



"The Churches of God Outreach Ministries provides leadership, information, and biblical teaching in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Matthew 28:19-20"

1-800-611-8080 / www.cgom.org
PO Box 54621, Tulsa, OK 74155-0621

Mini Study

Other Days

Take heed to yourself that you not be snared to follow [other forms of worship or beliefs] ... and that you not inquire after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? And I shall do so, even I. You shall not do so to Jehovah your God; for everything hateful to Jehovah, which He detests, they have done to their gods.... All the things that I command you, take heed to do them and you shall not add to it, nor take away from it (Deuteronomy 12:30-32).

- The kaleidoscopic variety of religious belief in our world is confusing to men or women seeking a right way for themselves. With Pilate, they may just give up and ask '**What is truth?**' (Ref John 18:38).
- Logically, unless we subscribe to a pantheon of gods each competing variously for man's attention, then 'God' must surely be consistent. The Christian Scriptures agree and claim: '*God is not the author of confusion [disorder]*' (Ref 1 Cor. 14:33 KJV). So we might ask ourselves why the confusion as to *when* to worship Him.
- Christians lay claim to Sunday for weekly worship. In Judaism it is the seventh day and in Islam it's Friday.
- Now add in the many annual '*feast days:*' Christmas, Easter, Ramadan, Eid, the Hindu Divali *etc etc*. Each festival has significance for each faith. But is God - the One supreme Creator God - happy with all of them? Are all these '*other days*' perfectly acceptable to Him?
- Consider how '*religion*' began. Every faith recognizes mankind has gone astray - hence the universally recognized need for a '*way back to God.*' [Evolutionists and atheists close your eyes here.] The one Creator God revealed that way - *one* way. Peter, inspired, recognized this same concept. (Acts 4:12)
- But humanity came to ignore this one way and set about devising variable paths. As they dispersed around the world new religions were spawned. By the first century of our era those who followed that '*one way*' recognized that '*...the things the nations sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God.*' (I Corinthians 10:20) All worship not derived from the Creator's revelation is vain, futile, and is an affront to God.
- Careful study, even of '*heathen*' practice, reveals that the first directive from the Creator relating to worship days is a memorial of creation: the weekly *seventh-day Sabbath*. (Genesis 2:1-3) Indeed we owe the seven-day weekly cycle solely to this divine directive: the notion of a '*week*' relates directly neither to the sun nor to the moon but to divine fiat [atheists please note].
- Given that the creation of mankind is not a mindless random act but part of God's grand design, it would be surprising if the all-powerful Creator left us without guidelines for His plans. But He has so provided. Built into the very structure of the heavens is a prophetic pattern on which is based a series of annual worship days: '*And God said, Let luminaries be in the expanse of the heavens, to divide between the day and the night. And*

Other Days

let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years. (Genesis 1:14) 'Seasons' - Heb *moed*: the word means a fixed time, appointment, festival, assembly, place of meeting.

- These '*moeds*' are based on the annual round of harvests. '*These are the set feasts of Jehovah, even holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their appointed season [Heb moed].*' (Leviticus 23:4 ASV) God proceeds to outline these festivals, each on its appointed time in spring, summer, autumn. Note that Moses, on God's instruction, sought leave from Pharaoh - before the Exodus took place - to take the nation to observe a feast (Exodus 5:1) - a time Pharaoh (v.5) perceived as a '*rest*' (Heb *shabath*).
- We don't have to read far into the New Testament to discover that Jesus, his apostles and the early Christians - both Jew and Gentile - continued to weekly observe the seventh day, alongside the annual festivals. Early on, the church abandoned these festivals - including the 7th day Sabbath - absorbing the culture and religious practices (*e.g.* Easter, Christmas, Sunday, saints' days) of the surrounding heathen religions.

Request the - free - explanatory booklets and articles:

God's Holy Days
Why Observe Sunday
A Framework for Prophecy

they may also be viewed or downloaded at www.cgom.org

(All Scripture references are LITV unless otherwise noted.)

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