

## Upon the First Day of the Week

Some time ago one of the large Baptist churches in Dallas, Texas, introduced Saturday night worship as an alternative to Sunday worship for their members and area residents. They advertised this as an “option for the 200,000 people in the Dallas area who work on Sundays and can’t attend church!” On their advertisement they say in large bold letters, “We’re Breaking TRADITION For You.”

Well, I have news for them. They are breaking more than tradition. They are breaking God’s law. The Bible teaches that we are to gather together to partake of the Lord’s Supper “upon the first day of the week.” (Acts 20:7) The inspired apostle commands, “upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him,....” (I Cor. 16:2)

There is nothing wrong with merely being convenient. However, when we set aside the clear, unmistakable Law of God just to be convenient, we are presuming the place of God. We are saying that we know more about what will work in our society than God, or that we know more about what God wants than God. God would not have set the worship upon the Lord’s Day, had it not mattered – had it been an optional worship.

It is bad enough for denominationalism to set aside God’s law, but I have observed through the years that some of the brethren like to follow denominational trends when these trends are very successful, never mind whether they conform to New Testament teaching. I predict that if the venture of this denominational church is successful, there will be brethren shortly who will be proposing this idea.

Have we not even learned the lessons of the Old Testament? In Judges, one of the sad, sad points made by inspiration is that the people did “evil in the sight of the Lord,” because “every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” (Judges 3:7, 12; 4:1; 21:25)

It is very important to understand that in the day of judgment we will be “judged out of those things which were written in the books,....” (Rev. 20:12) We will not be judged by how we felt, by what we thought was best, or convenient, or by what seemed to be a good idea, or by what others did, but by what is written in the book. In view of this we need to have great respect for the book. (John 12:48)