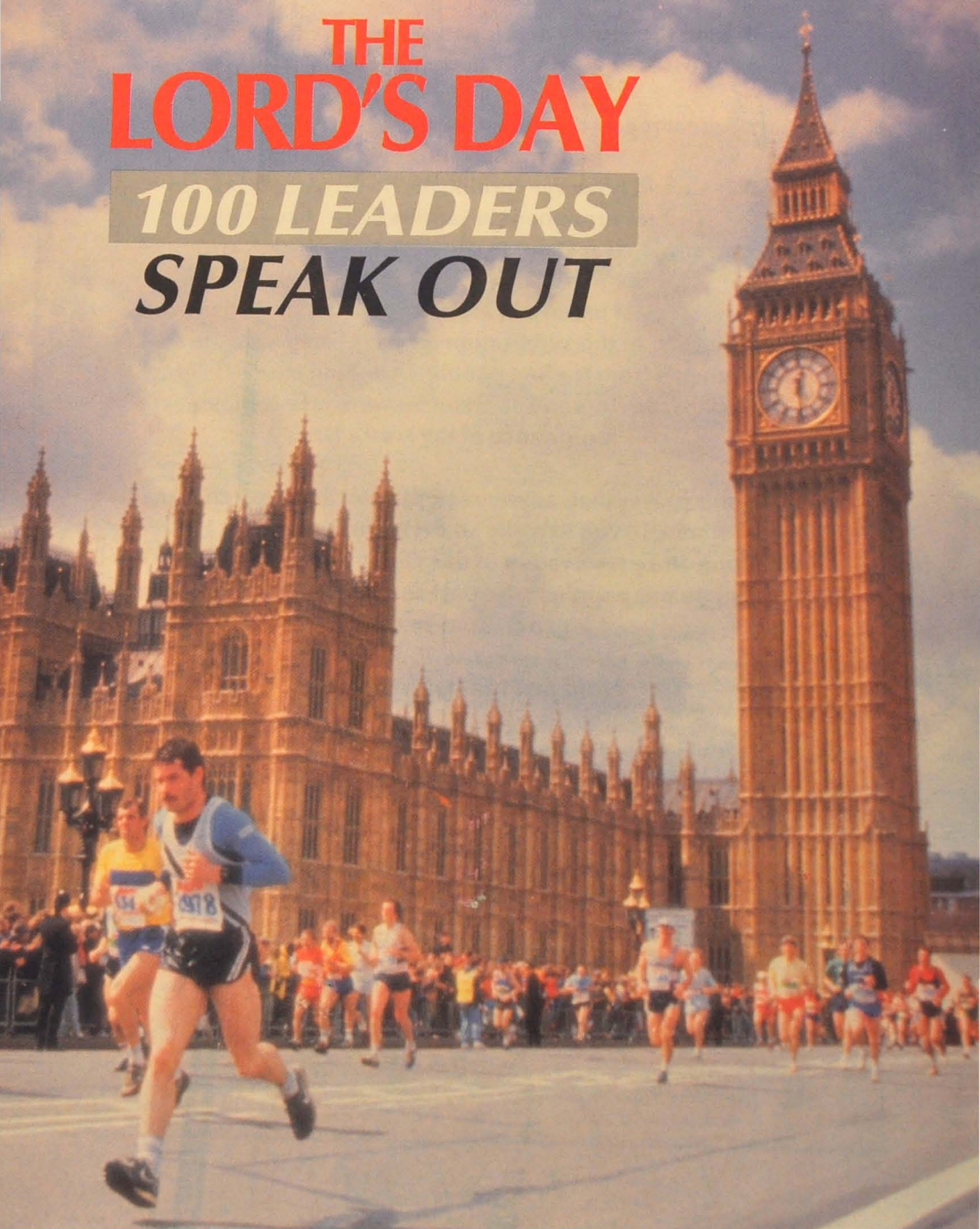


\$1.50

# THE LORD'S DAY

**100 LEADERS  
SPEAK OUT**



# FOREWORD

Throughout the history of this nation, we have been privileged to possess a great Christian and national heritage.

It is with great regret that today we see much of that heritage being undermined and even lost.

We should however continually be thankful that many people, who are prominent in various fields, have made and are making a clear stand to preserve that which is good.

One of the most important aspects of our great heritage is the Lord's Day. In this publication we have listed one hundred statements from leading people, including church leaders, politicians, doctors and sportsmen, who have testified to the importance of the Lord's Day.

It is our prayer that, as you read their testimonies, they may stimulate you to make an even firmer stand for the promotion and preservation of this God-given gift which has been a blessing to our people in the past and which will be, we trust, for generations to come.

*"Hold fast that which is good".*

*Cover theme*

The pace of life in the shadow of the Houses of Parliament.

Photo. Allsport.

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*This publication has been researched and compiled by Mark Roberts who joined the office staff of the Lord's Day Observance Society in 1989.*





## POLITICAL LEADERS

### 1 Rt Hon ARTHUR J BALFOUR

Prime Minister (1902-05) and Conservative statesman

The state is the trustee, in respect to Sunday, of one of its most valuable civic assets.

