

Buying, Selling and Working On The Sabbath ?

Christians – Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, or secular;
Jewish – Orthodox, Conservative, Reform or secular;
Muslims – Sunni, Sheite, Fundamentalist or secular;
Eastern Mystics – Humanitarians, Buddhist, Hindu, etc.
Liberalists, New Agers and neo-Pagan, etc.

And

The list goes on and on and on and on!

Of the above mentioned groups, how many will the LORD find even *trying* to keep the **Commandments, Laws and Statutes of God** as they are recorded in the Bible, when He comes to judge the earth? Unfortunately, at this time, the numbers would probably fall somewhere around one tenth of one percent. This number would be made up mostly of Orthodox and some Conservative Jews. A handful of Reform Jews, Sabbatarian Christians and some in the Modern Messianic Movements at least try to keep the Ten Commandments as well as some dietary laws. A few Sabbatarians also observe some of the Jewish annual Sabbaths and Festivals. However, they normally dismiss most of the other Laws, Ordinances and Statutes, lest (Heaven forbid!) they be mistaken for “Jews”.

Most of the inhabitants of this earth who claim to be members of the above-mentioned religious groups, at least generally speaking, believe they should keep the last **SIX** of The Ten Commandments whether or not they believe in the God of the Bible. However, if you were to compare the so-called three great “mono-theistic” religions, who claim to believe in the God of the Bible, you will find the vast majority of their theologians and practitioners have one major Commandment as a common stumbling block. The first **THREE** Commandments they are ok with. But, once again, it is the enigma . . . the **FOURTH Commandment** . . . which our Creator, so clandestinely stuck in close to the midst of His Commandments that causes so many problems, for so many people.

Islam claims to serve the God of the Bible, but its anti-Semitic followers could never deal with keeping the “Jewish Sabbath” even though the Seventh Day was ordained by God as His Sabbath, long before there were any Jews. Neither could they adopt the Christian Day, since they detest Christianity. The Muslims did however; follow the example previously set by the Roman Christians of moving their day off of the Jewish Sabbath Day by only one day. Islam thereby altered the Fourth Commandment by moving it to the left (on most calendars), making their day, one day earlier instead of one day later, as most of the Christian had done. **THE ISLAMIC**

Sabbath Day begins at sundown on Thursday and ends at sundown on Friday. At least they did not alter the beginning of their day, from sundown to midnight, as did the Gentiles Church.

While Islam veered off to the one side, most of Christianity swerved off to the other side. Observant Judaism and a very few Christians who still keep the Seventh Day Sabbath, are the only ones that have remained relatively stable theologically and in the center on this subject. It is also the only form of weekly Sabbath worship prescribed by THE ONE TRUE GOD, THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE, who is THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE. He is the same God that these other two “mono-Theists” Religions claim to serve. However those who seek to practice the Observances and Laws found in the Bible, (BECAUSE they truly LOVE their CREATOR) appear to be the “few” that have found their way down the “**narrow path**” and through the “**small gate**” described in Matthew 7:14 when Jesus was asked about how many people were being or would be saved.

Many people, especially Christians, are concerned about the number of individuals who will be saved in the last days. It is interesting to note that Jesus was not the first to explain how small the number was to be. In the Apocryphal book of 2^{ed} Esdras, the prophet Ezra asked God the same question. The answer he received was not the one he was looking for. God said when He gathers the redeemed; it will be like taking “**one grape out of a cluster... or one plant out of a forest... or one drop of water out of a wave...**” Since over half the earth’s population claims to be Christians; and over one third claim to be Muslims; and only about one tenth of one percent, or less, of that same population can be classified as observant Jews; what does God’s answer seem to indicate?

For centuries following the Protestant Reformation, nearly all of the new Christian Denominations tried to validate their belief that the Sabbath of God had been changed from Saturday to Sunday, and expressed this by not keeping their shops open on Sundays. This was the origin of the American Sunday Blue Laws, which were prevalent in most states in the United States, until the mid-1900’s. But even the best Christian lawyers could not support the premise of this mainstream Christian contention. They failed dismally, trying to prove that Sunday was the Sabbath Day, which they were commanded to keep by God in the Bible. It simply was not possible to prove from scripture. From Genesis to Revelation the Sabbath of God began at sundown on Friday night until sundown on Saturday night. Scripture leaves no room for misunderstanding or confusion on this point.

