

“The Lord’s Day” is Not Sunday

Let me just get right to the main point and then I will prove it scripturally and logically. The phrase “**the Lord’s Day**” does not refer to Sunday. The phrase “**the Lord’s Day**” in Greek is the equivalent to “**the day of the Lord**” in Hebrew, which refers to the time of the tribulation period.

Here is the one and only location the phrase “**the Lord’s Day**” is used in the Holy Bible:

I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, 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." (Revelation 1:9-11)

The book of Revelation is about the tribulation period which is what Jesus Christ is revealing to John. John wrote the book of Revelation in Greek so that when he said “**the Lord’s Day**” he meant “**the day of the Lord**”.

Let’s start with “**I was in the Spirit**”...

Strong’s Greek Definition of “Spirit”:

***Pneuma** (pnyoo'-mah)*

a current of air, that is, breath (blast) or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively a spirit, that is, (human) the rational soul, (by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc., or (superhuman) an angel, demon, or (divine) God, Christ’s Spirit, the Holy Spirit: - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind.

The way the word “**Spirit**” is being used by John, as the translators show by capitalizing it, is the Holy Spirit (or Christ’s Spirit). What John is saying is that the Holy Spirit or Christ’s Spirit took him (whether physically or spiritually is irrelevant) to see the events that will unfold during the tribulation period. When we look at the 3 other times John uses the term “**in the Spirit**” within the book of Revelation, it is very clear that the Holy Spirit is somehow showing John these future events as if he was watching a movie (or as a fly on the wall).

First Use:

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. (Revelation 4:1-2)

Second Use:

So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. (Revelation 17:3)

Third Use:

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. (Revelation 21:9-11)

These passages show very clearly that when John was “**in the Spirit**” that he was taken (by the Holy Spirit) to view future events during the tribulation period. John did not need the Holy Spirit just to take him to Sunday. I hope that it is obvious what John meant by “**I was in the Spirit**” at this point.

Now, let's move on to the second half of the statement, “**on the Lord's Day**”...

Strong's Greek Definition of “Lord's”:

Kuriakos (koo-ree-ak-os')

Imperial, belonging to the Lord (Jehovah or Jesus): - Lord's.

This form of “**Lord's**” is only used twice in the bible, once in the passage we are studying (**Revelation 1:10**) and the other use is to define “**the Lord's Supper**” in (**1st Corinthians 11:20**).

When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper. (1st Corinthians 11:20)

The “**Lord's Day**” is much more important than just Sunday. This is an “**Imperial**” or “**Lordy**” day, a day in which God will take his vengeance on those who have not come to Christ. Also, the term “**Day**” does not refer to a 24 hour day, it refers to a multi-year time period (i.e. “**the day of the horse and buggy**”)

The only day the bible ever named was the Seventh day (Saturday) which was called the Jewish “**Sabbath**”. Other than this, the days of the week are always referred to by their number (first day of the week = Sunday, second day of the week = Monday, etc...). The bible makes important things very clear, God would not just suddenly decide to name Sunday “**the Lord's Day**” without explaining it clearly and concisely. Below I have listed the passages in which Sunday is referred to as “**the first day of the week**”. Please note the two verses written by John in which he uses the term “**the first day of the week**” to refer to Sunday and NOT “**the Lord's Day**” (John 20:1, 20:19). John did not decide to suddenly change his label for Sunday to “**the Lord's Day**”, he was fully aware that Sunday was to be referred to as “**the first day of the week**”.

The First Day of the Week:

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. (Matthew 28:1)

Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. (Mark 16:2)

Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. (Mark 16:9)

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. (Luke 24:1)

Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. (John 20:1)

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." (John 20:19)

Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight. (Acts 20:7)

On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. (1st Corinthians 16:2)

I want to clarify that Sunday is a great day for Christian Church services to be held. Many wonderful things happened on the first day of the week (Sunday) such as the resurrection of Jesus Christ and Pentecost. Sunday is also when the Apostles and the early Church body came together to worship. But as Christians, we are not forced to meet or rest on Sunday. We rest every day, in Christ...Jesus Christ is our "Sabbath". We could also meet to worship on Tuesday or Friday or whenever...It just happens to work well on Sunday. It is completely unscriptural to refer to Sunday as "**the Lord's Day**".

