

Torah Studies – Statutes #203-208

Statute Summary:

Statute #203: When a person breaks Torah by committing any sin (transgression of the Law), the transgressor is guilty of committing a trespass against Yahweh & His Holy Name.

Statute #204: If a person commits a sin against another person (according to Torah), the person is guilty of committing a trespass against Yahweh & His Holy Name.

Statute #205: If a person is guilty of Torah-breaking, he or she must confess the sin to Yahweh (in repentance).

Statute #206: If the person is guilty of sinning against another person, part of his/her repentance involves confessing the sin to the person offended and making full restitution/restoration of any property damaged or lost. In addition to the full restitution, the guilty party must add an additional 1/5 of the value to it. The full restitution plus 1/5 more is to be given to the person who was wronged. (Note: this Statute is trumped by others regarding the theft of animals... Five-fold restoration is required for a stolen ox and four-fold restoration is required for a sheep – Exodus 22:1)

Statute #207: If the person who was wronged is no longer alive to receive the restitution, at the time of the offender's repentance, the restitution plus 1/5 more is to be given to the close (closest) relative of the offended person.

Statute #208: If the offended person is gone and has no close relative to whom restitution can be made, the offender should pay the restitution plus 1/5 more to Yahweh, by giving it to a priest of Yahweh (to help with the worship of Yahweh). The offender may not keep the restitution himself.

Numbers 5:6-8 “Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any **sin** that men **commit, to do** a **trespass** against the LORD, and that person be **guilty**; Then they shall confess their sin which they have done: and he shall **recompense** his trespass with the principal thereof, and add unto it the fifth *part* thereof, and give *it* unto *him* against whom he hath trespassed. But if the man have no kinsman to recompense the trespass unto, let the trespass be recompensed unto the LORD, *even* to the priest; beside the ram of the atonement, whereby an atonement shall be made for him.”

Torah Studies – Statutes #203-208 continued

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|---|
| SIN | H2403 | <i>chatta'ah</i> | an offense (sometimes habitual sinfulness), and its penalty, an offender: - punishment (of sin), purifying (-fication for sin), sin (-ner) |
| COMMIT TO DO | H4603 | <i>maw'al</i> | to cover up; to act covertly, that is, treacherously: - transgress, (commit, do a) trespass (-ing) |
| TRESPASS | H4604 | <i>mah'al</i> | treachery, that is, sin: - falsehood, grievously, sore, transgression, trespass |
| GUILTY | H816 | <i>'asham</i> | to be guilty; by implication to be punished or perish: be (-come, made) desolate, destroy, X greatly, be (-come, found, hold) guilty, offend (acknowledge offence), trespassive |
| RECOMPENSE | H7725 | shub | to turn back (hence, away), generally to retreat; to fetch Home again. |

Synthesis:

These verses teach us three things: restitution, restoration and compassion are part of bringing honor to Yahweh's Name, in making right the wrongs we have committed against others.

This Statute set teaches that a person who committed a wrong to someone must confess the wrong to God and the offended person, and pay back what was taken with an additional fifth added. Of course the animal sacrifice part of the Statute, is accomplished by seeking Yahshua's cleansing Blood over the sin. This is in accordance with Leviticus 6:1-7, which requires the payment of the money with an additional fifth as well as a guilt-offering (spiritually offered now by claiming Messiah's Blood-cleansing upon prayerful confession of the sins) for stealing, damaging, or destroying the property of another.

Of course, Torah first teaches us to do right by our fellow man. But if we have fallen from this goal, we must make things right with the one we've offended. This means that we must pay back what is owed and then some. The additional amount paid to the offended one is necessary for full restoration to take place.

For example, if a person steals from a store, the store owner would have suffered the loss of the item, plus the potential loss of the sale of the item (he can't sell it if it isn't in his store to sell). He would also face the costs of shipping to buy replacement item(s) to restock and replace what was taken... Torah commands restitution to be more than was taken/lost, in order for full restoration to take place.

KEY POINT: Because the spiritual concept of loss/damage affects the Name of Yahweh, there is a spiritual warfare principle here, which my husband and I have put to use, in various times, over the years. So, in addition to the obvious applications, this Statute also has a spiritual application that enhances warfare prayer and makes a more effective response to the attacks of the kingdom of hell against the believer.

Torah Studies – Statutes #203-208 continued

Not only is this Statute vital in Spiritual Warfare, but also Proverbs 6:30-31, goes along with it, which says: “Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.”

