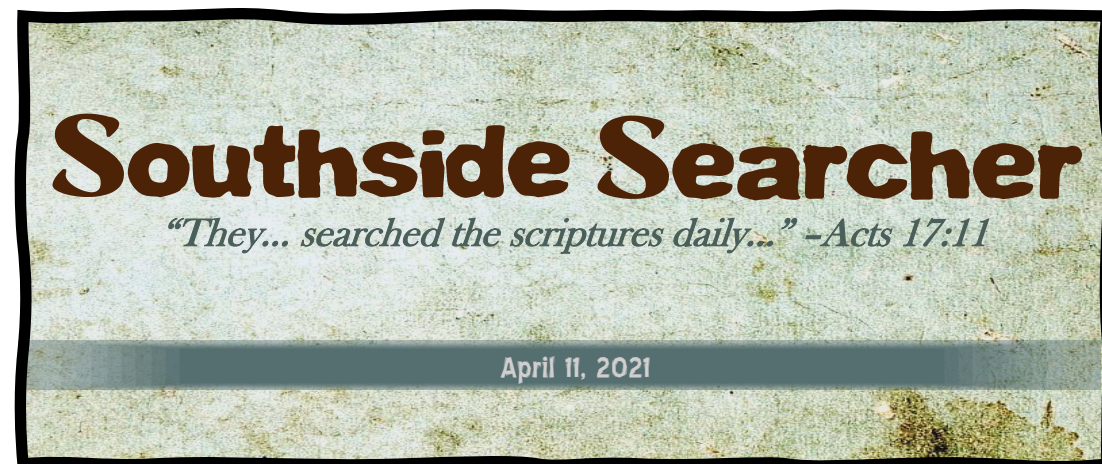


<p>DUTY LIST...</p> <p>SUNDAY MORNING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Announcements.....Michael Pickford ➤ Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell Reading: TBA ➤ Song Leader.....Robert Johnson ➤ Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey ➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd Serve..... ➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson <p>SUNDAY EVENING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson ➤ Opening Prayer...Eli Todd ➤ Invitation.....Kenny Todd ➤ Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T. ➤ Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford ➤ 	<p style="text-align: center;">God's Plan of Salvation</p> <p>There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Hear the Gospel:</u> Romans 10:17 ➤ <u>Believe:</u> Mark 16:16; John 8:24 ➤ <u>Repent of Sin:</u> Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30 ➤ <u>Confess Faith:</u> Romans 10:9, 10 ➤ <u>Be Baptized:</u> Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21 ➤ <u>Remain Faithful:</u> Rev. 2:10 <p style="text-align: center;">Obey Today!</p>
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Expedients For Singing

God wants the church to sing in worship to Him—not play on mechanical instruments (Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16). There are many facets and disagreements related to this issue. But I want to focus on one question: Is using a hymnal or a projector the same as using a mechanical instrument such as a piano?

To answer the question, we need to have a basic understanding of authorized expedients—An authorized way to carry out a specific command of God. God gave Noah a lot of specifics in the instructions to build the ark. He specified the type of wood to use, how many windows, how to seal it (pitch), and so on. But God did not specify which tools to use. For example, Noah could use a wooden hammer or a metal hammer. It did not matter because God did not specify. But regardless of which hammer he used he would still be doing only one thing—building the ark.

God commanded the church to sing. He never commanded or authorized the church to play mechanical instruments of music. Those who defend the use of mechanical instruments of music will sometimes say we are also wrong because we use song books etc. So, they say we also are adding to the commandment to sing. Are we? Certainly not. God commanded that we sing, but He never specified which hammer to use, that is, He never specified where we were to get the words we are singing. We could pull the words from memory, from a hymnal, from an overhead projection, from a handout, from a PowerPoint projection, etc. It does not matter because in all of these instances we are still doing only one thing—Singing! Those who add the mechanical instrument are doing two things—Singing and playing.

