

April 4, 2021

Resurrection Sunday: The Lord's Day

On Palm Sunday, Jesus came riding into Jerusalem to the shout, "*Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Hosanna in the highest!'"* in fulfillment of prophecy from **Zech 9:9** and **Isa 62:11** and **Ps 118:25**.

Matt 21:1-11 ...*All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: 5 "Tell the **daughter of Zion**, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'"*

John 12:15 "*Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt.*"

Zech 9:9, **Isa 62:11** and **Ps 118:25** are not only prophecies of the first coming of Christ, **but also the second**. The Lord's Day is His Sabbath, His rest, His peace, His victory over death, Hell and the grave as He gives us new life of the new day. The day our Messiah returns is known as "The Day of the Lord" and He will come as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The resurrection of Jesus was on a Sunday, the first day of the week. This was not a coincidence, this was intentional. The Jews worship on Saturday which is the Jewish Sabbath or the 7th Day Sabbath. The Christians worship on Sunday (for the most part). Sunday is considered the Christian Sabbath or the 1st Day Sabbath.

Acts 20:7 *On the **first day of the week** we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.*

1 Cor 16:1-3 *Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. 2 On the **first day of every week**, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

John 20:19-20 *On the evening of that **first day of the week**, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.*

Rev 1:10-11 *I was in the Spirit on the **Lord's Day**, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, 11 saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."*

LORD'S DAY: "The day of the Lord" (namely, of His second advent: 1:Cor. Rom 1:8; 5:5; 2 Cor 1:14; 1 Thess 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10) is distinct from "**the Lord's day**" **which in the ancient church designated Sunday**. The visions of the seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven vials, naturally begin on the first day of the seven, the birthday of the church whose future they set forth (Wordsworth). In A.D. 321 Constantine expressed the feeling of all his Christian subjects by enjoining that "all judges, and the civic population, and workshops of artisans should rest on the venerable day of the Sun." The council of Nicea (A.D. 325) assume the universal acceptance of the obligation of the Lord's day, and only direct as to the posture of worshippers on it. **Christ's rising from the dead on the first day, to bring in the new creation, is the ground of transference of the sabbath from the seventh day.** (from Fausset's Bible Dictionary, Electronic Database Copyright © 1998, 2003, 2006 by Biblesoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)

Nelson's Bible Dictionary: The phrase the Lord's Day occurs only once in the New Testament, in Rev 1:10, where John declared, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day." In Asia Minor, where the churches to which John wrote were situated, the pagans celebrated the first day of each month as the Emperor's Day. Some scholars also believe that a day of the week was also called by this name. When the early Christians called the first day of the week the Lord's Day, this was a direct challenge to the emperor worship to which John refers so often in the Book of Revelation. **Such a bold and fearless testimony by the early Christians proclaimed that the Lord's Day belonged to the Lord Jesus Christ and not the emperor Caesar.** (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright © 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Mark 2:27-28 *And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."*

Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath be it Saturday or Sunday. We honor Jesus as Lord of the Sabbath when we honor His Sabbath and the best way to do that is by gathering together, being His ecclesia (church) as a family walking in love. Sometimes we may not "feel like" going to church, but this is Satan trying to steal you blessing. A true servant of Jesus Christ will come to church first and foremost to honor Jesus, then to serve others, then to receive the blessing of the Sabbath. We soon learn, the more we lay our lives down for others, the more we gain new life in us.

Heb 10:24-25 *And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

Resurrection: Strong's #386 *anastasis* (an-as-tas-is) a standing up again, raised to life again, rising again, a moral recovery of spiritual truth.

Phil 3:10-11 *that I may know Him and the **power of His resurrection**, and the **fellowship** of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

Fellowship: Strong's #2842 *koinonia* (koy-nohn-ee-ah) partnership, participation, communicate, communion, social intercourse.

Bread of Life

Jesus is the bread of life from Heaven. He tell us in **John 6:1-59** He is the real manna, the bread from Heaven. In this passage Jesus said 4x He is the **bread of life** and 4x He said whoever eats this bread, He will **raise him up** on the last day.

When we gather together on the Sabbath, the Lord's Day we fellowship, we communicate, we participate, we are in partnership with Jesus Christ as we receive Him as the Bread of Life from Heaven. As we do this He fills us with His resurrection power, the power to stand up again, to be raised and healed with new life, to receive spiritual truth strengthening our moral resolve. **This is the Lord's Day!**