### 2 Rt Hon Sir H CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN

Prime Minister (1905-08) and Liberal politician

I earnestly hope that the efforts to preserve the sacredness of the weekly day of rest may be successful.

### 3 Sir WINSTON CHURCHILL

Former Prime Minister and Conservative statesman

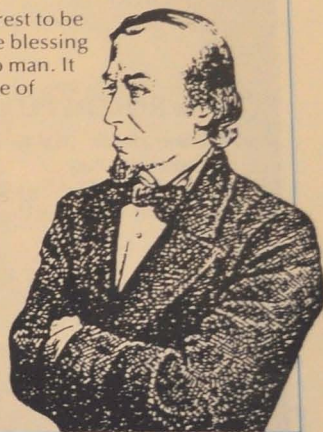


Sunday is a divine and priceless institution, the necessary pause in the national life. It is the birthright of every British subject, our responsibility, privilege and duty to hand on to posterity.

### 4 BENJAMIN DISRAELI

Former Prime Minister & Conservative statesman

I hold the day of rest to be the most valuable blessing ever conceded to man. It is the cornerstone of civilisation.



### 5 Rt Hon DAVID LLOYD GEORGE

Prime Minister (1916-22)

This Sunday question is not merely a religious one; it is a question of intelligence and liberty, of the permanence of free institutions and of the stability of government.

### 6 Wm EWART GLADSTONE

Four times Prime Minister

Tell me what the young men of England are doing on Sunday and I will tell you what the future of England will be. The religious observance of the Sabbath is a main prop of the religious character of the country. From a moral, social and physical point of view, the observance of the Sabbath is a duty of absolute consequence.

### 7 Rt Hon RAMSAY MacDONALD

First Labour Prime Minister

The British Sunday is a great heritage which has strengthened the national character and sustained the life of the people. To reduce it to the continental pattern is to destroy an invaluable national asset. The question of one day's rest in seven (and by rest I do not mean recreation) is one of the utmost importance, not only to the physical but to the mental condition of our people. We are getting

altogether too superficial and too thoughtless and, unless we pull ourselves up and get inspiration from the deeper silences that lie within us, we shall be unable to face the great problems that modern civilisation places upon us.

## **8 Sir ROBERT PEELE**

Prime Minister (1834-46) and founder of the Conservative Party

I never knew a man escape failure, in either body or mind, who worked seven days a week.

## **9 Rt Hon ERNEST BEVIN**

Former Minister of Labour

I do not propose to encourage seven day working because it reduces output and causes an increase in absenteeism in the long run.

## **10 Sir CYRIL BLACK**

Former Member of the House of Commons

Since the creation of the world and the dawn of time the principle of the weekly day of rest has been a solemn command of God and the obligations and privileges of the day are set forth in most emphatic terms throughout the Bible. I rejoice in the great work of the Lord's Day Observance Society. May God's blessing rest upon it in all it seeks to do for Him in this great cause.

## **11 Rt Hon JAMES GRIFFITHS**

Former MP and Secretary of State

I would take the liberty of speaking on behalf of my colleagues in the trade union movement and the pioneers who have spent generations in trying to stop Sunday work. I know that the Sabbath was made for man; I want to keep it for man and not surrender it to the machine.

## **12 Rt Hon ARTHUR HENDERSON**

Labour politician and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1934

The secret of our national prosperity has ever been found in the abiding fear of God. As a people we have advanced and prospered as we have been true friends of the Sabbath and its sanctity.

## **13 Viscount INGLEY**

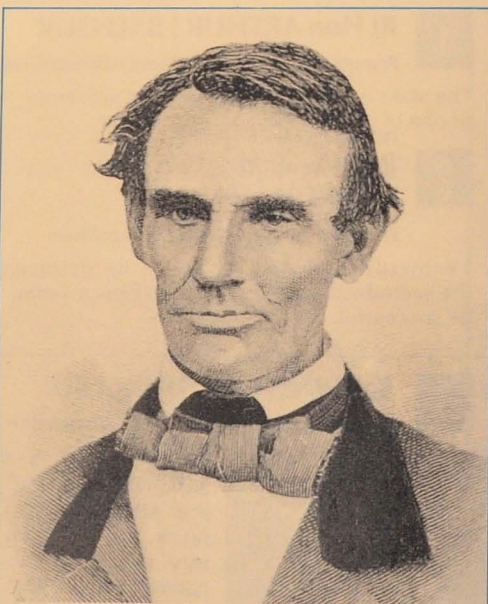
Member of the House of Lords

I can only say that I have always found the saying *A Sabbath well spent brings a week of content* to be true in my own experience. Spent, I suggest, in worship and re-creation, free from one's normal work; not excluding of course works of mercy or of necessity. A Sunday so spent brings one strengthened and refreshed for the following week. I wish more of us, especially politicians, practised this; it would be of great benefit to this nation; and I wish the Lord's Day Observance Society and its work well in the future.

