16:6; Josh. 21:44; 24:8, 10-11; Judges 2:16; 3:28; 1 Sam. 27:1; Jer. 38:5)
- To be wicked, violent or undisciplined (Gen. 16:12; Isa. 59:6; Micah 2:1; 7:3)
- To be destroyed by someone else (1 Sam. 23:17; 27:1; 2 Sam. 24:16; 2 Chron. 28:5)
- Falsehood (Psalm 144:7-8, 11)
- Going Astray (Josh. 23:6, 8; 2 Sam. 14:19; Prov. 4:27)
- The difference of salvation (Job 40:14; Psalm 17:7; 108:6; Isa. 37:20; 59:1)
- A symbol of physical labor (Eccl. 9:10)
- To be in royal favor (1 Kings 2:19)

Mentioned together, the *forehead* and the *right hand* appear to refer to:

- Keeping the Ten Commandments (Deut. 6:6-8; 11:18)
- Keeping God’s principles (Ex. 13:9, 16)
- God’s seal is keeping the proper Sabbath Day holy (Ex. 31:16-17; 20:12 & 20)

**The 360-Day Year** Adam and Enoch’s calendar used a 360-day year, the number of degrees in a perfect circle. One proof for the older 360-day year is comparing Genesis 7:11 with 7:24-8:3 and 8:4. It reveals that the 17<sup>th</sup> day of second month - to the 17<sup>th</sup> day of the seventh month is five months (5 x 30 = 150 days). Thus it is important to remember this year when calculating prophecy in the Bible, as it uses 360-day years. The change from the older 360-day year to the current 365-day year appears to have occurred after the Great Flood. The last-days prophecies of Daniel and John the Revelator utilize the 360-day year. Note the relationship of the number 360 (degrees in a perfect circle defining *space*) to the linear measure in the Sacred Cubit, when we take the number 7 (the number of *time*) and multiply it by 360 (degrees in *space*), which equals 2520 (the Sacred Cubit is 25.20 inches).

In the original Bible calendar before the Flood, and the second Bible calendar after the flood, God asked His people to rest on the seventh day of the week as marked by the moon (Gen. 2:1-3, Ex. 20:8-11; 34:21). He also asked that they observe seven special annual Holy Days each year (Ex. 23:14-17, 34:18, 22-23, Deut. 16:1, 9-10, 13-16; Lev. chapters 16 and 23). He *never* stated that the Sabbath was to be *every seventh day in succession*, but **only that the Sabbath is the seventh day of the week, as marked in a lunar calendar** (see chart next page).

**Why do Latter-day Saints and other Christians Continue to Worship on Sunday?** The simple answer is ignorance. There is also the obvious influence of Satan. He desires to oppose Christ at every turn. He corrupts everything in this world, including God’s calendar. He is the God of this world as our Temple Endowment reminds us. Most people simply don’t know the facts behind our current Sunday practice. Like sheep, most simply follow, and in this case it is other men – “the arm of flesh” rather than God that we follow (see 2 Ne. 4:34; Psalm 118:8). Many of the most devoted Christians today are seeking the Lord’s will and have either switched to a new day of worship, or do so privately observing the heavens for

additional worship - according to His *original* Bible lunar calendar. Others attend Sunday services with their congregations, but look forward to “*the full restoration of all things*,” when the Lord’s Holy Days will again be put into practice to worship the Lord as He taught us – by observing the heavens He created, His timepiece above. This may be the best choice for devoted Latter-day Saints. The key ingredient is seek the Lord’s will in this and all things.

Scripture tells us that we *will* return to the Holy Days to properly remember our Lord and worship Him as He desires, or there will be cursing, plagues, etc. This is the last-days prophecy of Zechariah 14:16-18. There we read, “And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.”



14-15 moon phases from New Moon (a Holy Day) to full moon; two phases of waxing and waning (29-30 total). The illustration above assumes the reader is facing north. Reading left (west) to right (east) and goes from New Moon (day 1) to full moon (day 15). The phase and position of the moon in the sky simulates its waxing (getting larger) at sunset each successive night of the month. Waning is just the opposite, the moon decreasing in size and its similar phase seen at sunrise, as well as portions of the day.