Just as it was in the beginning, so shall it be at the end. That which has been before, is that which will be again. There is nothing new under the sun. When the Accuser of the Brethren usually can not fool sincere Christians or Jews, into taking the bait he dangles in front of them on the hook ...adultery, perjury, theft, or coveting stuff... but when it comes to their job, or shopping, or traveling, or ball games, or social functions on Saturday... then that becomes a whole different “apple”. It is just too shiny and far too delicious looking; and besides, maybe that little deceptive voice whispering in their ear was right after all . . . maybe God didn’t really mean exactly what He said. What did He say, anyway?

Genesis 2:1-3

- (1) Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.

(2) And by the **SEVENTH DAY GOD COMPLETED HIS WORK WHICH HE HAD DONE; AND HE RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORK WHICH HE HAD DONE.**

(3) **THEN GOD BLESSED THE SEVENTH DAY AND SANCTIFIED IT, BECAUSE ON IT HE RESTED FROM ALL HIS WORK WHICH GOD HAD CREATED AND MADE.**

Exodus 20:8-11

(NIV)

(8) “remember the Sabbath day **by keeping it holy.**

(9) Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

(10) **but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.** On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.

(11) For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

(KJV)

(8) Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

(9) Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work:

(10) **But seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God:** in it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

(11) 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.

In the preceding two quotes you can see that it says that “you shall not do any WORK”. The word “Work” in English is translated from the Hebrew word, מלאכה – melakah. And in Hebrew it has more depth of meaning, than most people think of, when they think of work.

מלאכה – melakah = General employment or gain of property, acquired as the result of labor, business or occupation, which includes BUYING AND SELLING, or engaging in commerce.

There are more than eight other Hebrew words translated as “work” in the Hebrew Bible. Some words deal specifically with - the works of God, works of beaten metal, gold and silver works, handmade items, the works of man’s hands, and so forth. The word used in the Fourth Commandment, however, deals specifically with employment, commerce (Buying and Selling) as well as labor. The whole intent and purpose of the Sabbath of God was to make one day a week (the Seventh Day) completely different from the other six. Although most devout adherents to God’s Law are extremely industrious and in many cases they may even be work-a-holics six days a week, they still cease from all their work on the Sabbath. And even during the other six

days, they still make time to pray; in the morning after they get up, during the day, usually in the afternoon, and in the evening before retiring for the night. This tradition was established by God when He made the statement which is at the central core of the “**Traditional**” Jewish daily prayers, which is called the “**SHEMA**”.

THE SHEMA can refer to just the portion of Scripture in Deut. 6:4, while other times it may refer to the *Krait Shema* or READING OF THE SHEMA that includes three additional portions of Scripture. In that case, in addition to Deut. 6:4, it also includes Deut. 6:5-9 (*V'ahavta* – וְאַהֲבַתָּה), Deut. 11:13-21 (*V'haya* – וְהָיָה) and Num. 15:37-21 (*Vayomer* – וַיֹּאמֶר).

Deuteronomy 6:4 -7

(NIV)

- (4) Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.
 (5) Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.
 (6) These Commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

(KJV)

- (4) Hear O Israel, the LORD your God, the LORD is One.
 (5) And you shall love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
 (6) And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

It should be pointed out that it was only a few verses before this that God had just reaffirmed for the second time, the “Ten Commandments”. Most people are unaware that in Hebrew the term used for “The Ten Commandments” is **עֲשֵׂרֵת הַדְּבָרִים** – Asheret HaDvarim which literally means “Set of Ten **Words**”. And now God is telling them that “these Commandments” in the NIV translation and “these **Words**” in the KJV were to be upon and/or in their hearts.

- (7) Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

- (7) And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Then later in Deuteronomy 11:19 it once again speaks of “The Ten Commandments” or “Set of Ten Words”. Repeating, for emphases, that you are to teach them to your children!

Deuteronomy 11:19

(NIV)

- (19) Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

(KJV)

- (19) And ye shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

One of The Commandments that they were to be taught was “**to keep the SABBATH DAY Holy**”! We have seen the Fourth Commandment as it is set forth in Exodus chapter twenty. Yet, the second declaration of The Ten Commandments as was pointed out earlier is found just a few verses before the start of the Shema.

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

(NIV)

(12) “Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you.

(13) Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

(14) but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor the alien within your gates, so that your manservant and maidservant may rest, as you do.

(15) Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.

(KJV)

(12) Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

(13) Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

(14) 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, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.

(15) And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the Sabbath day.

