

Kawartha Lakes - 2026 - George Theodore - The Sabbath

Well, good afternoon, everyone. Great to see you all. It's so wonderful to see the room bursting at

the seams. And all the guests here, welcome. Come again, please.

It's awesome to see so many people unified here on the Sabbath. And it's a wonderful day.

And we're just so grateful to see everyone and to share in this wonderful day. And actually, I was thinking, you know, what can I talk about for my first message here at the Kortha Lakes? congregation, and I thought, what is better than talking about the foundational doctrines and the Sabbath? Let's talk about the Sabbath a little bit, because that's why we're here.

It's such a blessing. It's such a wonderful dress rehearsal of where we're going in life, the kingdom of God, and the rich teaching and the knowledge and the love.

And everything that God is teaching us as a church, it's just so wonderful. And we share such a precious teaching or knowledge or covenant.

And it's just wonderful to have that blessing of the Sabbath. And the blessing of being a first fruit, of course, a saint of the Most High God. So that's what we're here for. We're here to celebrate that every Sabbath we come and we rejoice and we fellowship.

And we're picturing that kingdom of God. That one day we will all be together and we're going to be

glorified. We're going to be changed in the twinkling of an eye. It's just so amazing to think about. That here, these lowly mortal beings that we are with our aches and our pains and our deterioration. Everything that we're going through in life. And the sufferings and the trials.

One day it's going to be over. And we're going to be in the kingdom. And yet, many sincere Christians, they gather every Sunday, believing they're honoring the Lord's day. Right? We know many people. We see them on TV. We listen to them. We have friends, family.

But the fourth commandment clearly says, remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

And yet, we have this deception. And you talked about it,

John, very well. You mentioned the fact that Satan is the prince of the power of the air, that he influences the world, that immediately upon the plan of God, Satan was at work counterfeiting what

God was doing and blinding those people for his purpose.

And really, ultimately, for God's purpose, as you said, the great white throne judgment and God's

plan of salvation. So everyone is going to have their turn. So today, what I wanted to discuss is this very basic fact. We're not just keeping Sabbath and Sunday as worship days.

The Sabbath and Sunday are Gospels. They are systems of theology that we all believe.

They represent our teachings, our knowledge, what we practice,

what we believe, and how we interpret the Word of God. So,

when anyone tells you, oh, it doesn't really matter what day you keep. They're all the same.

It's just we picked Sunday because Jesus was resurrected on Sunday. No.

No. It's very important to make that distinction. To understand the richness of the teaching of the

truth that God has imbued in this Sabbath day.

So that's what I want to talk about. The fact that these two days represent two different Gospels. Okay? So now, let's talk about the New Covenant. I think you mentioned that as well, John, the New Covenant. And we have the terms of the New Covenant, don't we? Basically, essentially. And I'm not going to go into every little detail of everything, but in this split sermon that we're doing today. But what are they basically?

In a nutshell, the terms of our new covenant as believers, Sabbath-keeping believers.

Well, definitely faith in Christ. Let's not deny the obvious facts.

Romans 3.21 says it very clearly. That's the first term of the covenant,

Romans 3.21, and I'll read it here. But now the righteousness of God, apart from the law, is revealed, being witnessed by the law and the prophets. Even the righteousness of God through

faith in Christ Jesus. To all and on all who believe.

For there is no difference. For all have sinned and all have fallen short of the glory of God.

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. So that is

critical. That is fundamental. we must believe that Jesus is the only way to be saved.

Okay? We all agree on that, actually. Sunday keepers, Sabbath keepers, we don't have a disagreement

on that. Where we disagree is on the rest of the terms of the New Covenant,

and that would be the Ten Commandments, the law of God. So basically,

what are we saying? Yes, you're saved by grace, but you must keep the truth.

You must practice the truth. You must keep the commandments of God. You must keep the law of God.

Because Jesus came to pay for the penalty of those transgressions of the law.

So Hebrews 8.10 says this very well. Hebrews 8.10 For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel and after those days, declares Yahweh. I will put my laws in their minds.

and inscribed them on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they will be my people.

So we see the law is now internalized. It is now spiritual.

It's not just a physical law that the Israelites kept. Now to lust after a woman was the same as adultery. So Jesus magnified the law. He didn't come to do away with the law.

And so, therefore, we must keep the Sabbath, because it's the fourth commandment. It's very simple.

It's really the simplicity of Christ, isn't it? It's so simple. You know,

sometimes I marvel at how simple the gospel is, and yet we have these profound disagreements.

And that just goes to show you how clever the devil is, because he brings up these fine-sounding

arguments that the Pharisees were very good at.

