

History of the Sabbath and First Day of the Week

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Chapter 2 “The Institution of the Sabbath,” concluded

ARSH, March 3, 1863

Answers to the questions are found on pages 26.2–32.1.

1. What was the character of the seventh day, as hallowed in Eden?

Divine

2. Being instituted in Eden, can it be a memorial of the flight of Israel from Egypt? **No**

3. Do the most distinguished Jewish writers claim the Sabbath as a Jewish memorial, or deny its primeval origin? **A memorial and do not deny its origin**

4. What allusion does Josephus make to the Sabbath in the wilderness of Sin? **None**

5. How does he speak of it at creation? **A day of rest**

6. What does Philo say of the Sabbath as a memorial? **A festival of the earth, a birthday of the world**

7. The Sabbath being instituted before the fall, could it be a shadow or type of man’s rest after his recovery from the fall? Why not? **No. If it were a shadow of man’s redemption from the fall (and not a memorial of creation), the real design of the institution must have been stated to Adam & Eve, and in their unfallen state they could never have observed the Sabbath as a delight, but ever with deep distress, for it would have reminded them that they would soon apostatize from God.**

8. Why may not the Sabbath be one of the carnal ordinances imposed till the time of reformation? Heb. 9:10. **There would have been no need of reformation with Adam & Eve before their fall.**

9. Where is the next mention of the Sabbath after man’s apostasy? **With the story of the manna in Exodus 16**

10. What objection to the institution of the Sabbath in Paradise is attempted to be drawn from the fact that the book of Genesis does not contain any formal precept for its observance? **There is no record that the patriarchs observed it.**

11. State the defects in this argument. **The book of Genesis was not a rule book given to the patriarchs to walk by, for it was written by Moses 2500 years after creation and long after the patriarchs died.**

12. From what other sins besides Sabbath-breaking, does the book of Genesis contain no prohibition? **Genesis does not contain any command to love God with all the heart and one's neighbors as oneself, nor does it prohibit idolatry, blasphemy, disobedience to parents, adultery, theft, false witness or covetousness.**

13. Can we affirm from this that the patriarchs were under no restraint in these things? **No**

14. Why was it not necessary that the book of Genesis should contain a moral code? **It was a record of events written long after their occurrences.**

15. How much time is spanned in its brief record? **2370 years**

16. From the fact that the book of Genesis, after giving the institution of the Sabbath, does not again mention it, what conclusion has been drawn? **Since the patriarchs were perfect and walked with God in observance of his commandments, statutes, and laws (Gen. 5:24–Enoch, Gen. 6:9–Noah, Gen. 26:5–Abraham) and no record of them keeping the Sabbath means it was not necessary.**

17. State the defect in this argument by naming other important doctrines not mentioned in that book. **The doctrine of future punishment, the resurrection of the body, the revelation of the Lord in flaming fire, and the judgment of the great day.**

18. By what penalty was the Sabbath enforced after the time of Moses? **Death**

19. Yet how long a period is passed over after the time of Moses, without a mention of the Sabbath? **500 years**
20. What other observances, which were at that time important, are passed over in silence? **The Jubilee, the Day of Atonement**
21. What conclusion follows from these facts? **You cannot claim the Sabbath was not kept because it was not mentioned any more than you can claim the Jubilee and the Day of Atonement was not observed.**
22. From what is the reckoning of time by weeks derived? **The divine appointment of the seventh day to holy use in memory of the Lord's rest from the six days' work of creation**
23. What texts of scripture show that the patriarchs so reckoned time? **Gen. 29:27, 28; 8:10, 12; 7:4, 10; 50:10; Ex. 7:25; Job 2:13**
24. Could they retain the week and yet forget the Sabbath? **No**
25. How would the facts respecting the creation, naturally, and even necessarily, become diffused among the godly of mankind? **Through Adam, who lived 930 years**
26. What succession of holy, and probably inspired, men, spanned the whole time from Adam to Abraham? **Adam, Lamech, Noah, Shem, Abraham**