

You'd Better Get Ready:

SERMON:

"The Change of the Sabbath"

Pastor Henry M. Wright
March 1, 2008

⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
⁹Six days shalt thou labor, and do all they work.
¹⁰But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor they son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor they maid servant, nor they cattle, nor they stranger that is within they gates.
¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day, wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Exodus 20:8-11

“It is quite clear that, however rigidly or devotedly we may spend Sunday, we are not keeping the Sabbath...The Sabbath was founded on a specific, Divine command. We can plead no such command for the obligation to observe Sunday.”

(The Ten Commandments, pp 127-129, Dr. R. Dale, British Congregationalist)

SUNDAY

**“the first day of the week:
It is observed by most
Christian denominations as
a day of worship or as the
Sabbath.”**

SATURDAY

“The seventh and last day of the week.”

(Webster's New World Dictionary, 2nd ed., pp. 1427,
1266)

**“...the seventh day is the
Sabbath of the Lord thy
God...”**

Exodus 20:9

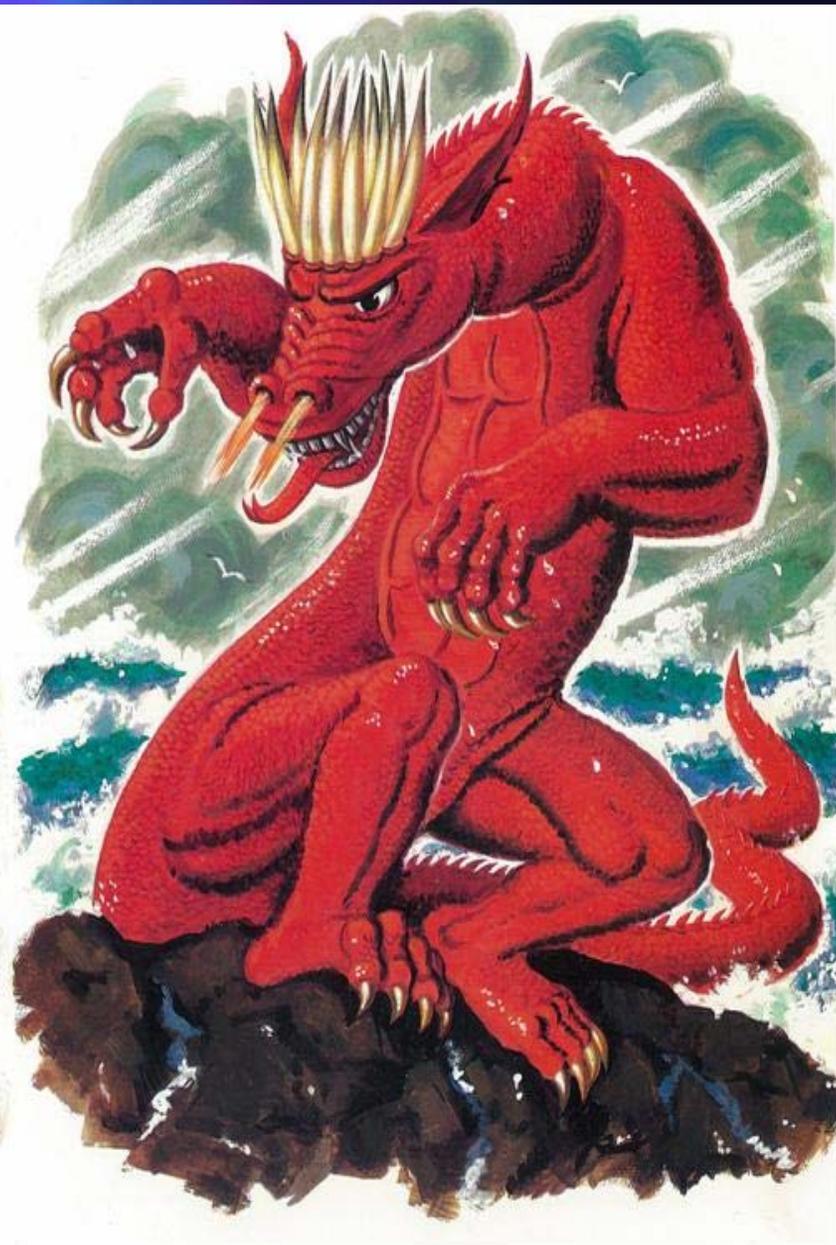
And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

