

UNLOCKING PROPHECY #8

History's Greatest Cover-up

The 4th Commandment

- † The 4th Commandment: *"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. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it"* (Exodus 20:8-11).

Revelation's Deceptive Dragon

- † Revelation 12:9, *"So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."*
 - Now isn't it logical, that Satan the great deceiver would attack God's law? God's law represents God's authority. If Satan can do away with God's law, he could try to do away with God's authority. God's law is the foundation of His government. God's law defines what's right and what's wrong.
 - Satan the great deceiver would attack the Creator by challenging the symbol of creation, the Sabbath.

Who Changed the Sabbath?

- † Certainly "God didn't" because the Bible says—Malachi 3:6, "For I am the LORD, I do not change."
- † Jesus didn't change the Sabbath, because the Bible says—Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."
- † The disciples didn't change the day because the Bible says—Acts 5:29, "But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: 'We ought to obey God rather than men.'"
- † So who did?

Revelation 13 & Daniel 7

- † Revelation 13:1, "Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name."
- † Blasphemy occurs when an earthly power or human being assumes the privileges and prerogatives of God.
- † Revelation 13:2—"Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority."
- † The prophecies of Daniel are linked to the prophecies of Revelation.
- † Daniel 7:2, 3, "Daniel spoke, saying, 'I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.'"
 - What does a beast represent in Bible prophecy? Daniel 7:17, "Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth." Daniel 7:23, "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth.'"
 - So Daniel sees four beasts that represent four kingdoms. These four beasts represent the exact same four powers mentioned by the four metals (gold, silver, brass, iron) mentioned in Daniel 2. The four kingdoms are: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.
- † Daniel 7:4, "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it."
 - The lion with eagle's wings was a common, well known symbol of Babylon.
 - In fact the prophet Jeremiah speaking of Babylon says in Jeremiah. 4:7—"The lion has come up from his thicket, And the destroyer of nations is on his way." Jeremiah 4:13, "And his chariots like a whirlwind. His horses are swifter than eagles."
- † Daniel 7:5, "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'"
 - The bear of Medo-Persia, raising itself up on one side, represented the Persians overthrowing first Babylon then dominating the Medes. What does the bear have in its mouth? Three ribs. When Medo-Persia conquered the world, it first conquered Babylon, then it went northward and conquered Lydia, then southward and conquered Egypt. These three nations, Babylon, Lydia and Egypt represent the three ribs.
- † Daniel 7:6, "After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it."
 - Greece. Alexander the Great rapidly conquered the world. Why the four heads? Notice once again how accurate Bible prophecy is. Alexander the Great died a very young 33 years old. When he died he had four generals. His four generals did not want to destroy one another. They did not want to kill one another over the empire. So these four generals simply made a pact. Their names were Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy and Seleucus.

- † Daniel 7:7, “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.”
 - The iron teeth remind us of the 4th kingdom in Daniel 2 with legs of iron.
 - The image of Daniel 2 had feet and toes of iron and clay representing divided Europe. How many toes do most people have? 10. The 4th beast here has ten horns. Rome was divided into ten main divisions.

The Little Horn

- † Daniel 7:8, “I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.”
 - The Bible says this little horn arose and was different from all the rest & would arise after the ten horns (Dan. 7:24). It is not primarily a political power, it is a religious power. It’s a religio-political power.
 - This little horn comes up among the first ten (in Western Europe).
 - Has eyes like the eyes of a man. The eyes of a man represent not divine wisdom but human wisdom.
- † “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws” (Daniel 7:25). This power would attempt to change the very law of God.
- † This little horn power would speak great words against the Most High by assuming God’s prerogative and attempting to change divine laws.
- † Daniel 8:12 tells us that this little horn power would— “cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.”

How did the change from Sabbath to Sunday actually occur?

- † “On the venerable Day of the Sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all the shops be closed.” – Constantine AD 321
- † Here’s what our Catholic friends say, “The Sun was a foremost god with heathendom . . . There is, in truth, something royal, kingly about the sun, making it a fit emblem of Jesus, the Sun of Justice. Hence the Church in these countries would seem to have said, ‘Keep that old pagan name. It shall remain consecrated, sanctified.’ And thus the pagan Sunday, dedicated to Balder, became the Christian Sunday, sacred to Jesus” (Catholic World, pg/ 809, March 1994).
- † Constantine wanted to unite his empire and Roman church leaders wanted to convert the pagans. Sunday became the vehicle to accomplish both; so the Biblical Sabbath was changed by the Roman Church and state.
- † Council of Laodicea, A.D. 325: “Christians shall not Judaize,” that is, they shall not keep the Sabbath, “and be idle on Saturday, but the Lord’s day they shall especially honour, and as being Christians, shall, if possible, do no work on that day. If, however they are found Judaizing, they shall be shut out from Christ.”
- † The change of the Sabbath took place gradually as Christians distanced themselves from the Jews and church and state leaders joined hands to unite the empire.
- † “The church, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath of the seventh day of the week to the first made the third commandment refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord’s Day” (The Catholic Encyclopedia vol. 4, p. 153).
- † “. . . Fundamentalists meet for worship on Sunday, yet there is no evidence in the Bible that corporate worship was to be made on Sundays. The Jewish Sabbath, or day of rest, was, of course, Saturday. It was the Catholic Church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the resurrection” (Karl Keating, Catholicism and Fundamentalism p.38).
- † “You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday” (Cardinal James Gibbons, Faith of Our Fathers p. 561).

Tradition or the Bible

- † What is the basis of authority in spiritual matters? The Bible, not the church.
- † Revelation 14:12, “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” The 4th Commandment: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy....” (Exodus 20:8).
- † Our Choice is:
 - The Bible or Tradition
 - Jesus or Religious Leaders
 - God’s Law or Man’s Dogmas
 - God’s Instruction or Human Teaching
 - God’s Way or Man’s Way
- † Joshua 24:15, “. . . Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Additional Bible Texts: Ezekiel 20:12 Luke 4:16 Matthew 24:20 Acts 13:42-44
Revelation 1:10 Luke 6:5 Mark 2:27, 28 Matthew 12:8; Psalm 89:34;