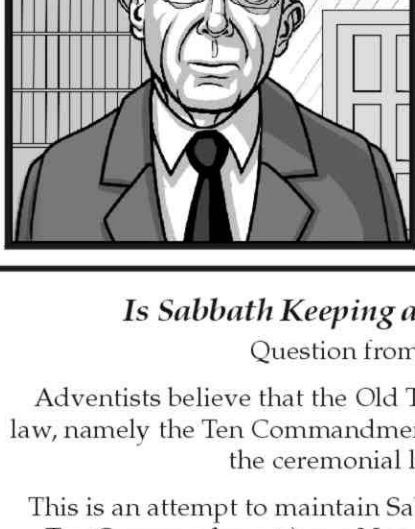


Sabbath Observance and the 4th Commandment

“Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.”



Introduction

This short tract is an attempt to answer questions addressed to me by non-Adventists, concerning the Sabbath. The questions have been many. This time I address only one of them, but it is an important one. If you are an Adventist, you may find this useful in addressing others that may be of a different persuasion.

George Ross

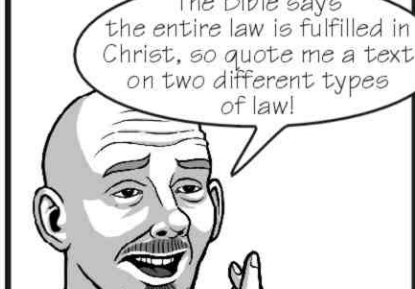
Is Sabbath Keeping a salvation requirement?

Question from a non-Adventist:

Adventists believe that the Old Testament gives two distinct types of law, namely the Ten Commandments (the Law of God or moral law) and the ceremonial law (Law of Moses).

This is an attempt to maintain Sabbath observance (as required by the Ten Commandments) as a New Testament requirement, and thus a salvation requirement.

The Bible says the entire law is fulfilled in Christ and the law cannot save. Can you please name a text in the Old or New Testament that cites the two types of law?



How to interpret the Bible:

The way to interpret the Bible is to use the Bible itself. “The Word”, in other words “The Bible”, is the only way to understand the truth, as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

This tract explains some of the Biblical facts concerning the Sabbath. These are facts that are often overlooked by many good people.

The Adventist Church does not believe that Sabbath observance is a method of salvation. Just like any Bible believer, we believe there is only one way to salvation and that is through belief in and acceptance of Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

Salvation cannot be earned. I trust that no one would mislead you on this very important and fundamental matter!

There are in fact more than two distinct types of law in the Old Testament!

You have alluded to the two moral and ceremonial laws.

In addition, there are also civil and health laws.

Read Deuteronomy 31 verses 24 to 27. This text describes a different law from the Ten Commandments, being outside the Ark.

Then read Deuteronomy 10 verses 1 and 2. These describe the Ten Commandments that are inside the Ark.



Think a little about what you are saying concerning the Sabbath: If there is no law, then we have done nothing wrong. If we have done nothing wrong, why then would we need grace?

Grace inherently means that we have done wrong and that's why we need grace. How can we do wrong if there is nothing wrong to do? It is the law that stipulates what is wrong.



There is no argument that the New Testament does not believe in the Old Testament. Jesus Himself believes in the Old Testament and He quoted from it many times.

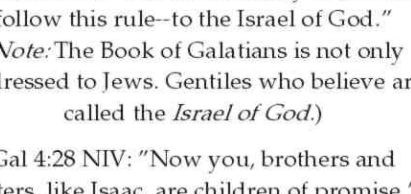
Luke's gospel makes it even clearer: “And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the law to fail.” Luke 16:17

“Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations for a perpetual covenant. Ex. 31:16



Matt 5:19: Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

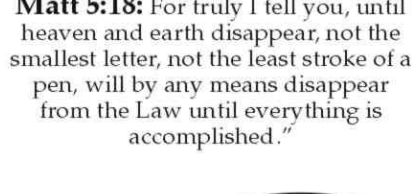
Matt 5:18: For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the least letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”



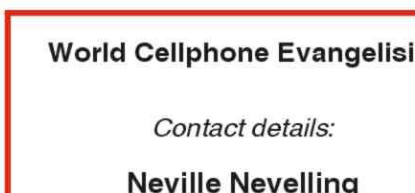
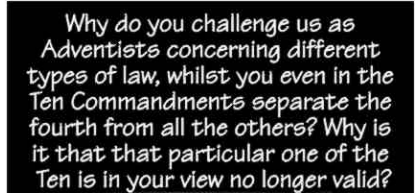
Don't be fooled. Take the trouble to read a reliable Bible translation.

The KJV or NIV is a good start.

Galatians 3:26-29: “So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”



“Therefore the Law is holy, and the Commandment holy and just and good.” Romans 7:12



CH Spurgeon, the famed Baptist preacher, was known for his support of the observance of the Sabbath.

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