The word “sevenfold” carries the number 7. The word “sevenfold” like the number 7 represents FULL, COMPLETE, PERFECT. So when the Bible talks about “sevenfold payback”, it is referring to a FULL, COMPLETE AND PERFECT PAYBACK/COMPENSATION.

2 Satan is a thief in our life – and you can claim the command/promise of Torah against him!

If there is one thief that keeps stealing from us and robbing us, it is Satan. John 10:10 says that Satan comes “to steal, and kill and destroy.”

Satan loves to steal and rob the blessings and resources from believers. These benefits and blessings, wrongly taken by the kingdom of hell are likened to treasures in the “house” of a “strong man” (Satan) (Matthew 12:29). But, if we will but ask (for we “have not, because we ask not”) in prayer, righteously citing (catching) the demonic thief, and asking Yahweh to make him restore up to seven fold of what he has taken. Yahweh will cause hell to have to restore the wrongly taken blessings he’s taken from us. Yahweh will open up the enemy’s storehouse and force him to return that which is called the “treasures of darkness” and “hidden riches in secret places” (Isaiah 45:3).

Many of us have spiritualized suffering, when it has been caused by hell. We fail to recognize that behind every prolonged suffering and injustice is Satan. Thus, if a believer has been “limping” along through life with constant set-backs, prolonged and debilitating pain, or other impairments which prevent us from living out our Heavenly Calling, the believer needs to respond by “catching” the thief and claiming this Torah injunction against hell in his/her life!

So often, a believer suffers due to an unrighteous attack of the enemy, who has been ripping them off, but they have merely accepted his ongoing plundering instead of resisting the devil! Suffering has its place in the Will and Purpose of God, but if the suffering goes on for years and years and is hampering a believer’s Calling, that suffering is not from God – but is instead the work of hell against the believer. The devil is working as a thief! In the Bible, the woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years was so bent over that she could not fully straighten herself. But she was set free by Yahshua! And what did Yahshua say to her about the cause of this lengthy suffering? – “And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham **whom Satan bound for 18 years**, be loosed from this bond on Sabbath day?” (Luke 13:16).

Here are some ways we’ve seen the enemy function as thief in the life of believers (or own lives):

- Stealing people from our study group (causing the number of those who gather to worship in our local fellowship group to dwindle down to almost nothing)
- Stealing resources or time from believers through circumstances and people.
- Stealing health and strength from believers...

If Satan has been stealing from you, CATCH HIM! Proverbs 6:31 NIV- “Yet if he is CAUGHT...” In other words, In the Name of Yahshua Messiah, “apprehend him, seize him and bind him.” Ask your Heavenly Father to render Judgment against hell, on your behalf, opening up the storehouse of the strong man and restoring to you all that it has taken, so that you may fully serve Yahweh as He has Called you to do.

Torah Studies – Commandment #4

Exodus 20:8-11 “**Remember** the **Sabbath** day, to **keep it holy**. Six days shalt thou **labour**, and do all thy **work**: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy **stranger** that is within thy **gates**: For in six days the LORD **made** heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and **rested** the seventh day: wherefore the LORD **blessed** the Sabbath day, and **hallowed** it.”

Key Word Study:

| Key Word | Strong's Number | Hebrew Word | Meaning |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| REMEMBER | H2142 | <i>zakar</i> | To mark, think on, be mindful of, mention |
| SABBATH | H7676 | <i>Shabbath</i> | To rest, celebrate, intermission |
| KEEP IT HOLY | H6942 | <i>qdash</i> | Observe, dedicate, sanctify (set aside for holy use) |
| LABOUR | H5647 | <i>abad</i> | To do service, serving self |
| WORK | H4399 | <i>melakah</i> | Employment, industrious |
| STRANGER | H1616 | <i>ger</i> | A guest, a sojourner (one who stays a short time) |
| GATES | H8179 | <i>shaar</i> | An opening, door, city or property gates |
| MADE | H6213 | <i>asah</i> | Appoint, feast, be occupied with, furnish |
| RESTED | H5117 | <i>nuwach</i> | Settle down, give comfort, rest, quiet |
| BLESSED | H1288 | <i>barak</i> | To bless, praise, as a benefit |
| HALLOWED | H6942 | <i>qdash</i> | To make clean, consecrate, be holy |

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued


A Brief Sabbath Study:

Keeping the Sabbath holy should be important to God's people, because it is important to *Yahweh*. We know this, Scripturally, because the Bible tells us that God especially blesses those who keep His Sabbath holy. Also, Sabbath-keeping is the Sign which He looks for, to prove that we really belong to Him.