New Moon	1st Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	4 <sup>th</sup> Day	5 <sup>th</sup> Day	6 <sup>th</sup> Day	7 <sup>th</sup> Day of the week - Sabbaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 ¼ moon waxing
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Full moon
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 ¼ moon waning
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Final crescent moon
(30)							New Month
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 ¼ moon waxing, again

Note the three days of the Biblical lunar calendar. They include New Moons (blue), workdays (black) & Sabbaths (red).

### A Millennial Restoration – The Full Restoration of All Things

It is this author’s opinion that had the Prophet Joseph Smith lived longer, he would have instituted Sabbath worship consistent with scripture *and the heavens*, doing so with at least a few of the Biblical **Holy Days** - to better *remember* and *memorialize* our Lord more clearly than our current paganzed *holidays*. The Lord stated that His people were to observe and honor **His** calendar and its holy days as “**ordinances**,” doing so **forever** as a form of *true worship*. Speaking of Passover, He said, “And this [holy] day shall be unto you for a *memorial* [of the Atonement portion of my redeeming mission]; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; **ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever**” (Ex. 12:14). The three types of “days” in the month are found in Ezekiel 46:1.

The Biblical calendar **Holy Days** memorialize our Lord **on the actual days** when He performed His most important service, like *the Atonement*, for example, which occurred *on Passover* (at full moon). He was, after all, the Lamb of God, sacrificed for you and I. On our present corrupt Gregorian calendar today, this Holy Day has been *polluted, renamed, and combined* with pagan *Easter* traditions. They have ties to the Babylonian God Tammuz and his corrupt mother, who had sex with one another. Note also that *Easter* is now celebrated often weeks apart from when *Passover* and the Lord’s *Resurrection* actually occurred in the meridian of time! Imagine celebrating your wife’s birthday or your anniversary on a *more convenient, substitute* days. Constantine moved the date of the *Passover* celebration, and re-named it *Easter*, for two reasons; (1) convenience, and (2) his hatred for the Jews, and thus the traditions they observed. We must remember that the

Holy Days thrown out by Constantine and the 7<sup>th</sup> day Sabbath according to the moon, were part of the Law Jehovah gave them. In a letter to the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, Constantine said, “When the question relative to the sacred festival of Easter arose, it was universally thought that it would be *convenient* that all should keep the feast on one day.” He then went on to explain how new Christians must separate themselves from the “detestable” traditions and company “of the Jew.” Christ was a Jew. It was He as Jehovah who gave the Law as the Law Giver. He came to fulfill portions of this law perfectly, that connected to animal sacrifice. Today we offer up instead a broken heart and a contrite spirit. Other portions of His law remain in place.

Our present pagan calendar and its Sabbath remains well suited for those who worship the Lord with their lips rather than their hearts. It fits in well with our idolatrous, teledstial, business world - Babylon. The Lord has repeatedly told us to come out of Babylon, and that she *will* be destroyed. He stated, “**I will not spare any that remain in Babylon...** Wherefore, if ye believe me, ye will labor while it is called today” (D&C 64:23-25). The capital city Jerusalem, with Solomon’s Temple, had been corrupted by outside influences too. Lehi and his family was thus commanded to leave her before she was destroyed. Few in that day believed this was possible. Lehi believed and acted.

In Joseph Smith’s day the Lord’s calendar was apparently a lesser priority in comparison to the safety of the Saints and other more pressing matters. Had he lived longer, it may have been different, however. As mentioned earlier, Zechariah 14 tells us that we will eventually return to at least some of the Biblical Holy Days. This will be part of the promise of “the full restoration of all things.” Note the last few verses of D&C 59, modern scripture associated with honoring **the Lord’s day** – His Sabbath. It states, “And in nothing doth man offend God, or against none is his wrath kindled, save those who confess not his hand in all things [our calendar], and obey not his commandments. Behold, this is according to **the law** and **the prophets** [both found in ancient and modern scripture]; wherefore, trouble me no more concerning this matter. *But learn* that he who doeth the works of righteousness shall receive his reward, even peace in this world, and eternal life in the world to come. I, the Lord, have spoken it, and the Spirit beareth record. Amen” (D&C 59:21-23).

By keeping the commandments, studying “**the law** [He gave] **and the** [words of the ancient] **prophets,**” and diligently seeking the Lord’s Spirit, we can discern His will in this *and* all things.

For a more complete overview of the Lord’s calendar, see chapters 2-4 and Appendix A of Val Brinkerhoff’s book, *Seven Heavenly Witnesses of the Coming of Jesus Christ*, [www.digitalegend.com](http://www.digitalegend.com)