John wrote the book of Revelation in Greek. John uses the word "**Lord's**" as an adjective to describe the noun "**Day**". The Old Testament books were written in Hebrew and/or Aramaic. There is no adjective for "**Lord's**" in Hebrew; therefore, for a Jewish writer to say "**the Lord's Day**", they would have to use two nouns (day and Lord)..."**the day of the Lord**". When the Old Testament Prophets used the term, "**the day of the Lord**", they were referring to the time of tribulation...the same as what John is being shown by Jesus Christ for his writing of Revelation.

The Complete Jewish Bible translates this passage (Revelation 1:10) as:

I came to be, in the Spirit, on the day of the Lord; and I heard behind me a loud voice, like a trumpet, (Revelation 1:10)

This by itself is strong proof that “the Lord’s Day” in Greek is equivalent to “the day of the Lord” in Hebrew.

Here is a list of the King James Version Old Testament passages from Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Zephaniah, and Zechariah where the phrase “the day of the Lord” is used to refer to the future tribulation period.

The Day of the Lord:

For the day of the Lord of hosts Shall come upon everything proud and lofty, Upon everything lifted up-- And it shall be brought low-- (Isaiah 2:12)

Wail, for the day of the Lord is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. (Isaiah 13:6)

Behold, the day of the Lord comes, Cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, To lay the land desolate; And He will destroy its sinners from it. (Isaiah 13:9)

For this is the day of the Lord God of hosts, A day of vengeance, That He may avenge Himself on His adversaries. The sword shall devour; It shall be satiated and made drunk with their blood; For the Lord GOD of hosts has a sacrifice In the north country by the River Euphrates. (Jeremiah 46:10)

You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the Lord. (Ezekiel 13:5)

For the day is near, Even the day of the Lord is near; It will be a day of clouds, the time of the Gentiles. (Ezekiel 30:3)

Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty. (Joel 1:15)

Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; For the day of the Lord is coming, For it is at hand: (Joel 2:1)

The Lord gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; Who can endure it? (Joel 2:11)

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision. (Joel 3:14)

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! For what good is the day of the Lord to you? It will be darkness, and not light. (Amos 5:18)

*Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light? Is it not very dark, with no brightness in it?
(Amos 5:20)*

"For the day of the Lord upon all the nations is near; As you have done, it shall be done to you; Your reprisal shall return upon your own head. (Obadiah 1:15)

Be silent in the presence of the Lord GOD; For the day of the Lord is at hand, For the Lord has prepared a sacrifice; He has invited His guests. (Zephaniah 1:7)

The great day of the Lord is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out. (Zephaniah 1:14)

*Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.
(Zechariah 14:1)*

I just want to make a quick note on the reason I wrote this paper. Many, many Churches use the term "**the Lord's Day**" to refer to Sunday. They then make the association to the Sabbath day of rest that the pre-Christian Jews were commanded to observe (Saturday). They then require that Christians rest on Sunday because they say that Sunday is "**the Lord's Day**" and we must keep it Holy. Any Church that believes that Christians must rest on Sunday is legalistic at best and a religious cult at worst (please see my paper entitled "Church or Cult" for more information on this).

Let me make clear that it would greatly please Satan to have all Christians rest on Sunday because that would mean that they would not be out spreading the word of God if they were resting. It would also mean that they do not believe that what Jesus Christ did for us is sufficient so they are performing their own work of "resting". Also, Satan is fully aware of all the "points of contention" in the bible and has used them to create strife and arguments among Godly people since Moses wrote the first five books of the bible (also known as the Torah or Pentateuch). This is a huge point of contention but with the help of the Holy Spirit and prayer, it should be very obvious what John meant by "**the Lord's Day**".

I hope that this paper has made sense to you and you understand that a Christian rests in Christ, there is no such thing as a Christian Sabbath, and that "**the Lord's Day**" is the time of the tribulation period and it is not just Sunday.

God Bless You!