- *"...Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I Am Yahweh that doth sanctify you."* Exodus 31:13
- *"If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on My holy Day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and Yahweh's holy Day, honorable, and if you honor it... then you will find your joy in Yahweh. And I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the Land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob. For the Mouth of Yahweh has spoken."* Isaiah 58:13-14 (NIV)

Most notably, *Yahshua*, Who was our Example in all things (1 Peter 2:21) kept the Sabbath:

- *"Then Yahshua went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath He went as usual to the synagogue. He stood up to read the Scriptures."* Luke 4:16 (ASV)

KEY POINT 

The Seventh-day Sabbath was set apart and made holy (hallowed) by *Yahweh* Himself. Man may not presume to "unesteem" the Day which God has so "esteemed" - "...*Yahweh* blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:11
(See also Deut. 5:12-15)

Since Sabbath-keeping is important to *Yahweh*, and since it is His Will for His people to keep His holy Day, the next issue is to determine which Day is the weekly Sabbath. Which Day has the Heavenly Father esteemed, that no earthly power may presume to unesteem? There are three days, which are believed to be the Sabbath of *Yahweh*. They are: Sunday, Saturday, or a weekly day determined by the moon phases (*commonly called the "Lunisolar Sabbath"*). In this study, we will examine the Scriptural validity of these days, in order to Biblically identify the weekly Sabbath, which is hallowed by our Creator.

Is Sunday the Sabbath of *Yahweh*?

Today, many Christians believe that Saturday used to be the Sabbath of *Yahweh*. But they also believe that Saturday is no longer to be kept holy. This is because it is commonly thought that *Yahweh* changed His Mind and appointed a new day, in honor of *Yahshua's* Resurrection. But, Scripture plainly tells us that God neither changes His Mind nor His Law. Here is a helpful video link on how Sabbath got changed, and how this way of thinking is not Biblical:

How Christianity Went From Sabbath to Sunday (by Psalm 119 Ministries):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DUGdO-P-UFo>

Amazingly, even the idea that *Yahshua's* Resurrection is being honored by keeping Sunday is a lie of the Little Horn power (see lesson 5). *Yahshua*, Who is Creator of the Sabbath, also Resurrected on the Sabbath, which was a Biblical term that **never** applied to Sunday.

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

The Day of the Resurrection Was Not Sunday!

We can prove, Scripturally, that Messiah rose from the dead towards the end of the Biblical Sabbath Day; because the women were running to His Tomb, as the Sabbath was ending. Yet, they were too late to witness the Resurrection. Clearly, Yahshua had already risen, BEFORE the Sabbath ended!

- “Now late on the Sabbath Day, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the Sepulchre..” Matthew 28:1 (ASV)

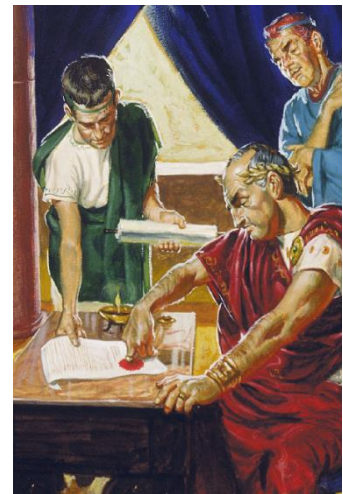
Biblically, a day begins and ends in the evening (Leviticus 23:27-32). The women went to the Tomb to anoint Yahshua’s Body just BEFORE sunset on the Seventh-day. How can “late on the Sabbath Day” be nearing the dawn of Sunday morning? “Began to dawn” is from the Greek word *epiphōskō*. Like with a dictionary, the context helps us determine which meaning to use. This word can mean “begin to grow light.” or “begin to draw on”. Since the Bible says that Sabbath ends at sunset, Sunday began to draw on (start) just after sunset.

The truth is that there is no Scriptural support for keeping Sunday sacred. This tradition was started by Roman emperor Constantine, replacing the true Sabbath of *Yahweh*, in the 4th Century AD (*just as the prophet Daniel warned that the Little Horn power would do - see lesson 5*). It was Constantine also, who first began referring to Sunday as “the Lord’s Day”.