The Sabbath Day was to be a day of rest. Being completely dedicated to God, The Sabbath Day was to be different than the other days of the week. One example is that the traditional Sabbath prayers are different from the week day prayers. Being a day in which they abstained from work there was added time for worshipping God, as well as additional time with the family. Providing an opportunity for teaching the children and grandchildren about God and how to worship and serve Him. Without the distractions of buying or selling that is a part of shopping and commerce. The Sabbath was to be unlike the rest of the week.

But most important of all, God declared that the observance of **HIS SABBATH**, according to **HIS DIRECTION**, was to be **THE SIGN OF HIS COVENANT RELATIONSHIP TO ALL MANKIND**. If a person claims to have a covenant relationship with the God of Creation, then what would that person be doing from sundown Friday to sundown on Saturday? How can any person be justified in their own mind, if they claim to believe that the weekly Sabbath of God was changed to Sunday or Friday, when they do not even honor those days as required by The Commandment of God? At least some devout Muslims do better at keeping Friday, according to the Law of God, than most Christians do at keeping Sunday.

Engaging in **ANY FORM OF COMMERCE** (Buying and/or Selling) as well as **Labor**, is specifically forbidden by The Commandment. It is forbidden, not only for the person who claims the covenant relationship to abstain from **Labor** and **Commerce**, but also for their

children, for their employees or servants, for any guest that resides with them, and even for their animals were to be allowed to abstain from **Labor** and from being used in **Commerce**. According to God, every time money changes hands or goods and services are exchanged, or people are employed for any type of profit on His Sabbath, HIS COVENANT IS BROKEN! Sadly people who believe they are in a sincere relationship with God, routinely, consistently and habitually (consciously or unconsciously) slay the Lamb of God on a weekly basis. There are only two choices... either we honor God on HIS DAY, according to HIS DIRECTION and HIS COMMANDMENTS, or we do it **OUR WAY, THE WAY WE WANT, THE WAY OUR TRADITIONS** have taught us.

The explicit wording within The Commandment itself leaves no room for excuses about financial needs, or the possibility that one may lose his or her job, or the social needs of a spouse or children, etc. It is no coincidence that the observance of this Commandment, especially in today's society, separates the true "**Covenant**" keepers from the rest of the Gentile world, quite visibly. As God said, it is the "**Sign**" of HIS COVENANT. So who needs to "See" this "Sign"?

If you answered, "The rest of the world", give yourself 100 points! It is when this sign of the Covenant is seen by others, that the sword of persecution is raised. As a wise Rabbi once said, concerning martyrdom and the seemingly eternal persecution of the Jews... it is truly easier to stand for a moment, and die for God, than it is to struggle through years of persecution, and live for God.

The only appropriate exceptions for breaking the Sabbath of God, deal with emergencies arising from acts of war or other types of violence. Also, any emergency arising concerning the health and welfare of people or animals are exempt from Sabbath restrictions. Actually, in an emergency situation (when someone's ox falls in a ditch), and you are able to help, but to refuse because it is the Sabbath, was considered a grave sin, according to God. But the key is, understanding the concept of an "emergency", and emergencies are not usually planned! In some instances, health care workers may be exempt from some (not all) work restrictions on the Sabbath, but they should NEVER profit from work done on the real LORD'S Day. Some people who are in professions such as doctors and nurses that are unable to always schedule around the Sabbath, or who are called in, on an emergency on the Sabbath, should always donate to charity, particularly to the poor, to widows, to orphan, any money they may be paid later, for the work done on the Sabbath; unless they are on a flat salary and receive no additional income for helping in dealing with the emergency. A similar situation would apply to Police and Military as they relate to the welfare and safety of people and the nation as a whole.

Most observant Jews, especially when they are away from home, or living or visiting in Gentile areas, will not even carry money with them on the Sabbath. They have always understood the temptation of seeing something they may want to buy, something that may not be available after sundown. Rather than putting themselves in this position, most prefer not to venture out on the Sabbath Day. But, when it is necessary to attend Synagogue services or to help someone in an emergency, they righteously refuse to add to the temptation by choosing not to carry any type of currency with them, including checks and credit cards.

Since the word "**work**" itself, often brings to mind different things to different people, it would probably be appropriate to note the actual definition in English as well.

WORK: (As defined in the American Heritage Dictionary)

1. Physical or mental effort as activity directed toward the production or accomplishment of something; toil; labor.
2. Employment; a job.
3. The means by which one earns one's livelihood; a trade, craft, business, or profession.
4. Something that one is doing, making, or performing, especially as a part of one's occupation; a duty or task.