## **14 RON LEWIS**

Former Member of the House of Commons

We should be prepared to defend Sunday against further secularisation and commercialisation from a patriotic sense of duty as the trustees of posterity. If by our actions we pass on to the next generation a de-Christianised Sunday, they will pass on a de-Christianised Britain.



## **15 ABRAHAM LINCOLN**

16th President of the United States

As we keep or break the Sabbath we nobly save or meanly lose the last hope by which man rises.



16

**Lord MACAULAY**

Former Member of Parliament

We are not poorer, but richer, because we have through many ages, rested from our labours one day in seven.

17

**WILLIAM McKINLEY**

25th President of the United States

I am in favour of Sunday legislation and a strict observance of the Christian Sabbath.

18

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT**

26th President of the United States

Experience shows that the day of rest is essential to mankind — that it is demanded by civilisation as well as Christianity.

19

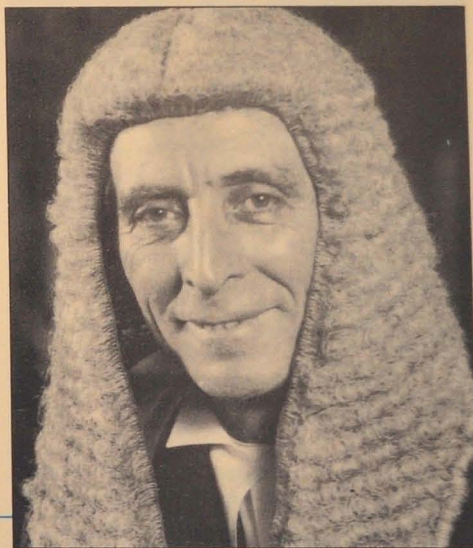
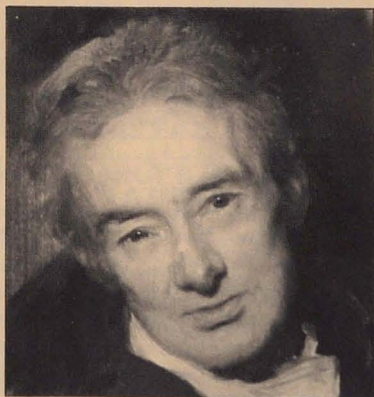
**Rev W MARTIN SMYTH, MP**

Member of the House of Commons

The unifying factor in our nation has been the Christian Faith. As one enters through St Stephen's Gate there is the painting of Moses descending with the tablets of the Law.

Tragically mankind regularly rebels against God and His laws. This is most evident in the attempts, even in Parliament, to desecrate further the Sabbath day by changes to the Sunday trading laws. A nation so rebelling against God's laws will soon find its citizens disregarding civil and criminal law.

The observance of one day in seven for rest and worship is not only a delight for a Christian, it is a duty imposed by commandment and a creation ordinance for all mankind. In the 20th century a Sabbath well spent still brings a week of content. Perhaps the misuse of the Lord's Day is an underlying cause of discontent and unrest in the nation.



20

**Rt Hon GEORGE THOMAS  
Lord TONYPANDY**

Former Speaker of the House of Commons

In recent years we have seen a weakening in respect of the Sabbath and there is a challenge to us all to rekindle the conscience of our people. I believe there is an enormous responsibility on Christian believers themselves to set a good example by treating the Lord's Day as a very special day of the week.

21

**Sir EDWARD TURNER**

Former Speaker of the House of Commons

He that remembers not to keep the Christian Sabbath at the beginning of the week will be in danger to forget, before the end of the week, that he is a Christian.

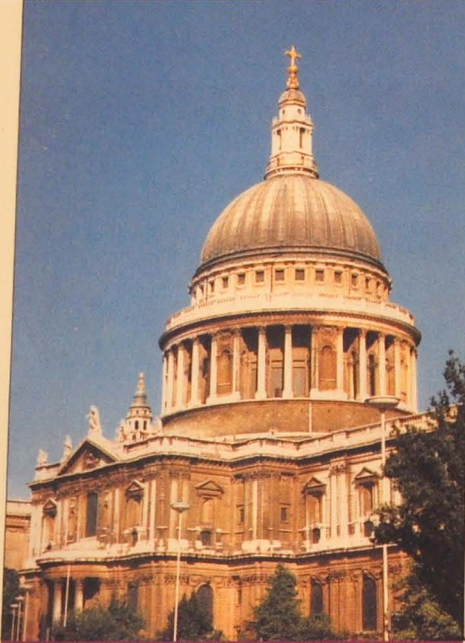
22

**WILLIAM WILBERFORCE**

Politician and Christian reformer

There is nothing in which I would recommend you to be more strictly resolute than in keeping the Sabbath holy; and by this I mean, not only abstaining that day from all unbecoming sports and common business, but from consuming time in frivolous conversation, which often leads to a sad waste of this precious day.





## CHURCH LEADERS

23

### Rev Dr ALBERT BARNES

Presbyterian minister and Bible commentator

There is a state of things in this land that is tending to obliterate the Sabbath altogether. The Sabbath has more enemies in this land than all the other institutions of religion put together. At the same time it is more difficult to meet the enemy here than anywhere else — for we come in conflict not with argument but with interest and pleasure and the love of indulgence and of gain.