- “Christians shall not Judaize and be idle on Saturday (Sabbath), but shall work on that day: but the Lord’s Day (Sunday), 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.” Catholic Church of Laodicea, circa 364 AD - Rev. Charles Joseph Hefele, Henry N. Oxenham (trans.), *A History of the Church Councils from 326 to 429* Volume 2 (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1896): 316

The Catholic Mirror of September 23, 1894, puts it this way:

- “**The Catholic Church** for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, **changed the day from Saturday to Sunday.**”



As history and Scripture easily verify, traditions started by the papal power have established Sunday worship. Sunday is not *Yahweh’s* esteemed holy Day. One down, two to go! Now let’s turn our attention to the teaching that the weekly Sabbath is determined by the moon phases.

Is Sabbath determined by the Phases of the Moon?

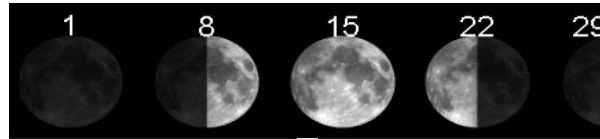
When first presented with the “Lunisolar Sabbath”, one will probably be amazed at the sheer volume of historical notes on changes to the calendar over the centuries. By the time one wades through all this impressive documentation in the “Lunisolar Sabbath” argument, one question looms large in the mind:

“With all these changes, how can we be certain that Saturday is still the Seventh-day Sabbath from Creation?”

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

The “Lunisolar Sabbath” argument appears to be a sure solution, if for no other reason than that it attractively “simplifies” the Sabbath issue. But is the “Lunisolar Sabbath” teaching Scripturally correct? To test the Scriptural validity of this teaching, we must first clearly define it.

The “Lunisolar Sabbath” goes by many names. It is also known as the “Lunar Sabbath” or “Creation Calendar Sabbath” and even “Covenant Calendar”. This teaching states that the weekly Sabbath of *Yahweh* is determined by the phases of the moon. This means that the Day of the New Moon (following the night when the first sliver of the crescent moon was sighted) starts the count for determining the weekly Sabbaths for that month (moon cycle). From the New Moon, the weekly Sabbath would then fall upon the 8th day (of the Biblical month), the 15th day (which is the day of the full moon), the 22nd day and the 29th day of the moon cycle.



This means that the weekly Sabbaths might fall on a Wednesday for that given month, as is shown in the calendar table below. The day of the week on which the “Lunisolar Sabbath” happens to fall is irrelevant, in this teaching. To make this plain, consider the calendar example shown above, comparing “Lunisolar Sabbath” vs “Saturday” (for clarity) Sabbath. To determine when the “Lunisolar Sabbaths” would fall, we must know the New Moon dates. The New Moon dates which determine this calendar are: Thursday, March 10 and “Saturday”, April 9. In each calendar, proposed Sabbath days are shown in yellow. New Moon dates are shown in purple.

| Weekly Sabbath is 7 th Day of the Week APRIL, 2016 | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | Sab |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

In this calendar, the numbers shown are the actual dates of the standard calendar. Sabbath is consistently the 7th Day.

At the outset of this study, we can already notice that the Lunisolar Sabbath is not consistently the 7th day.

| Weekly Sabbath is “Lunar Sabbath” MARCH-APRIL, 2016 | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

In this calendar, the numbers shown are the actual dates of the standard calendar. Sabbath is NOT consistently the 7th Day. There are actually 9 days between “Lunisolar Sabbath” - Wednesday, April 6 and “Lunisolar Sabbath” - Friday, April 15.


Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

This is because, each month, between the 29th day of the lunar cycle and the first Sabbath following the next New Moon, there may be 9 days. Thus, **the “Lunisolar Sabbath” cannot be called the 7th Day Sabbath, as this qualifier doesn’t always apply.**

For this reason, in this study we will continue using the term “Lunisolar Sabbath” for that day, but will use the term 7th Day Sabbath for the day society has paganly called “Saturday” (*please note, we sometimes use this term only for clarity*). It is now time to compare these two proposed Sabbaths, to see which holds up to Biblical inspection. In this study, we will compare the Lunisolar Sabbath and 7th Day Sabbath in the following seven tests:

- 1) We will check the “Bone Structure” of each - going back to Creation, to see how the first Sabbath was determined. (For more information on “Bone Structure” as a vital part of effective Bible study, see the Lighted Way Ministries, Study Guide #1, readable online at https://www.lightedway.org/html/Doctrine_Studies/Lesson_1.pdf)
- 2) We will investigate the calendar change issues.
- 3) We will address which way of determining Sabbath fits the Scriptural requirements for the weekly Sabbath.
- 4) We will see whether there are any provable cases in Scripture where the weekly Sabbath DIDN’T fall on the 8th, 15th, 22nd or 29th. Even one provable case will disprove the Lunisolar theory.
- 5) We will look at the history of keeping the Sabbath to see whether it was done by the moon phases or by a continuous count.
- 6) We will examine the Seventh-day Sabbath to determine whether there is enough evidence to show that “Saturday” is indeed still the 7th Day.
- 7) The Pentecost count includes seven Sabbaths AND fifty days. Which Sabbath fits this - Lunar or 7th Day?

TEST #1: Bone Structure - The first place that Sabbath is mentioned in Scripture lays the foundation for Sabbath doctrine. Since Sabbath is first mentioned in Genesis, in the Creation story, which Sabbath fits Creation? The Sabbath was instituted in Genesis, at the end of Earth’s first week.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| The only way for the first Sabbath to have been the 7 th Day, is for the Count to have NOT INCLUDED the presence of the moon! The first day of the first week (a count of 7) was not the first day of the first month (the moon cycle). | | | | | | |
| These first days are included in the count to Sabbath, but three days in the Count have no moon at all... The Moon wasn’t needed to count to Sabbath. | | | | The Moon wasn’t used to count to the Sabbath (<i>which is the 7th Day</i>). The Sabbath came 3 days after the moon... | | |
| 1 st Day | 2 nd Day | 3 rd Day | 4 th Day | 5 th Day | 6 th Day | 7 th Day Sabbath |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yahweh Created Light- Gen. 1:1-5 | Yahweh Made Air- Gen. 1:6-8 | Yahweh Created Land & Plants- Gen. 1:9-13 | Yahweh Made Sun, Moon & Stars- Gen. 1:14-19 | Yahweh Created Fish & Birds- Gen. 1:20-23 | Yahweh Made Animals & Man- Gen. 1:24-31 | Yahweh Rested on the 7 th Day - Gen. 2:1-3 |

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

As the Creation Calendar shown on the previous page shows, counting from the first day, on which *Yahweh* made light (Genesis 1:3-5), the Sabbath Day was the 7th Day. The moon was created on the fourth day of the Creation Week.

TEST #2: Calendar Change Issues - The first point to remember, when investigating historical records of calendar changes, is that historical records have been tampered with. It is great to quote from historical sources, so long as this is not the basis for your belief. Historical sources must fit with the doctrinal teaching you have found through proper Bible study. You should never make your Bible doctrine fit your historical finds.

For this reason, we will quote historical sources, **only** as they fit what we have **first** found in Scripture.

When we were introduced to the Lunisolar Sabbath teaching, we were presented with a thick document of calendar changes, all of which were used to prove that Saturday could no longer be the 7th Day Sabbath from Creation. The sheer volume of calendar changes was enough to bring someone to the Lunisolar Sabbath belief merely from the shock value alone! But, upon closer inspection we found that most of the calendar changes were completely irrelevant to the Sabbath issue! Here's why...

When *Yahshua* was here, He was our Example in all things (1 Peter 2:21). *Yahshua* kept the Sabbath, which was the same Sabbath being kept by the Jews, in His time. This means that the Jews were keeping the right Day. If they had not been keeping the right Day, the Bible says that *Yahshua* would have corrected them:

- *“For if Yahshua had given them Rest, then would He not afterward have spoken of another Day? There remaineth therefore a Rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into His Rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His.”* Hebrews 4:8-10

This cut the impressive document of calendar changes down tremendously. For **none of the calendar changes prior to Christ need even be considered.** It is also interesting to note that **the Jews were keeping the day society calls “Saturday” as the Sabbath in the time of Messiah.**

But there is a big issue, among Lunisolar Sabbath teachers, about the “Gregorian Calendar”. It is often suggested that Pope Gregory so changed the calendar that it is impossible to determine the weekly Sabbath by a “Gregorian Calendar” (*which is another name for our modern calendar*).

| OCTOBER, 1582 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | Sab |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

To address this correctly, we must look at the calendar changes made by Pope Gregory XIII. See the calendar on the left to show exactly what changes were made to the calendar, at that time. In October of 1582 AD, Pope Gregory XIII dropped 10 dates from the calendar. He also added a day to the month of February. But none of these changes impacted the order of the DAYS of the week, by which we determine Sabbath. Sunday was still followed by Monday and Monday by Tuesday, and so forth. Ten DATES were removed, but the order of the week days continued uninterrupted. Thus, **Gregory's changes did not affect the Sabbath.**

The implication that we cannot determine the Seventh-day Sabbath from a Gregorian calendar is simply not true. The Seventh-day of the week remained.