So now, what are the terms? of the new covenant well as i mentioned sorry the new covenant according to those who worship on sunday well as i mentioned we all agree faith alone you must

believe well i shouldn't say faith alone they believe faith alone faith alone believe in jesus and

everything's fine that's all you have to do just believe in the lord jesus christ even on your

deathbed you can believe in jesus christ and be saved and yet we have A little bit of,

now this is where we get a little bit of the trickery and of the cunning of Satan. That's basically

all they have is the terms of the covenant, the Protestant Catholic churches. Now, they do,

though, try to sort of get around the issues of morality. And they understand, yes, the Ten Commandments are essentially good. You can't really deny the fact that the law of God is very, very critical. And so they'll say things like, well, we keep the law of Christ. So they'll use Galatians 6.2,

Galatians 6.2, and they'll say, bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

So there, what does that do now? So we abrogate the law of God, we take away the law of God, the Ten Commandments, and then we replace it with this law of Christ. What is the law of Christ?

Well, it's whatever you think it should be. Love your neighbor, do good to those who spitefully use

you, be charitable. keep Sunday, you know,

all these things that we actually, a lot of it we agree with. There's no problem with those.

But it's when you, what you're doing is you're abrogating the law of God. You're destroying the law

of God. You're taking it away the fundamental basis of the covenant, of the new covenant, where God said, I will put my laws in your minds. I will magnify the Ten Commandments, not just, not do away with them. And so this is the insidiousness of this theology,

that it's taking away what God established through Jesus Christ,

what God established on the seventh day, instituting the Sabbath, that creation,

and then the holy days, and then the law of God. So we see this work at hand.

So essentially, the Sabbath, it's a sign. We've heard this before.

It's a sign, like a store sign. You know, home hardware. We sell hardware. This is what you get at

home hardware. You can tell I was watching the Blue Jays the other day.

But the Sabbath really, in a sense, in a nutshell, it's a sign of obedience. It's a sign that you're obeying God. That you're being sanctified. And Sunday really, unfortunately, is a sign of the opposite. Disobedience.

We have those two aspects of these two days as well. Now in Exodus 31.12, Exodus 31.12, I want to talk about this sign a little bit more.

And it says here, And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, Surely my Sabbath you shall keep, for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations that you may know that I am Yahweh who... you.

So we see it right there. The Sabbath and the Sabbaths, they identify God's people.

They show who the true saints of the Most High are. And that's the wonderful privilege we have,

the blessing. To know that we are keeping these days which represent the rich teaching which picture the wonderful kingdom to come and all the laws and truths. Behind God's word.

It signifies who the children of God are. It shows those who God is setting apart. And most importantly. It shows who the first fruits are. The first fruits.

This is so critical. Because we understand the plan of God. That God is doing things in his order.

His order. Harvesting the church first. And everyone else later.

So really it's a wonderful message of hope and love. Because the opposite, the opposite that is preached by the Protestant and Catholic churches is that 90% of the world is going to go to hell.

Apparently. I mean, and they want to claim a monopoly on love.

I always marvel at that. It's like, we're the ones preaching the gospel of the good news.

The good news that almost everyone will be saved. What a plan, what a wonderful joy that is. And that's what you understand when you keep the Sabbaths, when you understand the plan of God.

That's why it's critical that we understand the law of God and what God is doing in this world through Jesus Christ and us, the church.

So now we know this scripture in Mark 2, I believe it is. We'll go there soon.

And it says basically that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. We all have heard that many times, right? Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. So then why do most churches treat Sunday as their new holy

day? We've been asking that question. So let's try to answer that a little bit more in detail.

We go to 2 Corinthians 11 verse 1. 2 Corinthians 11 verse 1.

And it says, Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly. And indeed you do bear with me.

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband.

That I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

Did you notice in the first commandment it says I am a jealous God. Don't have any other gods before me. It's the same thing with the Sabbath. Don't have any other day other than the Sabbath.

Don't you substitute it. I'm a jealous God. I want to present you as a saint to the Most High through Jesus Christ. I want you to make it. I don't want you to depart from the faith and apostatize and partake in this false gospel. I want you to know the truth.

And then he says in verse 3, but I fear. Yes, Paul feared because he knew the cunningness of the influencer of Satan the devil. He's so clever. He's so persistent.

And if you allow him to enter into your mind through various means, he can influence you. Even through things that you think are good. You know, you watch too much of this or too much of

that. Oh, it's positive. Well, maybe it's positive, but what kind of a message are you hearing?

Are you hearing the words that are in keeping with the truth? Or subtle substitutions, sleight of hands? So you've got to be very careful about so-called Christian things that you're hearing out there.

Because they desensitize you to the truth.

But I fear lest somehow as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness. Oh,

George, I'm so smart. I can't be outcrafted by the devil.