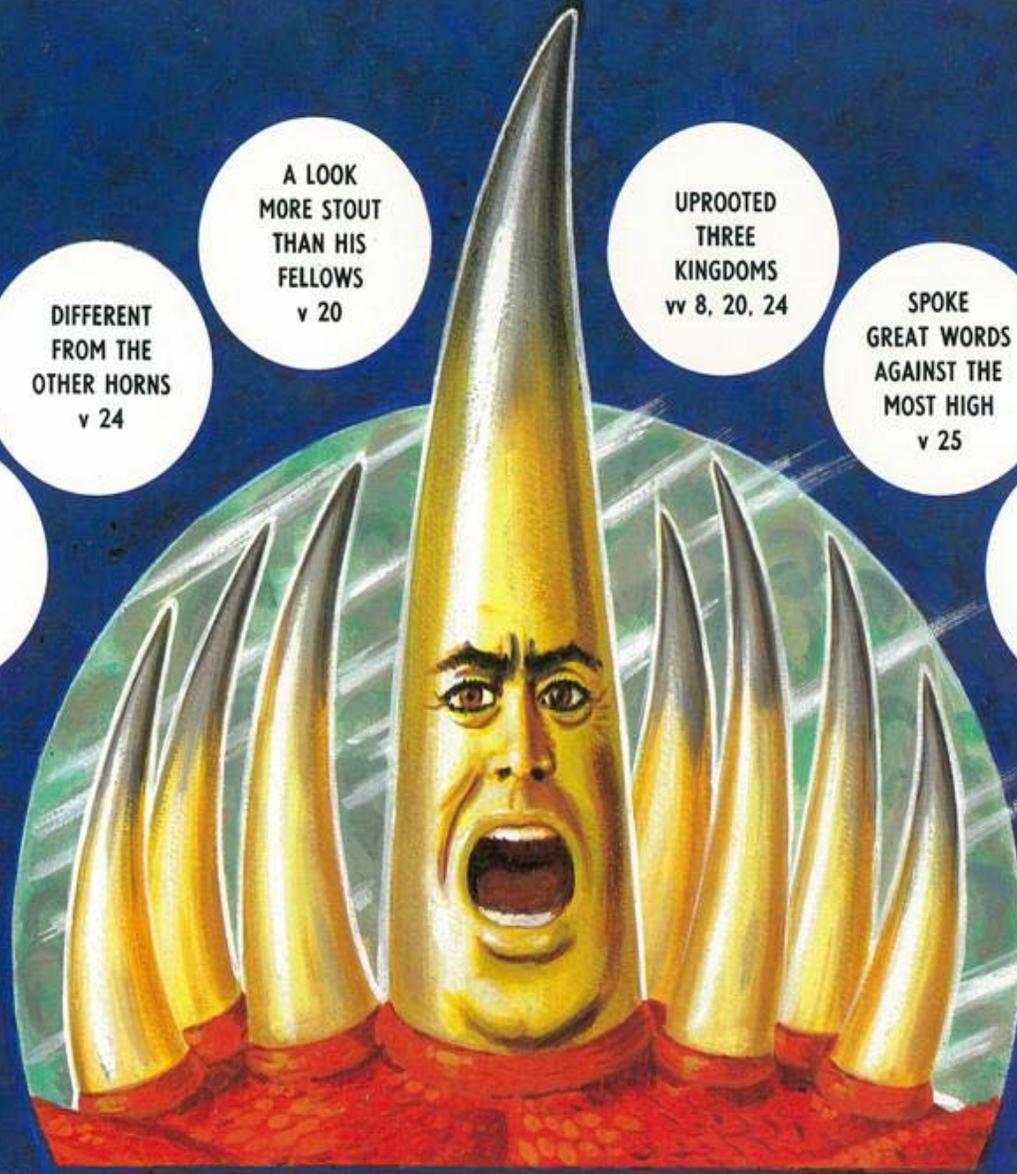
Daniel 7:25

**Remember the sabbath day,
to keep it holy.**

Exodus 20:8







A LOOK
MORE STOUT
THAN HIS
FELLOWS
v 20

UPROOTED
THREE
KINGDOMS
vv 8, 20, 24

SPOKE
GREAT WORDS
AGAINST THE
MOST HIGH
v 25

WORE
OUT THE
SAINTS OF THE
MOST HIGH
v 25

THOUGHT
TO CHANGE
TIMES AND
LAWS
v 25

REIGNED
FOR A TIME,
TIMES, AND THE
DIVIDING
OF TIME
v 25

DIFFERENT
FROM THE
OTHER HORNS
v 24

AFTER
THE TEN
HORNS
v 24

AMONG
THE TEN
HORNS
v 8

AROSE
OUT OF
THE FOURTH
BEAST
vv 7, 8

THE "LITTLE HORN"

DANIEL:

- 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, [and] told the sum of the matters.
- 7:2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.
- 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

DANIEL:

- 7:4 The first [was] like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.
- 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and [it had] three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

DANIEL:

- 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

DANIEL:

- 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it [was] diverse from all the beasts that [were] before it; and it had ten horns.

DANIEL:

- 7:8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

DANIEL:

- 7:15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of [my] body, and the visions of my head troubled me.
- 7:16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

DANIEL:

- 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, [are] four kings, [which] shall arise out of the earth.

1. Lion is the kingdom of Babylon.
2. The bear is the kingdom of Medo Persia.
3. The Leopard is the kingdom of Greece.
4. The last beast is Rome which all history books agree is the nation which succeeded Greece in the domination of the Mediterranean world.
5. The horns of this last beast are also kingdoms.

DANIEL:

- 7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

DANIEL:

- 7:25 And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

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“The Roman Catholic Church reversed the Fourth Commandment by doing away with the Sabbath of God’s word, and instituting Sunday as a holiday.”

**(N. Summerbell, *History of the Christian Church*,
p.415)**

"They [the Catholics] allege the change of the Sabbath into the Lord's day, contrary, as it seemeth, to the Decalogue...They will needs have the church's power to be very great, because it hath dispensed with a precept of the Decalogue."

(Augsburg Confession(Lutheran), *The creeds of Christendom*, vol.3, p.64)

"And where are we told in the Scriptures that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day...the reasons why we keep the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the church has enjoined it."