24

### RICHARD BAXTER

Puritan preacher and author

It hath been the constant practice of all Christ's Churches in the whole world, ever since the days of the apostles to this day, to assemble for public worship on the Lord's Day, as a day set apart thereto by the apostles.

25

### THEODORE BEZA

Successor to John Calvin at Geneva

The seventh day, having stood from the creation of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was exchanged by the apostles, doubtless at the dictation of the Holy Spirit, for that which was the first day of the new world.

26

### WILLIAM BOOTH

Founder of the Salvation Army

*Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.* That commandment has never been repealed and is therefore binding on us today. Thank God for the Sabbath day.

27

### Professor F F BRUCE

Former Professor at Manchester University

My own experience has been that the change of atmosphere and tempo provided by worship and fellowship in church on the Lord's Day is spiritually indispensable. The academic handling of Scripture is not sufficient to prevent spiritual drought. But even when the Lord's Day programme involves the ministry of the Word it proves spiritually refreshing to speaker as well as to hearers and makes the return to the academic approach for the rest of the week all the more enjoyable and fruitful.

28

### JOHN BUNYAN

English Puritan, author of *Pilgrim's Progress*

A man shall show his heart and life, what they are, more by one Lord's Day than by all the days of the week besides. To delight ourselves in God's service upon His holy Day gives a better proof of a sanctified nature than to grudge at the coming of such days.



29

### Rev JOHN A CAIGER

Former Chairman of the Keswick Convention

We must not take our day of rest for granted. It is a gift of God's providence and of His grace and it could be lost to us as the result of His judgment upon a Godless generation. Let us make the most of it while we have it.



**30 JOHN CALVIN**

Protestant reformer and theologian

The city will be safe if God be truly and devoutly worshipped and this is attested by the sanctification of the Sabbath. If we employ the Lord's Day to make good cheer, to sport ourselves, to go to the games and pastimes, shall God in this be honoured? Is this not a mockery? Is not this an unhallowing of His name?

**31 Rev Dr ADAM CLARKE**

Methodist minister, theologian and Bible commentator

It is by the authority of God that the Sabbath is set apart for rest and religious purposes, as the six days of the week are appointed for labour. How wise is the provision! How gracious this command!

**32 Rev Professor G N M COLLINS**

Former Professor at the Free Church of Scotland College, Edinburgh

The Sabbath, a creation ordinance, is so tremendously important in human life. Man needs the weekly break in the ordinary rhythm of life, and God has placed an accent on the opening word of the fourth commandment in its very first word *Remember*. In a special sense the Lord's Day is the day on which, by His resurrection, He signalled His glorious victory over death and the completion of His work of redemption.

**33 JOHN DOD**

Puritan divine

It were better to leave our work undone upon the days allowed for our labour than to encroach upon God's Day. Then God's work alone can be done on the day which is appointed for His service. The Sabbath is the market-day of the soul on which we lay in spiritual food for the following week; a day that doth saints enrich.

**34 Rev GEORGE B DUNCAN**

Former minister of St George's Tron, Glasgow

I am sure we are meant to approach that day positively and not negatively. To keep it holy means simply to set it apart from some things and for others. These others are essential for true happiness and true living. The day over which the Saviour is Lord, was after all

designed by the perfect wisdom and love of God for man's truest and deepest good and happiness. We can surely then *rejoice and be glad in it*.

**35 Rev JONATHAN EDWARDS**

American Presbyterian preacher and scholar

Let us be thankful for the institution of the Christian Sabbath. It is a thing wherein God hath shown His mercy to us and His care for our souls. He shows that He, by His infinite wisdom, is contriving for our good as Christ teaches us that the Sabbath was made for man. It was made for the profit and comfort of our souls.

**36 MATTHEW HENRY**

Bible commentator

The profanation of the Sabbath is an inlet to all impiety. Those who pollute holy time will keep nothing pure.

**37 Rev CHARLES HODGE**

American Presbyterian theologian

A Sabbath-breaking or Sabbath-neglecting people are notoriously irreligious; the Pharisaical way of observing it is one extreme, the European way is worse still.

**38 Bishop EZEKIEL HOPKINS**

Former Bishop of Derry

The Lord's Day — God sanctifies it by consecration, we sanctify it by devotion.

**39 IGNATIUS**

Christian Father who lived in the time of John the Apostle

Let every one that loveth Christ keep holy the first day of the week, the Lord's Day.

**40 Rev HENRY LAW**

Former Dean of Gloucester

The Sabbath is no passing rite, it is the transcript of Jehovah's mind. It shines a jewel in the high crown of moral law. Jesus decks the Sabbath with undying freshness. The resurrection day becomes the Christians' rest. The same memorial records creation ended and redemption finished. The same repose reminds of two completed works. The Lord's Day tells of rest when worlds were made: of rest when souls were saved.



