

THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK IN THE NEW TESTAMENT –FD

The first day of the week is mentioned eight times in the New Testament. If there is any proof for the keeping of the first day of the week, Sunday, it will be found in connection with these texts which mention the first day of the week. We will examine each of these texts in this lesson.

1FD – Mark 16:9. This text says that Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, but there is not one word to the effect that anybody should keep the first day of the week as a holy day because Jesus arose that day.

2FD – Mark 16:1-2. AFTER THE SABBATH WAS PAST, the women came to the tomb early in the morning on the first day of the week.

3FD – Matthew 28:1. This text in Matthew tells the same facts previously read. (NOTE: When the Bible was originally written, there was no division into chapters and verse, not even any punctuation. These were added after printing came into use about 1491. Some errors in punctuation and division came as a result of the human element. The phrase, “In the end of the Sabbath” rightly belongs to Matthew 27:66. For one of the errors in punctuation, see Acatu 19:12, “sick handkerchiefs”.)

4FD – Luke 23:54-56, 24:1. The women came to the tomb on the first day of the week, Sunday, to embalm the body of Jesus, SOMETHING THEY WOULD NOT DO ON THE SEVENTH DAY, SATURDAY.

5FD – John 20:1. Mary Magdalene came to the tomb before sunrise on the first day.

6FD – John 20:19. The evening of the same day that Jesus arose, He appeared to His disciples to convince them that He was risen from the dead. The disciples did not meet on that Sunday evening of the day that Jesus arose to honor His resurrection, BECAUSE THEY DID NOT BELIEVE THAT HE WAS RISEN, and so Christ had come to convince them that He was alive (Mark 6:9-13). They had assembled to eat their evening meal, Mark 16:14. The fact that these six texts mention the first day of the week as the day on which Jesus rose, and yet do not say one word about the first day of the week becoming a holy day at that time in honor of our Lord’s resurrection, proves that the first day of the week was never appointed as a holy day by the Lord Jesus Christ. Three of these texts show that God’s holy day, the Sabbath, the day that we ought to keep, was the day which came just before the first day of the week.

7FD – John 20:26-28. The second meeting of Jesus with the disciples after He had arisen was not to honor any day of the week, but to convince Thomas of His resurrection..

8FD – 1 Corinthians 16:1,2. This was not an order for a public collection at church, but a private laying by at home on the first day of each week of something for the poor saints at Jerusalem which Paul was to gather up when he came to Corinth.

9FD – Acts 20:7. This is merely the record of an incidental and farewell meeting that Paul held with the Christians at Troas. There is a positive proof in the book of acts that the first day of the week did not take the place of the seventh day as God's holy day. In eight different places, from 13 to 23 years after Christ's resurrection, the book of Acts plainly refers to the seventh day, the identical day on which the Jews met to worship, as THE Sabbath day. Acts 13:14,27,42,44; 15:21; 16:13; 17:1-3; 18:4. The book of Acts COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS THESE EIGHT TIMES IF THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK HAD TAKEN THE PLACE OF THE SEVENTH.

10FD – I Corinthians 11:26. Jesus No one needs to keep Friday to honor our Lord's crucifixion on that day, because the Lord's Supper is the divinely appointed way to commemorating the Savior's death.

11FD – Colossians 2:12. No one needs to keep Sunday to honor Christ's resurrection on that day, because BAPTISM IS GOD'S MEMORIAL OF THE RESURRECTION.

12FD – Matthew 15:13. God never planted Sunday; the first day of the week, as a holy day; therefore, it is certainly to be rooted up someday.