

Appendix: Westminster Confession, Larger Catechism & Other References

WCF Chapter 21: *Of Religious Worship and the Lord's Day*

7. As it is the law of nature, that, in general, a due proportion of time be set apart for the worship of God; so, in his Word, by a positive, moral, and perpetual commandment binding all men in all ages, he hath particularly appointed one day in seven, for a Sabbath, to be kept holy unto him¹: which, from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was the last day of the week; and from the resurrection of Christ, was changed to the first day of the week,² which, in Scripture, is call the Lord's Day,³ and is to be continued to the end of the world, as the Christian Sabbath.⁴

WLC Q: 117. *How is the Sabbath or the Lord's Day to be sanctified?*

A. The Sabbath or the Lord's Day is to be sanctified by an holy resting all the day,^a not only from such works as are at all times sinful, but even from such worldly employments and recreations as are on other days lawful;^b and making it out delight to spend the whole time (except so much of it as is to be taken up in works of necessity and mercy^c) in the public and private exercises of God's worship:^d and, to that end, we are to prepare our hearts, and with such foresight, diligence, and moderation, to dispose and seasonably dispatch our worldly business, that we may be the more free and fit for the duties of that day.^e

Nehemiah 10:29b,31 – "...observe to do all the commandments of the Lord our Lord and his rules and statutes...And if the peoples of the land bring in goods or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, we will no buy from them on the Sabbath or on a holy day."

Nehemiah 13:15-18 – "In those day I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in heaps of grain and loading them on donkeys, and also wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day...Then I confronted the nobles of Judah and said to them, 'What is this evil thing that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day? Did not your fathers act in this way, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us an on this city? Now you are bringing more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.'"

Isaiah 56:6-7 – "...everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

Isaiah 58:13 – "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if

¹ Ex. 20:8-11; Isa. 56:2-7 – ² Gen. 2:2-3; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 20:7 – ³ Rev. 1:10 – ⁴ Matt. 5:17-18; Mark 2:27-28

^a Ex. 20:8-10 – ^b Ex. 16:25-18; Jer. 17:21-22; Neh. 13:15-22 – ^c Matt. 12:1-13 – ^d Isa. 58:13-14; Luke 4:16; Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Lev. 23:3; Ps. 92 (title) – ^e Luke 23:54,56; Ex. 16:22, 25-26, 29; Neh. 13:19

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you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; then you shall take delight in the Lord...”

Exodus 31:12-17 – “And the Lord said to Moses, ‘You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. You shall keep the Sabbath because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people...Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.’”

Exodus 16:23-30 – “he said to them, ‘This is what the Lord has commanded: ‘Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord...Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is a Sabbath, there will be none. On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather...And the Lord said to Moses, ‘How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? See! The Lord has given you the Sabbath...”

Genesis 26:5 – “because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.”

Genesis 2:2-3 – “And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.”

¹ Ex. 20:8-11; Isa. 56:2-7 – ² Gen. 2:2-3; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 20:7 – ³ Rev. 1:10 – ⁴ Matt. 5:17-18; Mark 2:27-28

^a Ex. 20:8-10 – ^b Ex. 16:25-18; Jer. 17:21-22; Neh. 13:15-22 – ^c Matt. 12:1-13 – ^d Isa. 58:13-14; Luke 4:16; Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Lev. 23:3; Ps. 92 (title) – ^e Luke 23:54,56; Ex. 16:22, 25-26, 29; Neh. 13:19