41

**Rev Dr JOHN LIGHTFOOT**

Member of the Westminster Assembly and Biblical scholar

This is a fit thought for the Sabbath. Now I rest from the world, how shall I rest from it eternally? Now I deal with God invisibly but one day visibly. They who love eternal rest will certainly love the Sabbath.

42

**Rev Professor ADAM LOUGHRIDGE**

Former Principal of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Hall, Belfast

I love the Sabbath most of all because one day by God's grace I shall enjoy an eternal Sabbath in glory. My Heavenly Father does not compare the blessedness and peace of heaven with a workday Monday or a pleasure saturated Saturday, but He likens it to the Sabbath day.

43

**Rev ROBERT MURRAY McCHEYNE**

Minister of St Peter's Church, Dundee

Did you ever meet with a lively believer in any country under heaven, one who loved Christ and lived a holy life, who did not delight in keeping holy to God the entire Lord's Day? England without Sunday is England without God.

44

**Rev J W MEIKLEJOHN, OBE**

Former Scripture Union Schools and Camps Secretary

We believe all our time and every day belongs to God but we knew that, unless we had special times for Him each day and a special day each week kept as His, we might forget Him or let Him be crowded out. The fourth commandment alone says *Remember* so we tried to honour God by remembering Him on the day of His Son's resurrection.

45

**Rev Dr F B MEYER**

English convention speaker and writer

The rest day is one of the quiet resting-places on life's highway. You cannot set yourself against the nature of things and prosper. An inevitable nemesis will find you out. Deep in the constitution of the universe is engraved the law of rest. Because it's there it is obligatory on us all. We neglect it at our peril.

46

**D L MOODY**

American evangelist



No nation has ever prospered that has trampled the Sabbath in the dust. Show me a nation that has done this and I will show you a nation that has got in it the seeds of ruin and decay. I believe that Sabbath desecration will carry a nation down quicker than anything else. Adam brought marriage and the Sabbath with him out of Eden and neither can be disregarded without suffering.

47

**Bishop HANDLEY MOULE**

Former Bishop of Durham and convinced evangelist

Let us not fall into the fast-advancing fashion of making no difference between our Sunday reading and that of the weekday. For our souls' sake and our very lives' sake let us love, reverence and use, in public, private and in secret the Lord's holy Book and also the Lord's ever-blessed Day

48

**Rev Dr J I PACKER**

Principal of Regent College, Vancouver, B C

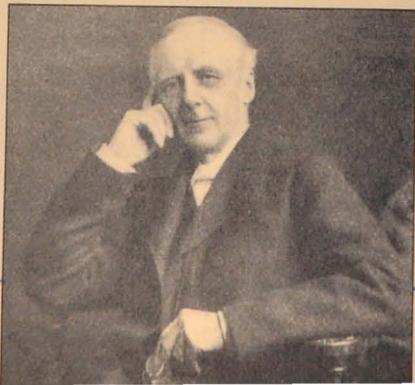
More and more do I see wisdom in God's requirement of a day's rest after each week's work. Truly *the Sabbath was made for man* and we hurt ourselves if we miss our regular rest before the Lord.

49

**Rev JOHN G PATON**

Missionary to the New Hebrides

The blessed day of rest, the inalienable heritage of all God's creatures — Next to the gift of His own Son one of the most precious of all His boons to the human race.





50

**Bishop J C RYLE**

First Bishop of Liverpool

My advice to all Christians is to contend earnestly for the whole day against all enemies, both without and within. It is worth the struggle. The Sabbath breaking of the present day is one among many proofs of the low state of vital religion. The observance of a Sabbath day is part of the eternal law of God. The Sabbath is God's merciful appointment for the common benefit of all mankind. There is not too much religion in the land now. Destroy the sanctity of the Sabbath and there would soon be a lot less. Nothing, in short, I believe, would so thoroughly advance the kingdom of Satan as to withdraw legal protection from the Lord's Day.

51

**Bishop TAYLOR SMITH**

Former Chaplain General to the Forces

I only know of one legitimate way of keeping Sunday, remembering to keep it whole. When the component parts of a man can be separated and live, then you can divide the Lord's Day and keep it.



52

**C H SPURGEON**

Former minister of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London

What blessed days Sabbath days are — I mean the Christian Sabbath on the first day of the week. One day in seven is the Lord's and to rob Him of it is to injure ourselves as well as to disobey our Maker. Rest and worship are two of our sweetest blessings and to them the Sabbath day should be sacredly given.

53

**TERTULLIAN**

Early Church Father

On the Lord's Day Christians should, in honour of the resurrection of the Lord, defer all worldly business.

54

**Dr THOMAS WATSON**

Puritan, rector of St Stephen's Church, Walbrook

The Sabbath day is for our interest. The business of week-days makes us forgetful of God and our souls: the Sabbath brings Him back to our remembrance. God has appointed the Sabbath for this end. The Sabbath day in England lies bleeding; and oh! that our parliament would pour some balm into the wounds which it has received.

55

**Rev JOHN WESLEY**

Founder of Methodism

The end for which the Sabbath was ordained is the attainment of holiness. Sabbaths are as ancient as the world. The Sabbath is not thine, but God's Day.



