

## IS SUNDAY THE LORD'S DAY?

**I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, (Revelation 1:10)**

Three basic principles for growth in Bible study are:

1. Ask the question: "From whom did I learn this?"
2. Be prepared to drop everything received from man that is contrary to plain scripture.
3. Ask God to help you learn the word of God so that you may walk pleasing in His sight.

### IS SUNDAY THE "LORD'S DAY"?

The Bible uses "Lord's" (notice the small case) in possessive connection with other things in both the OT and NT but does not use it with reference to a particular day of the week.

(Daniel 9:17; Matthew 21:42; 1 Cor. 11:20; 11:26, Gal 1:19, etc.)

The OT pattern for naming days of the week is:

“And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. **And the evening and the morning were the first day.**” (Genesis 1:5. Also see Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31; Daniel 8:26).

The NT pattern for naming the days of the week is:

“In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward **the first day of the week**, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.” (Matthew 28:1. Also see Mk 16:2, 9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1,19; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 16:2).

### THE LORD'S DAY IS ACTUALLY A FUTURE TIME OF GOD'S WRATH

Behold, **the day of the LORD** cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. (Isaiah 13:9).

For **the day of the LORD of hosts** shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low: (Isaiah 2:12)

Howl ye; **for the day of the LORD** is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. (Isaiah 13:6).

Behold, **the day of the LORD** cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. (Isaiah 13:9).

Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in **the day of the LORD**. (Ezekiel 13:5).

Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is **the time of the LORD's vengeance**; he will render unto her a recompence. (Jeremiah 51:6). (Also see Ezekiel 30:3, Joel 1:15, 2:1, 2:11, 2:31, 3:14; Amos 5:18, 5:20, Obadiah 1:15; Zephaniah 1:7, 1:14; Zechariah 14:1, 14:7; Malachi 4:5).

John *could* have used "the Lord's day" to refer to a particular day of 24 hours as belonging to worship of the Lord. However, for him to do so in Revelation 1:10 would go against not only Old Testament and New Testament example and doctrine, but also contrary to his own previous descriptive of the "first day of the week" in John 20:1 and John 20:19. The context of the Book of Revelation is an emphasis on the "Lord's **DAY**" in contrast to the previous age when man had his "day." We are simply looking at a

prophetic vision—John is moved to the future time of “the Lord’s Day” to write these coming events.

The term "Lord's day" in Revelation 1:10 is another one of many places in the Bible that reveals whether the interpreter is ignorant of the context of the Bible, or is depending on traditions of men to tell him what the Bible *means*.

The Bible student knows that a believer in this age is "in the Spirit" every moment. (Romans 8:9). The interpretation of Revelation 1:10 that refers to John being "in the spirit on a Sunday" is no interpretation at all. It stands on the uncertain grounds of pagan heresy, tradition, and ignorance of the context of Bible doctrine.

We also need a word of balance. This study should not become a battleground with those who differ. If a Christian thinks he is keeping Sunday as "the Lord's day" (a day to give extra duty to God) and he really observes it as to the Lord, we should not quarrel. We should rejoice that at least one day out of seven is dedicated. *Actually, every Christian should live every day dedicated unto the Lord.* A difference of opinion or ignorance on this matter does not deserve starting a new denomination or switching churches.