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

TEST #3: The Scriptural Construct for Sabbath- In Scripture, the Sabbath is plainly called the Seventh Day. This is because it is always the Seventh Day, as will be plainly seen when we examine the count to Pentecost. In a Lunisolar Sabbath construct, the first week is 8-10 days between the 29th day of the lunar cycle and the 8th day of the next lunar cycle. This means that determining the Sabbath by the moon is both not the original way to calculate Sabbath (from Creation), nor is it always the 7th Day, which defines Sabbath.

One reason Lunisolar Sabbath teachers give to support the Sabbath being governed by the moon phases is the story of the manna falling in the Wilderness, in which the Sabbath fit the Lunisolar Sabbath timing (*which is the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th of the Biblical month*). Also, the first and last annual Sabbaths of Unleavened Bread and Tabernacles fall on the 15th and 22nd. These days are Scripturally called Sabbaths or Days of Rest.

While these examples may at first appear to support a Lunisolar Sabbath construct, closer inspection reveals that many assumptions must be made to make these prove a Lunisolar Sabbath teaching:

1) It is being assumed that since the manna story shows the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th were Sabbaths, during **that** month, than these days are Sabbaths **every** month. (*But, as we will see in this study, there is at least one case when the Sabbath was on the 23rd of the Biblical month*). **It is a wrong assumption to believe that because sometimes the Seventh-day is on the same days as the lunar phases that this is always the case.**

2) It is an assumption to state that simply because the first and last Days of Unleavened Bread and Tabernacles are annual Sabbaths, that they must also be Seventh-day Sabbaths.

TEST #4: A Provable Case in Scripture where the weekly Sabbath DIDN'T fall on a "Lunisolar Sabbath" day (8th, 15th, 22nd or 29th) - In order for the Lunisolar Sabbath to be correct, it must *consistently* be Scriptural. Thus, we must be able to find that **all** datable Sabbaths in the Bible took place on a lunar phase date (*falling on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th of the Biblical month*). **Even one datable Sabbath, falling outside of these lunar phase dates, is sufficient to disprove the whole theory!**

Are these days always Sabbaths? Or Sometimes Sabbaths? The Answer is that **SOMETIMES**, the Seventh-day Sabbath may fall on these days, in a given month. But it does not always fall on these moon-phase days...



Scripture tells us that *Yahshua* made clay to heal a blind man's eyes on the weekly Sabbath.

- "And it was the Sabbath Day when *Yahshua* made the clay, and opened his eyes." John 9:14

And on that occasion, **the Seventh-Day Sabbath fell on the 23rd day of the Seventh Month**. This is a complete impossibility in a Lunisolar Sabbath construct. In this belief system, the Sabbath could never fall on the 23rd. Yet, in this case, the Bible proves that it **did**.


Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

How can we be certain that the Sabbath when the blind man’s eyes were healed was the 23rd of the Seventh Biblical month? John tells us that *Yahshua* invited the people to come to Him for Living Water. This invitation was given on the Last Great Day of the Feast, which is the Day immediately following the Week of Tabernacles.

- “In the Last Day, that Great Day of the Feast, *Yahshua* stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.” John 7:37

In Leviticus 23:34-36, we find that the Feast of Tabernacles begins on the 15th day of *Tishri* (the Seventh month). This Feast continues seven days, but the 8th day, counting from the 15th, is called the Last Great Day by the Hebrew people, and is an annual Sabbath.

“...The fifteenth day of this Seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days... On the eighth Day shall be an holy convocation ye shall do no servile work therein.” Leviticus 23:34-36

| Feast of Tabernacles - lasts for 7 Days... | | | | | | | 8 th Day | Sab- bath |
|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 15 th Day | 16 th Day | 17 th Day | 18 th Day | 19 th Day | 20 th Day | 21 st Day | 22 nd Day | 23 rd Day |
| 1st Day of Tab- ernacles |  | | | | | | Last Great Day | <i>Yahshua</i> healed blind man |

The Bible tells us that the next day, after *Yahshua* stood and invited everyone to drink the Water of Life, *Yahshua* came again to the Temple early in the morning (John 8:2). The next day after the Last Great Day (which is always *Tishri* 22) is the 23rd day of that Biblical month.