-Michael Pickford

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Sabbath Keeping

MANY PEOPLE ARE CONFUSED today about what they should do in relation to the Sabbath. Some feel the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, is still the day of worship. Some believe it is to be observed but that it is now the first day of the week. Others acknowledge Sabbath-keeping to have been abolished and that now, under the Gospel, the first day of the week has a significance all its own and bears no relationship to the Sabbath.

With people having such diverse views, it is easy to see why there is a great deal of confusion surrounding the Sabbath. The only way to clear that confusion is to go to the Bible and see what it says.

The Sabbath Was for Israel

During the Exodus from Egypt, God instituted the Sabbath for the Israelites, His chosen people under the Old Law. It is first mentioned in Exodus 16:23. The command to keep the Sabbath was one of the [Ten Commandments](#) (Exo. 20:8). God did not, as some suppose, require its observance at the time of the creation of the world.

God commanded Israel to observe the Sabbath so that they would remember that while in Egypt they had no rest but that He had delivered them from their bondage and given them a day of rest (Deut. 5:15). It was to be a sign between them and God so that they would never forget that it was He who had delivered them and sanctified them as a people for His possession (Exo. 31:13-17).

In that was a sign between Israel and God, a memorial of an event peculiar to the Jewish nation and a part of the covenant between them and God, one must conclude that only they were to keep it. If Jew and Gentile alike were to observe it, it would have had no real significance to the Jews.

It would have made no sense for the Gentiles to keep it because it would have had no meaning to them. They were never delivered from Egyptian bondage. Thus, they were never commanded to keep it or any other command contained in the law God gave to Israel through Moses.

The Jews, on the other hand, were to strictly observe it. They were not to work on it (Exo. 31:13-17; 20:8-11; 23:9-12; 34:21). They were not to gather, bake or boil any food (Exo. 16:23-26). No fire was to be kindled (Exo. 35:1-3) and no sticks could be gathered for a fire (Num. 16:32-35). They were not to buy or sell (Nehemiah 13:15-21). They could bear no burden (Jer. 17:21-22). They were to travel only a "Sabbath Day's journey" (Matt. 24:20). There was to be a holy convocation (Lev. 23:3) and the priests were to sacrifice two lambs of the first year

without spot and blemish and two-tenths of an ephah of flour mingled with oil (Num. 28:9-10).

No one who seeks to bind the observance of the Sabbath today desires to keep it in its entirety. To attempt to keep any portion of it today, though, would put one under obligation to keep not only all aspects of the Sabbath, including its prohibitions against work and travel and its sacrifices, but also all commands contained in the Old Law. To keep the Old Law in one point makes one responsible to keep all of it (Gal. 5:3). To try to be justified by the Old Law today causes one to fall from grace (Gal. 5:4).

Sabbath Observance Ceased

God intended the observance of the Sabbath to cease. As Jesus fulfilled the Old Law (Matt. 5:17), it was taken out of the way and nailed to the cross (Gal. 5:1-4; Col. 2:14). It was taken out of the way so that Jesus could establish His new law, the "perfect law of liberty" (Jam. 1:25). Since Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18), everyone must obey His law. It does not include any command to keep the Sabbath. Therefore, to keep the Sabbath today is to act without divine authority.

Ceremonial Law vs. Moral Law

Many who would bind the Sabbath today say that only the "ceremonial law" or the "law of Moses" was fulfilled and abolished by Jesus. They contend the "moral law" or the "law of God," the Ten Commandments continues to have authority. The Bible makes no distinction between the "law of Moses" and the "law of God" or between the "ceremonial law" and the "moral law" because no difference exists. For example, Ezra 7:6 says God had given "the law of Moses" while 2 Chronicles 34:14 states that the "law of the Lord" was "given by Moses."

The entire Old Law has been taken out of the way and is not to be kept today. No one is to be judged "in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths" for those things were but "a shadow of things to come" (Col. 2:16-17).

When one seeks to bind the things of the Old Law today, he severs any relationship he might have with Christ and falls from grace (Gal. 5:4). The only "Sabbath rest" remaining for the children of God is the one awaiting them in heaven (Heb. 4:9). It is a time when they may "rest from their labors" (Rev. 14:13).