(Isaac Williams, *Plain Sermons on the Catechism*,
vol.1 , pp.334,336)

"The pope is of so great authority and power that he can modify, explain or interpret divine laws...The pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man but of God, and he acts viceregent of God upon earth."

(Translated from Lucius Ferraris, *Prompta Bibliotheca*, part 2)

**“It pleased the church of God,
that the religious celebration
of the Sabbath day should be
transferred to the Lord’s day.”**

Catechism of the Council of Trent, by order of
Pope Pius V, 1566

**“The Catholic Church...by
virtue of her divine mission,
changed the day from
Saturday to Sunday.”**

The Catholic Mirror, September 23, 1893

1. "Is Saturday the 7th day according to the Bible & the 10 Commandments? I answer yes
2. Is Sunday the first day of the week & did the Church change the 7th day- Saturday-for Sunday, the 1st day? I answer yes.
3. Did Christ change the day? I answer no"

(Cardinal Gibbons, Autograph letter)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AS ORIGINALLY GIVEN BY GOD

(Exodus 20 : 3-17)

- I
Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
- II
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth : thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them : for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and keep showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments.
- III
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.
- IV
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God : in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- V
Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
- VI
Thou shalt not kill.
- VII
Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- VIII
Thou shalt not steal.
- IX
Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- X
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS *AS COMMONLY ABBREVIATED IN ROMAN CATHOLIC CATECHISMS

"He shall think himself able to change times and laws."
Daniel 7:25 (Douay Version.)

- I
I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before Me.
- II
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
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- X
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's goods.

*Such as Keenan's and Geiermann's in English. The two vernacular catechisms here quoted and many more like them, bear the imprimatur of bishops of the Church and are used for teaching the laity.

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- **Revelation 22:18,19**
- **Acts 4:29**
- **Acts 17:30**
- **James 4:17**
- **Hebrews 8:10**