The Gospel record then shows that while *Yahshua* was at the Temple on this 23rd day of *Tishri*, He healed the blind man’s eyes. Again, John recorded, “It was the Sabbath day when (*Yahshua*) made the clay, and opened his eyes,” (John 9:14). Clearly, there are at least two cases where the Seventh-day Sabbath didn’t fall on the 8th, 15th, 22nd, or 29th of the Biblical Month:

- 1) The first Sabbath of Creation (on which the moon was only three days old).
- 2) The day *Yahshua* healed the blind man - when the 23rd of the Biblical month was the Sabbath.

TEST #5: History of Sabbath keeping. Was Sabbath kept by the Lunar Phases or the 7th Day? - Many teachers of Lunisolar Sabbath suggest that the Children of Israel kept the Sabbath by the moon phases. However, when we looked up the quotes given in the documents, we found that some pivotally important quotations, had been misquoted. In one noted document, the encyclopedia being quoted actually didn’t show that ancient Israel kept the Sabbath by the moon at all, but showed the opposite!

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

Whether the Lunisolar Sabbath teacher was misquoting due to ignorance, a lack of due diligence, or intentional deception is unclear. But the resulting teaching is certainly dangerously deceptive!

For space in this study, we will just give one example of such a deceptive misrepresentation:

In the article, “*The One Unanswerable Objection to a Saturday Sabbath*”, which is quoted by many Lunisolar Sabbath teachers, the following pivotal statement appears:

“The connection of the Sabbath with lunar phases, however, was later discarded by the Israelites”. (pg 4)

This statement is sourced, within the document, as having been quoted from *The New Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia*, Vol 10 p 135-136.

In “*The One Unanswerable Objection to a Saturday Sabbath*”, this quotation is used to show that Israel used to keep Sabbath by the moon, but later discarded this correct practice, replacing it with a “pagan” Saturday worship practice. This method of keeping the weekly Sabbath by the moon phases is even presented as returning to the “Creation Calendar”.

But the actual quote in *The New Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia*, Vol 10 p 135-136, says quite the opposite, when fully quoted (and when the word “later”, not present in the source, is removed):

“The connection of the Sabbath with the lunar phases, however, was discarded by the Israelites who did not worship the moon, and the weeks were accordingly divorced from the days of the months and were made to follow in succession throughout the year, a more regular correspondence with the week of Creation being thus secured...” (*The New Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia*, Vol 10 p 136 - viewable online at http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/encyc10/Page_136.html).

Additionally, *The New Schaff-Herzog Religious Encyclopedia*, goes on to show that keeping the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the lunar cycle as “holy days” comes from Babylonian paganism!

“...The fifteenth day of each month was the sabbath of the Babylonians. This day was reckoned that of the full moon, but since the Hebrew Sabbath was not connected with the full moon... and since the Babylonians had no week of seven days, the assumption that the Hebrews borrowed the Sabbath from the Babylonians lacks all foundation.”
(ibid, p 135)

History does show that moon worship was practiced by the *pagans* in the time of ancient Israel.



The Babylonian moon “god” from all 4 sides.
Notice the crescent moon on its chest.

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

Historical records tell of a moon god named “Sin” (pronounced SEEN). The region of *Sinai* was named for this false “god”. The symbol of *Sin* was the crescent moon. And the holy days of this false god were determined by the moon (1st, 8th, 15th, etc.). Idols of *Sin* even show the crescent moon (New Moon) which is the symbol of this false god and the first of its “holy days”.

TEST #6: Is There Evidence to Show that “Saturday” is the Seventh-day Sabbath from Creation? - Messiah Himself disproves the charge that the Jews picked up Babylonian worship during their captivity which affected their Sabbath-keeping thereafter. As we have already addressed, *Yahshua* kept the same Sabbath as the Jews, most powerfully validating their worship on the 7th Day (“Saturday”).

Language is another form of historic evidence. Rooted deeply in antiquity, we can study the beginnings of most any culture through its language development.

