

WHY WE DO NOT OBSERVE THE SABBATH DAY

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The word "Sabbath" means rest. While some today observe the Sabbath on the seventh day of the week (e.g., Seventh Day Adventist), members of the church of Jesus Christ do not. Why is this the case? Consider and study the following scriptural reasons:

The Sabbath Day command was in the covenant given to the nation of Israel at Mt. Sinai – *"And Moses called all Israel, and said to them: 'Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your hearing today, that you may learn them and be careful to observe them. The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb [Sinai]. The Lord did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive'"* (Deuteronomy 5:1-3). Moses then reviewed the Ten Commandments, one of which was to observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy (vv. 12-15). The purpose for this command was so that the nation of Israel might *"remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day"* (v. 15). The Sabbath command was given to a specific people for a specific purpose at a specific time. It was not given to us today who are under a new covenant.

The Old Covenant (Law) of Moses passed away – Concerning the end of the Law of Moses, Paul wrote that Christ has *"wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross"* (Colossians 2:14). He then concludes, *"Therefore let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon **or sabbaths**"* (v. 16). The Sabbath day command was taken out of the way. We are no longer obligated to keep it. Why return to that old covenant (Galatians 3-5)?

There is no authority in the law of Christ to keep the Sabbath day – No command or example authorizes us to keep the Sabbath. We follow the doctrine of Christ, not Moses.