These English definitions of the word "work" only include Buying and Selling indirectly (business, etc.) and it does not mention them directly. This is possibly one of the main reasons that English speaking people do not associate Shopping, Buying or Selling of anything for personal use with breaking the Sabbath. Thus, many Christian Sabbatarians, who claim to keep the Sabbath of God, **STILL** do not keep it according to the original intent of His Law. They think nothing of going out to buy lunch, or filling up the gas tank. Simply because they are not employed, they think that they have kept the Sabbath. Understanding God's original Hebrew definitions are vital to understanding God and His word.

Since there are usually notable differences between Biblical definitions of Hebrew words and the meaning of many English translations, it might also be helpful to check some typical examples of those variations.

One word that carries a slightly different meaning in English and Hebrew is the word house or home. The American concept of house or home is a physical structure with a roof in which people live. We normally do not think we are in someone's home until we have entered through the door, and are inside the living area. However, in parts of Europe and especially the Middle east, homes include a courtyard. In those cases, you are considered to be inside the home once you have entered the outer gate of the courtyard.

This is a fairly simple example of one point of confusion in the New Testament. We see in John 18: 15-18 in the King James Bible it says, that Peter and John went into the palace of Caiaphas the High Priest, yet they were described as standing around a fire in the courtyard.

The reference to the nails being driven through the hands of the Messiah when He was crucified has also caused some problems for 100's of years. Most people did not understand that the Biblical reference to the hand includes the wrist, and ended where the forearm begins. This is why many artists and historians thought the nails were placed in the palms of the hand, when in fact they were driven through the wrist.

In most of the modern world, when we hear someone speak about a clutch, hood, trunk, brakes, windshield wipers, head lights or tail lights, most understand that the subject is an automobile of some sort. The person speaking would not expect the other party or even a large

audience to be confused and not understand that he was talking about an automobile, they would not expect them to misunderstand and mistakenly think they were talking about a train, boat or airplane. Similarly, on the subject of the Sabbath, the writers of the New Testament never expected anyone to have any difficulty in understanding that Buying and Selling was synonymous with a type of “work”, because this understanding had been totally ingrained into their culture for 100’s, of years, or more accurately for 1000’s of years. This was clearly illustrated throughout the Word of God! They would never have thought in their wildest dreams that people reading their letters 300 to 500 years later (and onward) might try to use those same writings, not only to alter the restrictions which God had placed on activities to be done on His Day, but also attempt to use them to alter the very day of the week that it was supposed to be. The Day on which every true Apostle and Disciple of the teachings of Jesus (Yeshua) would have, and in some cases did, give up their lives in order to keep according to the requirements of God.

The purchasing of food, selling personal items, going to the mall, cleaning the garage, working on the car, attending sports or social events, mowing the lawn, etc. are all such a common activity on Saturday in America, that people who are not employed on the weekends feel that this is the day they should set aside to do all of them. It must be appalling to God to see a nation of people who call Him God. Yet, deliberately set about to shatter His Covenant; and by their action declare that the sacrifice of His Son, of none effect, which is in effect the end result of breaking the Fourth Commandment.

Do not forget that this is the only Commandment which actually specifies that not only are YOU to keep it, but everyone around you, **“including your animals”**, are to keep it! It also clearly states that you are responsible to see that **“everyone within your gates”** keeps the Commandment as well. This is why we see Nehemiah in chapter 13 telling the gentiles who came to set up a market on the Sabbath that they were not to ever do this again, on the Sabbath! Even though it was outside the city walls, it was still forbidden since it was set up with the intentions of drawing out and tempting those inside the city to break the Fourth Commandment, and it would not be tolerated!

Nehemiah 13:15-22

(NIV)

(15) In those days I saw men in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain and loading it on donkeys, together with wine, grapes, figs, and all other kinds of loads. And they were bringing all this into Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Therefore I warned them against selling **food** on that day.

(16) Men from Tyre who lived in Jerusalem were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise and selling them in Jerusalem on the Sabbath to the people of Judah.

(17) I rebuked the nobles of Judah and said to them, “What is this wicked thing you are doing – desecrating the Sabbath day?”

(Amplified)

(15) In those days I saw in Judah men treading wine presses on the Sabbath, bringing in sheaves or heaps of grain with which they loaded donkeys; and also wine, grapes, fig, and all sorts of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, and I protested and warned them on the day they sold the produce.

