

"The Jews' Sabbath Day was Saturday; we Christians keep Sunday holy. The Church, by the power our Lord gave her, changed the observance of Saturday to Sunday.

"A word about Sunday. God said: 'Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day!' The Sabbath was Saturday, not Sunday; why, then, do we keep Sunday holy instead of Saturday? The Church altered the observance of the Sabbath to the observance of Sunday . . . Protestants who say that they go by the Bible and the Bible only, and that they do not believe anything that is not in the Bible, must be rather puzzled by the keeping of Sunday when God distinctly said, 'Keep holy the Sabbath day'. The word Sunday does not come anywhere in the Bible so, without knowing it, they are obeying the authority of the Catholic Church" ("The Catechism Simply Explained", p 89, by H. Canon Cafferata. Burns Oates & Washbourne Ltd., London, 1938).

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"Now, as we have shown, the law of Sunday observance is not an immutable decree of God, but a law of our own making. The same factors (Christian law and custom) which fashioned, phrased and interpreted it to suit the needs of the sixth century, can, if need be, refashion or reinterpret it to meet the special needs of today" (Article, "Sunday is not the Sabbath", by Lawrence L. McReavy, p 58, "The Australian Catholic Digest", Sept., 1941. Published by the Advocate Press, Melbourne, Australia).

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"In the year A.D. 321, the Roman Emperor Constantine decreed that the first day of the week, Sunday, was to be observed as a civic day of rest from ordinary work and business. That did not impose any obligations of religious observance upon Christians. But in A.D. 336 the Catholic Church, at the Council of Laodices, made the ecclesiastical law obliging the faithful to attend Mass and to abstain from servile work on Sundays" (pp 23, 24, Roman Catholic Tract entitled "Seventh-day Adventists", by Dr. L. Rumble).

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"The word, 'Sabbath', means rest, and is Saturday, the seventh day of the week.

"Why, then, do Christians observe Sunday instead of the day mentioned in the Bible? In order to make clear to the Jews that they are no longer under the Old Law of Moses, with its requirements of circumcision, abstinence from certain meats, and the scrupulous observance of the Jewish sacrifice on the Sabbath, but under the New Law of Christ, the infant Church changed the day to be kept holy from Saturday to Sunday.

"But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn't it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the Church, observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course, it is inconsistent; but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed. They have continued the custom, even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away—like a boy running away from home but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother, or a lock of her hair" ("The Faith of Millions", pp 543, 544, by John A. O'Brien (with a preface by Cardinal Griffin). W. H. Allen, London, 1958. First cheap edition).

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"One practice we have, which Protestants observe, and there is not a word about it in the Bible—that is the keeping of Sunday holy.

"The Bible tells us to keep Saturday holy. The change was made by Christian tradition dating back to the time of the Apostles. But not one of them said a single word about making the change, when writing the New Testament" ("Commentary on the Catechism", p 88, by W. Freen, "Majellan" Office, Redemptorist Fathers, Ballarat, Vic. Printed in Australia, 1959. Foreword by His Eminence, Cardinal Gilroy).