I'm a Christian. I have the Spirit of God. God will help me discern. Well, I would hope so. And I

would think... most part that's true but we are all susceptible if we allow it and just as he was deceived by the cunningness of the devil so can we so don't be careful he who thinks he stands lest

he falls so

what was he concerned about that your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ

I just talked about that it's so simple the seventh day is the Sabbath We don't have to wonder

about it. We don't have to come up with clever arguments as why it's done away with because Christ was so-called resurrected on Sunday. And now we have to switch because we don't want to be associating with the Jews. And that's an Israelite thing. And then Moses' law is done away with. And so on and so forth. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you may well put up with it. And we saw in our history in the church of God that many of us put up with it, didn't we? Unfortunately, this warning was written for them. This warning that came to pass in our lifetime, we witnessed it. We saw people leave the church, depart the faith, become atheist or become Protestant or Catholic because they didn't heed these words. They didn't love the truth enough. And they were bitter in some instances. So we have to be very, very careful. Now this Greek word, different kind, this is a very interesting word. Heteros. It's called heteros. And it's different from halos. Halos is another word for a different kind. But heteros is a very strong word. It stresses difference of another kind. So when it says you may receive a different spirit, we're not talking about a different degree of the Holy Spirit. We are talking a different spirit. A demonic spirit. Remember, you quoted it. Satan comes as an angel of light. He doesn't come as this gross, violent, evil being to us. He comes as a beautiful, understanding, compassionate, truthful person. No, it's a different spirit. And that's scary to think about. That you could actually have a spirit that is of the demonic realm. And not God's Holy Spirit. So we ask this question about Jesus being Lord of the Sabbath. And why do people not see that? Why don't they just accept the fact that Jesus says, I am Lord of the Sabbath. They believe. They follow Jesus. They say he's my example. Essentially by changing the day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday in the terms of the new covenant from the Ten Commandments to the law of Christ. You abrogate the law of God and replace it with the law of Christ, as we said earlier. So this is the question as to, this answers the question as to why they do that. Why they think that they can undercut the fact that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. Because it doesn't apply anymore. That was for the Jews. Jesus was a Jew. Now Jesus is like some sort of a Protestant or Catholic person. It's like calling George Washington a British person. You know, he was an American, right? So even though he was, I mean, the point is that, voila, what do you have now? Now you have another gospel message. You substitute it and you bring in your false doctrines, Easter, Christmas, and yes, Sunday worship to celebrate the resurrection. So here we have it in a nutshell. So what are we left with? The Sabbath represents the gospel of God based on faith in Christ,

as we said, of course, and the Ten Commandments, picturing our time when we will be resurrected in the kingdom of God. Sunday, unfortunately, represents a false gospel of faith in another Jesus, another gospel, which has replaced the true gospel.

Yes, we all know this. So now, Let me make three points about this further.

The first point, as I alluded to earlier, the Sabbath was made for man. That's Mark 2, 27. Let's look at that now a little closer. Mark 2, 27 and 28.

The Sabbath was made for man. And he said to them, the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore, the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath. So we see the Sabbath was created as a blessing to give mankind not just the juice. It's a physical rest, and it wasn't a burden. So when the disciples were walking through the field in this very scripture before that, and they were picking at the plucks of the heads of corn to eat because they were hungry, Jesus said to the Pharisees, the Pharisees were asking, why are you doing this? This is not lawful. You can't be harvesting on the Sabbath and eating. And Jesus said, the Sabbath was made as a blessing to give you rest. I didn't make you, I didn't create you to worship the Sabbath. I created the Sabbath to serve you, to give you joy, to give you rest, to give you peace, and to give you teaching, of course.

So Jesus changed and took away the accretions self-righteousness that the pharisees had put on the sabbath or the legalism as we know and he took that away and he showed us an example of what the true sabbath worship is that it's not a burden oh i have to go it's all day 24 hours oh my i can't even go play golf you know and so it's it's a it's a wonderful blessing and now and of course you know this is in context of the fact that Much of the Mosaic law, let's be honest, was a burden. The Bible clearly says that. The sacrificial system was a burden to the Israelites. They had to take the animals, pay for them, carry them very heavy, do all this sacrificing work. It was very, very burdensome. So Jesus took that away and made the Sabbath what it really was meant to be from the beginning, a blessing to us. And he gave us a rest.

And the physical rest is so important. Because why is that important? Because it pictures the spiritual rest in the kingdom of God. When in the kingdom of God, we're going to cease from sin, cease from our works, cease from doing all this earthly things and enjoy God's kingdom. And so that physical rest we have every Sabbath when we just can just wind down and just focus 24 hours on God, you know, fellowship. Make a wonderful meal for each other if we do that. And just share in the gospel and the love of the brethren. It's so wonderful. It's exactly what the kingdom of God is all about.

