

# WHICH WAY, AMERICA?

## Night 6 • Part 2

### Quotes from Church Leaders About the Sabbath

“The Pope has power to change times, to abrogate laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ” —*Decretal De Translat. Espiscop. Cap.*

#### The convert's catechism

**Q:** Which is the Sabbath Day?

**A:** Saturday is the Sabbath Day.

**Q:** Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

**A:** We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday” —*Rev. Peter Geiermann C.S.S.R., 1948, p. 50.*

“You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday” —*James Cardinal Gibbons, The Faith of our Fathers, p. 89.*

“Sunday is founded not on Scripture, but on tradition, and is distinctly a Catholic Institution” —*Catholic Record, Sept, 17, 1893.*

“The authority of the church [Church of Rome] could therefore not be bound to the authority of Scriptures, because the Church had changed... the Sabbath into Sunday, not by command of Christ, but by its own authority” —*Canon and Tradition, p. 263.*

“But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn't it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the church, observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course it is inconsistent; but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born, and by that time the custom was universally observed. They [non-Catholics] have continued the custom, even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That [Sunday] observance remains as a reminder of the Mother Church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away—like a boy running away from home, but still carrying in his pocket a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair” —*The Faith of Millions, p. 473 (1956).*

“I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. The Catholic Church says, No! By my divine power

I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep holy the first day of the week. And, Lo! The entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church”  
—**Priest Thomas Enright, CSSR, President of Redemptorist College, Kansas City, Missouri, in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, and printed in the American Sentinel, June 1883, a New York Roman Catholic journal.**

### Anglican testimony

“Where are we told in Scripture 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 reason 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, D. D., Plain Sermons on the Catechism, Vol. 1, pp. 334–336.**

### Baptist testimony

“There was and is a commandment to keep holy the Sabbath day, but that Sabbath was not Sunday. Earnestly desiring information on this subject, which I have studied for many years, I ask, where can the record of such a transaction be found? Not in the New Testament; absolutely not. There is no Scriptural evidence of the change of the Sabbath institution from the seventh to the first day of the week ... Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of paganism and christened with the name of the sun god, when adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism” —**Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, author of The Baptist Manual in a paper read before New York ministers’ conference held Nov. 13, 1893.**

### Lutheran testimony

“They (the Catholics) allege the Sabbath changed into Sunday, the Lord’s Day, contrary to the Decalogue, as it appears, neither is there any example more boasted of than the changing of the Sabbath day. Great, they say, is the power and authority of the church, since it dispensed with one of the Ten Commandments” —**Martin Luther, Augsburg Confession of Faith, Article 28 par. 9.**



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