

# ***BOWING TO BABYLON***

## **BIBLE REFERENCE GUIDE #8**

The Bible describes a final message that goes out to the world before Jesus returns. The message clearly identifies that the final war will be over worship.

- Daniel 3** Three Hebrew boys took a stand for true worship and refused to bow to Babylon even when persecuted. The same test will come at the end of time.
- Rev. 14:6–14** Three angels declare that we are to worship the Creator, not bow to Babylon, and beware that whoever worships the beast and his image will suffer eternal judgment.
- Genesis 2:1–3** God is the Creator of the world and established the 7th-day Sabbath to recognize His role as Creator.
- Mark 2:27** The Sabbath was made for man (all mankind), not only for the Jews.
- Psalms 111:2–4** He made His works to be remembered, and the Sabbath commandment in His law begins with the word “remember.”
- Exodus 20:8–11** The fourth commandment regarding the Sabbath.
- Ezekiel 20:12, 20** The Sabbath is a special sign between God and His people.
- Revelation 1:10** What day is the “Lord’s Day”?
- Matthew 12:8** He is “Lord” of the Sabbath day and the commandment itself says it is “the Sabbath of the Lord.”
- James 2:10–12** If we purposely break one commandment, we are guilty of breaking all.
- Matthew 5:17–27** Jesus shows us the eternalness and spirituality of the moral law.
- Luke 16:17** It is easier for heaven and earth to pass than one tittle of the law to fail.
- Luke 23:54–24:1** Again, the Christian Sabbath is the 7th-day—Saturday.
- Mark 15:42–16:1** This passage confirms again which day of the week is the true Sabbath.
- John 15:10** Jesus kept His Father’s commandments and asks us to also.
- Luke 4:16** Jesus had a custom of worshipping every Sabbath.  
**1 John 2:3–6** We ought to walk as Jesus walked.
- Matt. 24:15–20** Jesus looked prophetically into the future to the destruction of Jerusalem and asked His disciples to still be honoring the 7th-day Sabbath.
- Luke 23:54–56** After Jesus’ death, they rested on the Sabbath “according to the commandment.”

- Acts 13:14** Paul and his company worshipped on the Sabbath day. They not only worshipped with the Jews but with the Gentiles also on the Sabbath (vs. 42-44).
- Acts 16:12, 13** Paul and the early church kept the Sabbath while in the countryside.
- Acts 18:4** He reasoned in the church every Sabbath. This was Paul's custom (Acts 17:2).
- Acts 20:27** Paul said he declared all the counsel of God, but never mentioned that the Sabbath was changed to Sunday.
- Hebrews 4:1-11** There remains a "rest" to the people of God. Greek— "the keeping of a Sabbath" (vs. 9 margin).
- Psalms 43:3** The purpose of God sending us "Light and Truth" is that they should lead us.

### **WHICH DAY IS THE REAL BIBLE SABBATH?**

#### ***JESUS ...***

- John 15:10** ... kept the commandments.
- Luke 4:16** ... worshipped regularly on the Sabbath.
- Matthew 24:20** ... asked His disciples to honor it in the future after He left this earth.

#### ***THE BIBLE SAYS ...***

- Genesis 2:1-3** In the beginning God made the Sabbath, rested, blessed, and hallowed it.
- Exodus 16:26-30** Israel honored the Sabbath. (NOTE: This was before Mt. Sinai when God wrote the law in stone—showing its origin was not in Moses' law and was not only for the Jews, but for all mankind. It existed from the beginning.)
- Acts 18:4; 16:12, 13** That the early Christian church kept the Sabbath.
- Isaiah 66:22, 23** We will continue keeping the Sabbath in heaven.

#### ***GOD'S LAW ...***

- Exodus 20:8-11** ... teaches it very clearly.
- Matthew 15:8, 9** Jesus says we can worship in vain if we follow the traditions of men and not truth.

## **SUPPLEMENT**

### **ONLY EIGHT NEW TESTAMENT TEXTS MENTION THE FIRST DAY**

- John 20:19** On the day of the resurrection, the disciples were assembled in fear. Matt. 28:12–15 may give insight as to why.
- 1 Cor. 16:1, 2** Paul instructed the people on the first day to “lay by him in store” (Greek: “storing”). Moffat’s translation says “at home.” Paul here actually asks them to work on the first day (Sunday) storing up the things they collected for the saints in Jerusalem who were in need (Rom. 15:26; Acts 11:26-30).
- Acts 20:6–12** Paul preached a Saturday evening service (after sundown), thus it was the *first day* (the Bible teaches that a new day begins at sundown). He ate, talked, and when the sun came up Sunday morning, he walked all day to catch his ship. He definitely did not keep Sunday sacred.
- Luke 23:34–24:1** This was written 35 years after Jesus’ resurrection. Luke, a gentile, still refers to the day as the Sabbath in the present tense and not as if it had somehow passed away.
- Mark 16:1, 2**  
**Mark 16:9**  
**John 20:1**  
**Matthew 28:1** All mention the first day, Sunday, as coming after the seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday).

### **THE RISE OF FIRST-DAY KEEPING**

- 2Thess. 2:3, 4, 7** Paul foresaw the rise of the Antichrist, who would try to be even above God and said this power was already working.
- Daniel 7:25** This power would think to change God’s laws.
- Mark 7:7–9, 13** We worship in vain if we follow tradition.
- Isaiah 58:12–14** God prophesied that His people would “repair the breach” of error and get back to their Sabbath-keeping foundation and keep His day holy.
- Ezekiel 22:26–28** Satan deceives people into attempting to fix this breach in God’s law with “untempered mortar” saying, “Thus saith the Lord when the Lord has not spoken!” Verse 26 tells why.
- John 3:19–21** God never condemns sincere people in darkness. He only condemns those who choose to remain in darkness once the light of truth has come.
- Acts 5:29** “We ought to obey God rather than men.”