Criticize that wonderful blessing of truth of the Sabbath day. And then point two, the Son of Man is even Lord of the Sabbath. This is really critical because here Jesus is claiming

divine authority over the very day He created and blessed. What other authority can you have than

the authority of Jesus Christ? Jesus Christ is the authority.

Everyone says, look to Jesus. Do what He says. Well, that's exactly what we're doing.

He is the divine authority. And when it says Lord of the Sabbath, Lord is translated as God or Master in the concordance. And in the Septuagint, it's almost always rendered the divine name, Yahweh. So Jesus, being God, is the authority over the Sabbath.

Nobody has authority to take away or change it. Only Jesus could do that.

So he reclaims it from the traditions of the Pharisees and he restores its true meaning and he establishes his authority over it. So no church council, no emperor,

no tradition can transfer the Sabbath through to Sunday and

establish a false gospel. Which brings me to my third point. And this is the final point.

We talked about this already. We have the Sabbath representing the true gospel and we have Sunday

representing a false gospel.

So what does this Sabbath represent? It represents the finished work of the Creator and the Redeemer. And we read about this very critical point. This is really critical. This is the whole point of the Sabbath, really. Because God is only working with the first fruits right now, which is part of the gospel message. Sunday gospel obscures this.

You don't hear them talking about first fruits.

Because they don't believe it. Why? Because they have their theology based on Sunday worship.

So let's read about this plan of God that the Sabbath represents. Hebrews 4.1. As I wind down here.

Hebrews 4.1. And I'll read a few verses here. It's very critical. Therefore,

since a promise remains of entering his rest, let us fear, lest any of you seem to have fallen, come short of it. For indeed, the gospel was preached to us as well as to them.

But the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard

it. So, there you go. Already, we're getting the gospel associated with the Sabbath.

And it was preached to the Israelites. But of course we understand that it was not accepted because

they didn't have the Holy Spirit en masse. Only a select few were given the Holy Spirit.

So they were not able to be obedient, to accept Jesus Christ,

to understand, because they didn't have the Holy Spirit. They couldn't mix their faith with the truth.

For we who have believed do enter that rest. As he has said,

so I swore in my wrath they shall not enter my rest, although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. We understand that is the creation story.

The seventh day, the Sabbath, was created at creation for a reason,

a very critical reason. For he has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way, and God rested on the seventh day from all his works. And again in this place,

they shall not enter my rest, since therefore it remains that some must enter it. And those to whom

it was first preached did not enter it because of disobedience. These things get repeated because we have the same disobedience now with Sunday. Again, he designates a certain day, saying in David, today. So it's not some future... thing only yes the sabbath pictures the kingdom

of god we understand that but it applies to today because the protestant church will say no no no this is talking this is talking about the future kingdom of god not the sabbath we don't have to keep the sabbath because it's really just about the the sabbath rest in the kingdom of god in the future which doesn't apply to us now because we keep sunday but we understand no no no david it

says today if you hear his voice Do not harden your heart. For if Joshua had given them rest, then he would not have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.

Now we know, as good biblical students here, what that Greek word rest is.

Can anyone say what that Greek word is? Sabbatismus. Sabbatismus. Very good, Sandy.

That is the keeping of the Sabbath. I mean, it's just right there. You cannot deny it. It's so simple. For he who has entered his rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from his.

So now we see here that the seventh day looks back at creation. Very critical aspect of this discussion.

And why is that? Why is the Sabbath so important?

Because what is God's plan? God's plan is to create a family of God.

The creation is critical to the Sabbath because it points to the ultimate creation that we will be immortal beings of the family of the Almighty God. Can you imagine that?

Sunday doesn't teach that. You don't get that from Sunday. It obscures this teaching because you

can only understand it if you keep the Sabbaths. This is the wonderful, awesome part of God's plan. And we read about this glory in Romans 8,

18. Romans 8, 18. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with a glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it in hope. Because the creation itself would also

be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

Not only that, but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit. Even we ourselves groan within ourselves eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope, for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

So that is the glorious truth of the Sabbath theology that we have,

that we hold so dear, so truthful, so precious. And this false gospel of Sunday,

A humanly appointed day that gradually became a representation of the false gospel is a mark of

separation from this biblical commandment.

Yes, Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath. The true gospel found in the day he claimed as his own.

Not in a day of tradition that was substituted for it.

So each week as we come here and we worship God on the Sabbath.

As we prepare it to enter into Christ's salvation rest. Because that's what it is.

Every Sabbath is a salvation rest that we're rehearsing. That we're practicing.

We picture God's wonderful plan that He shows us through the seventh day Sabbath.

And He teaches us that we will one day all be changed and born into the very family of God.

It's an amazing gospel that the Sabbath represents.