So what exactly do ancient languages teach us on the subject of the Seventh-day Sabbath? Interestingly enough, the most ancient of all languages literally call Saturday - Sabbath. There are 108 different languages that refer to Saturday as “the Sabbath”. We will only look at a few of the many examples in the table on the right.

TEST #7: Evidence in the Pentecost Count - There is a powerful way to prove how the weekly Sabbath is calculated in the way Scripture tells us to count to Pentecost. As we Scripturally in Leviticus 23, there are four qualifiers which must be included in the Pentecost count. According to Leviticus 23:15-16, they are:

| Ancient Language | Word for “Saturday” (meaning “Sabbath” or “Sabbath Day”) |
|------------------|--|
| Greek | <i>Sabbaton</i> |
| Latin | <i>Sabbatum</i> |
| Spanish | <i>Sabado</i> |
| Italian | <i>Sabbato</i> |
| German | <i>Samstag</i> |
| Hebrew | <i>Shabbath</i> |
| Persian | <i>Shambin</i> |
| Arabic | <i>Assabt</i> |
| Hindustani | <i>Shamba</i> |
| Polish | <i>Sobota</i> |
| Turkish | <i>Yomessabt</i> |
| Abyssinian | <i>Sanbat</i> |
| Malay | <i>Ari-Sabtu</i> |

1) Pentecost, or the Feast of Weeks, is counted from First Fruits, which is the day after the weekly Sabbath which falls during the Week of Unleavened Bread.

2) From First Fruits, we must count seven Sabbaths. Since there are about 4 weekly Sabbaths in a month, the Pentecost count includes enough time to prove that the weekly Sabbath must always be the 7th Day of every week (New Moon time included).

3) The day after the seventh Sabbath is Pentecost.

4) Pentecost must be the 50th day from First Fruits.

Because the Lunisolar Sabbath isn’t a consistent seven-day cycle, it can never meet all of the Pentecost requirements.

| Weeks (with day count to 50, shown) | | | | | | Sab. | COUNT TO PENTECOST |
|-------------------------------------|--|----|----|----|----|------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | Week 1: 1 st Sabbath of the 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 2 | Week 2: 2 nd Sabbath of the 7 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 3 | Week 3: 3 rd Sabbath of the 7 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 4 | Week 4: 4 th Sabbath of the 7 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 5 | Week 5: 5 th Sabbath of the 7 |
| 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 6 | Week 6: 6 th Sabbath of the 7 |
| 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 7 | Week 7: 7 th Sabbath of the 7 |
| 50 | For the day after the 7th Sabbath to be the 50th, each Sabbath must be the Seventh day, consistently. Lunar Sabbath doesn’t do this. | | | | | | |

Torah Studies – Commandment #4 continued

| The Creator's Luni-Solar Calendar | | | | | | | New Moon Day |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------------|
| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 | Sabbath | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |
| 30 | | | | | | | |

The deceptive Luni-Solar Calendar image...

How it actually works... Day 30 and Day 1 (New Moon Day) are pulled out of the calendar count. So it makes a “Luni-solar” Calendar *look like* the “Sabbaths” are Seventh-day Sabbaths... But where in the Bible does it say that 2 days of the week don’t count?

How can Sabbath be the Seventh-day if the last week of the month is actually 9 days long? And

finally, if there is a 9-day week every 4 weeks, as there is on the “Luni-Solar” Calendar, it is impossible to have 7 Sabbaths and only 50 days (as required in Leviticus 23) for the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost Count)... The true Sabbath is consistently the Seventh-day Day Sabbath. And all weeks are 7-day weeks on the Creator’s real Calendar!

In conclusion, for all these reasons the 7th Day Sabbath (“Saturday”), not the Lunisolar Sabbath, is still the Sabbath of Creation.

KEY POINT

In Leviticus 23, all the Sabbaths (weekly and annual) are listed. The Seventh-day Sabbath is differentiated from the annual Sabbaths in how it is calculated. This is why the Seventh-day Sabbath is listed first, in verse 3.

Leviticus 23:4 marks the beginning of the annual Feast Sabbaths, all of which are different from the weekly Sabbath, in that they are “seasonal”: *“These are the Feasts of Yahweh... which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.”*

Leviticus 23:4

Both the words “Feasts” and “Seasons” are Strong’s Number H4150. This reference is to the days which are calculated by the moon. The 7th Day **is not** determined by the moon, but the annual Sabbaths **are**: *“He appointed the moon for seasons...”* Psalm 104:19