

"Question: Is the observance of Sunday as the day of rest a matter clearly laid down in Scripture?"

"Answer: It certainly is not; and yet all Protestants consider the observance of this particular day as essentially necessary to salvation. To say we observe the Sunday because Christ rose from the dead on that day, is to say we act without warrant of Scripture; and we might as well say that we should rest on Thursday, because Christ ascended to heaven on that day, and rested in reality from the work of redemption" ("The Controversial Catechism," p 160, by Stephen Keenan, Burns & Oates, London, 1896 edition).

"Question: Have you any other way of proving that the Church has power to institute festivals of precept?"

"Answer: Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her—she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day—a change for which there is no Scriptural authority" (Ibid, pp 124, 125).

"You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorising the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we [Catholics] never sanctify" ("The Faith of Our Fathers", p 89, by James Cardinal Gibbons, James Murphy Company, New York, 1917).

"Protestants often deride the authority of Church tradition, and claim to be directed by the Bible only; yet they, too, have been guided by the customs of the ancient Church, which find no warrant in the Bible, but rest on Church tradition only! A striking instance of this is the following: The first positive command in the Decalogue is to 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy', and this precept was enforced by the Jews for thousands of years. But the Sabbath day, the observance of which God commanded, was our Saturday. Yet who among either Catholics or Protestants, except a sect or two, like the 'Seventh Day Baptists', ever keep that commandment now? None. Why is this? The Bible which Protestants claim to obey exclusively, gives no authorisation for the substitution of the first day of the week for the seventh. On what authority, therefore, have they done so? Plainly on the authority of that very Catholic Church which they abandoned and whose traditions they condemn" ("Rebuilding a Lost Faith", p 80, by John L. Stoddard, P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York, 1922).

"What Bible authority is there for changing the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week? Who gave the Pope authority to change a command of God? If the Bible is the only guide for the Christian, then the Seventh-day Adventist is right in observing the Saturday with the Jew . . . Is it not strange that those who make the Bible their only teacher should inconsistently follow in this matter the tradition of the Church?" ("The Question Box Answers", p 179, by Bertrand L. Conway, With a preface by Cardinal Gibbons, The Paulist Press, New York, 1923).

"Question: Which is the Sabbath day?"

"Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath.

"Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?"

"Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 336) transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday" ("The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine", p 50, by Peter Geiermann, London, 1934. Sanctioned by the Vatican, Jan. 25, 1910).