56

**Bishop DANIEL WILSON**

Bishop of Calcutta &amp; Founder of the LDOS

In my sermons I set out to prove the divine authority and perpetual obligation of a weekly religious rest.

57

**Rev Dr A SKEVINGTON WOOD**

Former Principal of Cliff College

Church and Sunday School, as well as family worship and appropriate relaxation, were all part of an acceptable pattern offering genuine satisfaction and fulfilment. Any person who is denied such opportunities is deprived indeed. The virtual disappearance of such standards from so many homes today constitutes a serious social hazard and goes far to account for our current national malaise.

58

**Rev Dr DINSDALE T YOUNG**

Methodist minister and mighty preacher

The Lord's Day is an everlasting witness to the divine dignity of Christ. To none else is a day of every week dedicated. Why should He be Lord of a day? Because He is Lord of all. Hold fast to your Sabbath as *the Lord's Day*, an eternal witness of the Incarnate God.





## SPORT PERSONALITIES

59

**D G DURIE**

Former Blackpool football player



As Christians we must give of our best in body, mind and spirit. To help us achieve this our church and Sunday worship are essential. Here is our training ground for life.

60

**JONATHAN EDWARDS**

British triple jump champion

Sunday is the best day of the week for me. Foremost, for the chance to meet together with other Christians to worship God and also to rest from all other things which make the rest of the week so hectic. I'm sure God doesn't institute rules without reasons and one day a week of rest is meant for our physical and spiritual wellbeing.

61

**TOM FARRELL**

British Olympic athlete who would not run on Sunday

There are so many grand Christian folk who have brought up children to keep the Lord's Day that I don't want to make it more difficult for any fellow Christian, knowing how boys respect an athlete's word. Sunday is God's Day and I do want to give it all to Him.

62

**J C GIBBS**

Former England rugby international

It is surely our duty to do all we can to influence others and to give Sunday as far as possible a real value in our lives. I feel personally that the more we broaden our habits of Sunday observance, the weaker our grip on spiritual things becomes.

63

**PHIL GUNTER**

Selected to play for the England football team

I believe that six days a week are quite sufficient for participation in sport, whether it be football, cricket or any other game. God has told us to *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy* and I think that the only way one can keep that sadly neglected fourth commandment is to be found in God's house on the Lord's Day. I should love to play for England — but not on a Sunday.

64

**Lord HAWKE**

Former Yorkshire cricket captain

Six day serious cricket demands a Sabbath day rest, and players must think of the honour and glory of their county and take their very necessary rest on Sunday.







## 65 Sir J B HOBBS

Former England test cricketer

Quite apart from the religious issue there is no excuse for a professional wanting to play Sunday cricket. I do not think he should; he has enough of it all the week. He cannot get the best results if he plays on Sunday, because one day's rest each week is essential, and to insist on it is only fair to his country or club. I have been brought up in a religious atmosphere and do not wish to do anything that would injure the cause of Christianity. I cannot act contrary to my principles.

## 66 MICHAEL JONES

New Zealand World Cup rugby player

Since I was young I have not played on Sundays and I do not intend to start now. Sunday is the Lord's Day. Rugby is very important to me but there are other things in life. It is up to the individual but I certainly feel happier adhering to my principles and standards of not playing on a Sunday. It would be hypocritical to change my mind now just because there is a World Cup semi-final coming up. I would love to play, in terms of the opportunity, but I put God first.

## 67 JOHNNY LAWRENCE

Former Somerset all-round cricketer

As a Christian I believe that Sunday sport is harmful to the Christian life of this country. If you have cricket on Sunday, the youngsters are bound to go and see it and that would be a counter-attraction to Sunday School. I'm not a kill-joy, but I think there are more important things to do on Sunday than play cricket. It's contrary to God's law to turn Sunday into a day for sport.

## 68 ERIC H LIDDELL

Olympic gold medalist

There are many people today who think of those who honour Sunday in the old-fashioned way as kill-joys. They feel that during the years of youth they ought to have a chance to 'have their fling'. Give me the day of rest, when all that savours of organised games can be put on one side, and all life's joys will be greater because of it. To me personally it is a time of communion and fellowship with God — a time of quiet, in fact, a time of re-creation by fellowship with God. I believe that Sunday as we have had it in the past is one of the greatest helps in a young man's life to keep all that is noblest, truest and best. That is why I say 'young person stand for the Sunday, for by losing it you will lose far more than the day: you will lose the spirit that it stands for'.



## 69 Miss DOROTHY E ROUND

Former British and Wimbledon lawn tennis champion

I shall never consent to play any tennis on Sundays. I have been a Methodist Sunday School teacher for more than three years and my views on Sunday sport are well known. Whatever happens I shall stick to my guns.

## 70 BARRINGTON WILLIAMS

British indoor long jump record holder

I have made a promise to the Lord that I will not take part in sports events on Sundays. Even if it is at the very top I will jump on Saturday night and Monday morning, but not on Sundays. If it comes down to it, God comes first, athletics second. Sunday is God's Day.





