

(Continued)

and a few others translate this (Acts 20:7) 'on Saturday evening.' The actual phrase in the Greek is 'the first day of the week.' Their translation is **based upon the assumption** that the writer was counting by Jewish time, and this even occurred after the start of the Jewish first day on Saturday evening. Since Luke, the author of Acts, was a Greek, and Troas was a Greek city, this is hardly likely, and the translation is misleading, since it was the first day of the week and not the seventh on which they were worshipping."

Eerdman's Handbook to the History Of Christianity states regarding Lord's Day worship: "Sunday was not observed as a public holiday until the time of Constantine...; until then, Christian meetings for worship were either early or late in the day. The main service was probably held early in the morning, although meetings for worship were also held in the evening." The key to understanding what was going on here is the fact that this was NOT a holiday! Christianity appealed greatly to the slaves who would not be able to attend if services were held during the day. But those services were clearly held on SUNDAY.

I, personally, am not opposed to Saturday worship any more than worshipping on any weekday, so long as it is not done at the expense of Sunday (which is often the case today). For a Christian to worship on Saturday evening and partake of communion so that he/she **can purposely miss Sunday's scheduled worship service** in order to attend a Sunday Golf match, auto race, or a fishing derby seems to me to be "missing the mark". In other words, "Lord, I'll do what you want me to do and I'll say what you want me to say ----- but, on my time schedule.

Our Lord grants us 168 hours every week. For the Christian to say I have the right to juggle the worship time around to suit me just does not seem correct to this conservative. If we are to restore the New Testament church then we must cease attempting to please ourselves and follow the Scriptures more closely.

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31)
- 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37)
- 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22)
- 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

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