

Lesson 17 – The Inconvenient Truth

- 1) Why is God worthy of our Worship?

Revelation 4:11 > “Thou art _____, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: ___ thou hast _____ all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

Revelation 5:9 > “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art _____ to take the _____, and to _____ the _____ thereof: ___ thou wast _____, and hast _____ us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;”

NOTE: God tells us the exact reasons why we should worship Him. He created us and also redeemed us. These are the precise reasons why our worship should not be devoted to other things or other people. Because God is the only one who created us and is the only one who redeemed us.

- 2) What is at the center of the last warning that is to be given to the world?

Revelation 14:6-7 > “And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and _____ him that _____ heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.”

NOTE: The last warning message that is to be given is a message that has many components. The central message of this warning is to worship God because He is the Creator. In other words, it is a message to call people back to true worship and away from false worship. Therefore, it should not be a great surprise to us if the majority of the world has bought into a system that seeks to legitimize false worship as true worship.

- 3) When did God institute worship, and how was He to be worshipped?

Genesis 2:1-3 > “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the _____ ___ God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the _____ ___ from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the _____ ___, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.”

NOTE: When a group of people want to memorialize someone or something a common thing they do is to erect an exhibit of some sort. This could take the form of a monument or a statue. But, God did not erect a statue or some other physical, tangible entity, but rather He set aside a whole 24 hour period of time to remind

us of our lofty origin and who our Creator is. Did you know that if the Sabbath was kept correctly by human beings since the beginning of time that there would be no atheists today? You see, the Sabbath day is all about God's creative act in the beginning and His overwhelming willingness to create something new in our hearts in the present.

- 4) What noble origin does the human race have?

Genesis 1:26 > "And God said, Let us make man in ____ ____, after ____ ____: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; ____ and ____ created he them.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be ____, and ____, and ____ the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

NOTE: We are not descendants of primates, nor the result of an ancient cosmic accident. We have royal blood coursing through our veins because we are sons and daughters of the King! We were made in the very image of God with the insatiable desire to be creative and even procreative. This is something that the devil and his fallen angels can not do, and of this they are extremely envious. This is one reason why they hate the human race so much.

- 5) Who was the Sabbath made for?

Mark 2:27-28 > "And he said unto them, The Sabbath was made for ____, and not ____ for the Sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath."

NOTE: The Sabbath was not created exclusively for the Jew, but for man. God had the whole human race in mind when He created the Sabbath day. It is a day of delight. It is a day of ceasing from our own secular pursuits, a day of resting in the presence of God. It is a day of contemplation as we think about His loveliness of Character and a day of going for walks in nature and enjoying the things which He has made. It is the best day of the week, a holiday every single week!

- 6) What is God's sign to His people?

Exodus 31:13 > "Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a ____ between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth ____ you."

Ezekiel 20:12 > "Moreover also I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a ____

between me and them, that they might know that I *am* the LORD that _____ them.”

NOTE: People everywhere are seeking some sign from God. And here it is – the Sabbath. It is God’s sign to His people that He is in the process of sanctifying them. It is refreshing to know that we, by our own sheer willpower, cannot make ourselves holy. It is God who is in the business of making us holy. Not us. In the same way that God set apart the Sabbath in the beginning as holy, He, in like manner, wants to separate believers for Himself. But it goes deeper than just this. In the original language of these verses the definition for the word for ‘sign’ is ‘a distinguishing mark’. I find that very interesting. So, we can safely deduct that God’s mark is the Sabbath. There is another mark mentioned in Revelation called, “The mark of the beast”. We will be studying this mark in the near future.

7) Which day did Jesus keep holy?

Luke 4:16 > “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his _____ was, he went into the synagogue on the _____, and stood up for to read.”

NOTE: The day that Jesus kept holy was the Sabbath. This was not something Jesus did occasionally, but this was His custom.

8) What startling prophecy did Jesus make concerning the Sabbath?

Matthew 24:20 > “But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the _____ day:”

NOTE: Here Jesus is warning His disciples about the impending doom of Jerusalem 39 years in the future. Within the warning He says, “Pray that your flight be not in the winter, nor on the Sabbath day.” Why would Jesus warn not to flee on the Sabbath Day if the Sabbath Day was to be abolished after He died on the cross? He wouldn’t. In other words, the Sabbath Day was never abolished because He warned them to pray that they would not have to flee on that day. So, if someone tells you that the Sabbath was abolished after the cross, he doesn’t know what Jesus taught on this subject.

9) Which day did Paul keep holy?

Acts 18:1-4 > “After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. And he reasoned in the synagogue _____, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.”

NOTE: Every Sabbath Paul persuaded the Jews and Greeks. In other words, Jews and Gentiles.

10) Is there anywhere else in the Bible where God says that Gentiles kept the Sabbath?

Acts 13:42-44 > “And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the _____ besought that these words might be preached to them the _____. Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.”

NOTE: This is after the cross, and we see the Gentiles, once again, are keeping the Sabbath. If, indeed, there is a new Sabbath after the cross, this would have been the perfect opportunity for Paul and Barnabas to say, “You don’t have to worry about the Old Jewish Sabbath, you can keep the New Sabbath—the first day of the week, because Jesus rose on that day!” But neither Paul nor Barnabas said such thing. Why? Because God will not change His law. The Sabbath of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the Sabbath of Jesus, Paul and the rest of the disciples. Hebrews 13:8, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

11) What day is the Lord’s Day?

Revelation 1:10 > “I was in the Spirit on the _____, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,”

Matthew 12:8 > “For the Son of man is Lord even of the _____ day.”

Mark 2:27-28 > “And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the _____.”

Luke 6:5 > “And he said unto them, That the Son of man is Lord also of the _____.”

NOTE: The Sabbath of the Creator God in Genesis is the Lord’s Day of Revelation. Therefore the Lord’s Day is the Sabbath Day.

12) How can we be sure which day is the Sabbath?

Luke 23:54-56/Luke 24:1 > “And that day was the _____, and the _____ drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulcher, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the _____ day according to the commandment. Now upon the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher, bringing the spices

which they had prepared, and certain *others* with them.”

NOTE: This passage makes it very clear on which day the Sabbath is. The Preparation Day is what many people today celebrate as Good Friday. The day that follows Friday is Saturday. That is the day the women from Galilee kept holy according to the commandment. The day that follows the Sabbath is Sunday and that is the day Jesus came forth from the tomb a conqueror. So let's look at this again:

FRIDAY = Jesus died
SATURDAY = Jesus rested in the tomb
SUNDAY = Jesus was resurrected

So, the Sabbath is Saturday. There is no way around this one.

13) Which day will the redeemed be keeping in heaven?

Isaiah 66:22-23 > “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one _____ to another, shall _____ come to _____ before me, saith the LORD.”

NOTE: Here is a question to consider – Would it make sense if all the patriarchs in the Old Testament, Jesus, all the disciples and the redeemed in heaven will be keeping the Sabbath and we, now on earth would be keeping another day? Today, it is widely taught that we should not keep the seventh day. This is flawed reasoning. In heaven we will be keeping it. God does not change! From the beginning of the creation of the earth, through the ceaseless ages we will be keeping the Sabbath of the Lord, the Seventh-day, Saturday.

IS IT YOUR DESIRE...

Since God does not change, and His day of worship does not change, would you like to begin tasting the blessedness of spending the Sabbath with God, even if it may appear to be inconvenient? Yes or No