## LEADERS IN MEDICINE

### 71 Professor D MacCALLUM BLAIR

Former Professor at Glasgow University

The Sabbath was provided for the good of man, not to use as he likes, but for the benefit of man by the right usage of the day.

### 72 Sir JAMES CRICHTON- BROWNE

Distinguished physician

We doctors are now constantly compelled in the treatment of nervous diseases to prescribe for our patients prolonged periods of absolute rest and complete seclusion. Such periods are, I think, only Sundays in arrears. Such discipline is sometimes only necessary because the weekly rest has been neglected. Let us carefully preserve our British Sunday in all its sedateness and tranquility, if for no other motive than for its health productive power.

### 73 NIGEL JONES

Consultant surgeon

For my family the Lord's Day is vital in maintaining our spiritual and physical health. We are cemented together by the day and our

foundation in Christ is strengthened as we keep His Day together. Sadly we see spiritual poverty in families all around through neglect of the Christian Sabbath.

### 74 Rear Admiral Sir CECIL WAKELEY

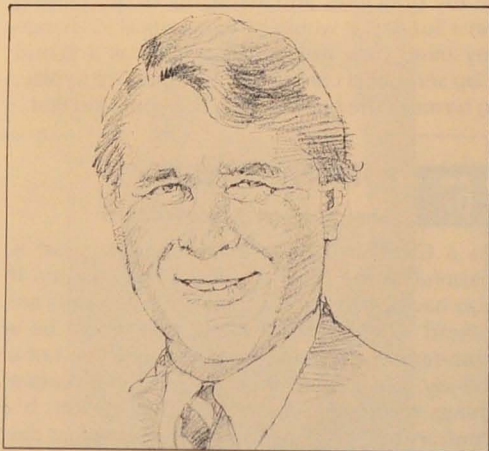
Former Queen's Physician

Purely from a medical point of view it is essential that everybody should get one day's rest a week and this has been proved without doubt over the years.

### 75 Professor VERNA WRIGHT

Professor of Rheumatology at Leeds University

As a University teacher I warn my students against over studying before exams and in particular advise them not to revise on Sundays. The student should observe a Sabbath rest just as much as the manual labourer. As the student keeps a Sabbath rest day he rests his mind and he honours God. To such God says, *Them that honour me I will honour*. We ignore the Sabbath at our peril. We keep it to our inestimable benefit. The decalogue is the basis of God's moral law. Since God knows what is best for us, it is no surprise that those societies and individuals who adhere to them, fare best. I am a Ten Commandments man, not a nine commandments liberal, and regard the fourth commandment as important as the rest. Over 40 years as a Christian I have found that the promises extended to those who honour the Lord's Day have been wonderfully fulfilled.







## LEADERS FROM OTHER WALKS OF LIFE

### 76 JOSEPH ADDISON

Essayist, poet, dramatist, statesman and founder of *The Spectator*

I am always very well pleased with a country Sunday and think, if keeping holy the first day were only a human institution, it would be the best method that could have been thought of for the polishing and civilising of mankind.

### 77 Sir JOHN BOYD, CBE

Former General Secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers

In seeking to influence people to keep the Sabbath sacred and holy The Lord's Day Observance Society has played a wise and enriching role; wise because leisure is so important to all of us and enriching because the disciplines of Christian thought and action have helped to restrict exploitation in many fields of industry and commerce.

### 78 SAMUEL T COLERIDGE

English poet, lecturer, journalist and critic

I feel as if God had, by giving the Sabbath, given fifty-two springs in the year.

79

### MARIE CORELLI

Authoress

The English observance of Sunday is one of the saving graces of our national constitution and is a blessing and educational force that can never be overestimated.

80

### JAMES FOX

Actor and film star

With regard to the Lord's Day, two things stand out. One, the immense help I received in becoming firm in my faith under the preaching of the Word in church. Two, the contentment and godliness of the Christian family with whom I shared many a Sunday in their home, as we rested and talked about life and God's wonderful world.

81

### J A FROUDE

Historian

History is a voice forever sounding across the centuries the laws of right and wrong. Opinions alter, manners change, but the moral law is written on the tables of eternity. The rise and fall of nations depend on the moral laws. When our central faith decays then with it the people perish. No nation is destroyed from without which has not first destroyed itself from within.

82

### Sir MATTHEW HALE

Former Lord Chief Justice

A Sabbath well spent brings a week of content and health for the toils of tomorrow, but a Sabbath profaned, whatever may be gained, is a certain forerunner of sorrow. Lord, help us, we pray to keep holy Thy Day, Thy Word to delight in for ever! The Saviour to love, His mercy to prove, then naught from God's love shall us sever. I have by long and sound experience found that the due observance of this day and of the duties of it have been of singular comfort and advantage to me. God Almighty is the Lord of our time and lends it to us. As we consecrate this part of our time to Him, so we find that a due observance of this day has ever had joined to it a blessing upon the rest of our time.

83

### AN ATHEIST

J O Holyoake (1857)

Whether Englishmen know it or not, it is the English Sunday that has made and keeps England great. If you would kill Christianity, you must first kill Sunday.



