

## **Part 4**

### **No Sabbath Commandment Given Abraham**

The Lord effectually called Abram when he was a steadfast practicing idolater who hated the true God. Is not this the model given of Paul's calling? And is not this the model of the Ephesians' calling? And was this not the model of our very own calling?

While we were dead in trespasses and sins the Lord graciously, out of His great love for us, quickened us together with Christ, delivering us from the power of darkness, translating us into the Kingdom of His beloved Son.

In Genesis 12:8 we are informed Abram built an altar, calling upon the name of the Lord.

However, we are not informed as to what day this occurred. Why not? According to SDA law, this should be critical information. Holy service to God must be performed on the 7<sup>th</sup>-day, they insist.

Once more, in Genesis 13:4, Abram called upon the name of the Lord, without any indication of the day of the week. Similarly, Scripture is silent when he built another altar in the plain of Mamre (v. 18).

### **Abram Declared Righteous By Faith Alone, Without Circumcision or Sabbath-Keeping**

*And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.*

*<sup>6</sup>And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness (Genesis 15:5-6).*

Herein lies a great irony. The Jews take great pride in the fact they are descendants of Abraham. They also take great pride in the fact they are circumcised Sabbath-keepers. SDAs also take great pride in their alleged obedience to the letter of the Sabbath law. Yet Abraham was justified in the eyes of the Lord *prior* to the giving of these commandments.

How is this possible? Paul, once a rigid law-keeping Pharisee, explains: *For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin* (Romans 3:20).

Paul reiterates this truth to the Galatians: *yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified* (2:16).

### **The Law Reveals Our Sin**

*Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come* (Galatians 3:19; cf. Romans 7:7).

Paul understood the true purpose of the Law....to lead us away from trusting in our own alleged righteousness, to trusting in the Lord our righteousness:

*Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith (Galatians 3:24; cf. Jeremiah 23;6).*

### **7<sup>th</sup>-day Sabbath-Keeping a Superstitious Idol as Taught By SDA**

Jesus was quite clear when stating, *God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24).*

Nowhere in this statement is worship of God exalted on day 7. Nor is any other day exalted. Instead, we are commanded to worship Him spiritually, not carnally; truthfully, not speciously. Jesus did not limit spirit and truth to any particular day. Nor did Jesus limit spirit and truth to any particular place.

Ex-French priest and martyr, Peter de Bruis (d. 1131), was killed by an incensed religious Roman Catholic mob for preaching, among other things, that it is not necessary to pray in so-called 'holy places,' such as the ostentatious Catholic churches prevalent in his day, because God hears the prayers of His people no matter where – even in taverns, marketplaces and stables. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter\\_of\\_Bruys](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_of_Bruys)