(16) There dwelt men of Tyre there also who brought fish, and all kinds of wares, and sold on the Sabbath to the people of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

(17) Then I reprovved the nobles of Judah, and said, What evil thing is this that you do, and profane the Sabbath day?

(18) Didn't your forefathers do the same things, so that our God brought all this calamity upon us and upon this city? Now you are stirring up more wrath against Israel by desecrating the Sabbath.

(19) When evening shadows fell on the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I ordered the doors to be shut and not opened until the Sabbath was over. I stationed some of my own men at the gates so that no load could be brought in on the Sabbath day.

(20) Once or twice the merchants and sellers of all kind of goods spent the night outside Jerusalem.

(21) But I warned them and said, "Why do you spend the night by the wall? If you do this again, I will lay hands on you." From that time on they no longer come on the Sabbath.

(22) Then I commanded the Levites to purify themselves and go and guard the gates in order to keep the Sabbath day holy.

Remember me for this also, O my God and show mercy to me according to your great love.

(18) Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? Yet you bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath.

(19) And when it began to get dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath [day began], I commanded that the gates should be shut and not be opened till after the Sabbath; and I set some of my servants at the gates to prevent any burden being brought in on the Sabbath day.

(20) So the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice.

(21) But I reprov'd and warned them, saying, Why do you lodge about the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you. Then they stopped coming on the Sabbath.

(22) And I commanded the Levites to cleanse themselves and come and guard the gates, to keep the Sabbath day holy. O my God [earnestly] remember me concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy and lovingkindness.

Obviously, this was not a new type of Sabbath defilement. It was for this very reason that in the past, God's wrath had come upon the people and the city. For this reason as well as others that people had been enslaved and carried away to Babylon specifically for desecration of God's Sabbaths. This defilement was the carrying on of normal everyday commerce or business, on a day God intended to be kept holy, and sanctified.

Isaiah 58:13-14

(NIV)

(13) "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on My holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD'S holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words.

(Amplified)

(13) If you turn away your foot from [traveling unduly on] the Sabbath, for doing your own pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, the holy day of the LORD, honorable; and shall honor Him and it, not going your own way or seeking or finding your own pleasure, speaking with you own [idle] word;

(14) then you will find your joy in the LORD, as I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and the feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob.”

The mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Here we see the blessing which God promises to every person who will keep His Sabbath and Holy Days. Yet, many people believe they should still receive all these blessings even though they blatantly violate the covenant of God. They honor God with their words, but their actions prove their hearts are far from Him. Perhaps they have deceived themselves?

In Nehemiah chapter 10 the people potentially brought even greater wrath upon themselves by using the words of their mouth to make an extra oath or vow to be obedient and observe the Sabbath properly. Rather than simply repenting and keeping the Law, they went out of their way to take an oath before God, vowing emphatically to follow God and His Laws. By taking an oath to do that which they were obligated to do any way; if they then knowingly disobeyed those same Laws again, they doubled the retribution that would come upon them, if they did not obey God in this matter.

Nehemiah 10:29,31

(NIV)

(29) all these now join their brothers the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the Lord our Lord.

(31) When the neighboring peoples bring merchandise or grain to sell on the Sabbath, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath or on any holy day. Every seventh year we will forgo working the land and will cancel all debts.

(Amplified)

(29) Joined with their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse and an oath to walk in God's Law which was given to Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord our Lord and His ordinances and His statutes;

(31) And if the peoples of the land brought wares or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, we would not buy it on the Sabbath, or on a holy day; and we would forego raising crops the seventh year [letting the land lie fallow] and the compulsory payment of every debt. [Ex. 23:10,11; Deut. 15:1,2]

All mankind is obliged to keep the Sabbath, because it was instituted in the Garden of Eden, on the SEVENTH DAY OF CREATION. There had been no Sin, on the SEVENTH DAY OF CREATION. This is why the “Creator” made it the sign of His covenant, with His people. The Sabbath was God's perfect gift, to a perfect world, which as yet, was without SIN. Sabbath (the TRUE LORD'S Day) was never intended to be a burden. The Sabbath was and is a blessing, to those who truly know God and His Messiah. Since all of mankind are the descendants of Adam and Eve, then all mankind received the gift of the Sabbath. The problem is the same today as it has been so often in the past.

Sadly, this gift from God has been labeled by most of humanity with the pronouncement of, “Return to Sender”, and left unopened!