**84****Dr S W HUGHES**

The Sabbatical law is written indelibly across God's sky and runs through the whole of nature, and a tremendous price has to be paid for its breaking. I am tired of the people who hold that the fourth commandment cannot have been intended to apply to 20th century conditions and who regard this divine command as the output of an incompetent and limited Deity. I see nothing in our modern life to justify any serious thinker in a relaxation of his obedience to it. A man who prefers tennis on God's Day to worship of his Maker is, at least, following a preference likely to have baneful reactions. It is not so much the deed as the tendency that counts.

**85****Rt Hon Sir THOS INSKIP,  
CBE, KC, MP****Former Lord Chief Justice**

What I feel about the fourth commandment is that it responds to a great human need. Although it was promulgated thousands of years ago, it sets a standard which today we recognise as of great importance to the human race. I am more than ever convinced of its divine authority.

**86****A Scheme for the Sabbath  
by Dr SAMUEL JOHNSON****Philosopher, poet, lexicographer and chief  
writer of his time**

To rise early, and in order to do it, to go to sleep early on Saturday. To use some extraordinary devotion in the morning. To examine the tenor of my life, and particularly the last week; and to mark my advances in religion or recession from it. To read the scriptures methodically with such helps as are at hand. To go to church twice. To read books of Divinity, either speculative or practical. To wear off by meditation any wordly soil contracted in the week.

**87****Lord KINNAIRD****Former leading industrialist**

I am strongly opposed to sport on Sunday. I recognise the good intentions of many advocates of Sunday games. They do not realise, I believe, the danger of our losing the Christian Sunday altogether. Personally I believe in the divine institution of Sunday.

**88****J NEVILLE KNOX****Former Town Clerk and Chief Executive  
of Harrogate**

At the end of a busy week, we are refreshed through our worship of Almighty God in His house. It is a day we treasure as a priceless heritage and I believe we are called to defend it for the benefit of our children and our children's children.

**89****Sir HARRY LAUDER****Scottish singer and comedian**

I am against Sunday theatre shows and I have told my fellow artists so. People who disregard God's Word can never hope to be respected. A man cannot buy respect; he must live the life to win it. When for the first time I came to America, I had four Sunday performances and a more miserable engagement I never fulfilled. I felt I was doing something against my religion, something which I had been taught by my mother was wrong. It was unnatural for me to work on the Sabbath and I felt the shame of it.

**90****W E H LECKY****English historian**

No one who knows England will doubt that the existence of an enforced holiday, devoted primarily to religious worship, has contributed enormously to strengthen the moral life of the nation.

**91****ARTHUR MEE****English writer and editor**

If science knows one thing beyond all challenge it is that, as man cannot live by bread alone, neither can he live by work alone. Who shall say how much we owe to Sunday for the marvellous staying power that has sustained our race through all these critical years? We need consecrated times as well as consecrated places, and Sunday is our day of days ... no man can say what may come if our British Sunday goes. Two things this country has that have been an influence



beyond all words of mankind; the English home and the English Sunday. It is easy to let these priceless blessings go, but when our English home has gone, and our English Sunday, something will have departed from the life of our children, and from the life of our people, for which there can be no compensation. A glow will have gone out of the world and life will never be quite so beautiful again.

## 92 ALEXANDER MORRISON, QPM

Chief Constable of the Grampian Police

As a committed Christian, who has seen, studied or experienced so many facets of life with all its vicissitudes, I find it comparatively easy to reason out and understand both the purpose and the need for a day of rest. Modern man requires its protection more than he will ever care to admit. If a day of rest had not been established, modern society would have been compelled to create it.

## 93 ROBIN OAKE

Chief Constable of the Isle of Man

Sunday, to me, is precious because it is the weekly reminder — anniversary — of our Lord's resurrection. Sunday is also the opportunity, midst a very busy schedule, for fellowship with God's people. Thirdly, I believe it is a day to be kept holy or separate for His purposes and is therefore signified in our family as a day of rest.

## 94 Sir A G B OWEN

Owner of the BRM racing cars

From a business point of view it is accepted that there must be a break in the working week for recreation. There exists a rule by which our scientists have sought to define where in working beyond a certain number of hours per day a worker becomes inefficient and accident prone. God knows what we are made of, He knew the waywardness there exists in man's heart and so the Sabbath day was to be kept for the worshipping of Him.

## 95 Judge ALTON B PARKER

American Supreme Court judge

There can be no social life without gentlemen. There can be no gentlemen without spirituality. There can be no spirituality without a Sabbath decently observed.

96

## Lord SHAFTESBURY

English social reformer

Every sense of humanity, kindness and justice is shocked by the perpetual, unbroken labour of the working man on the Sabbath day. I could not surrender the Sabbath. I could not do it.

97

## Dr W E SHEWELL-COOPER, MBE

Former Director, of the International Horticultural Advisory Bureau

It's one of God's commandments. It is not a request, it's an order. Disobey it at your peril. So we, as a family, and as a business, keep Sunday as the Lord's Day. It isn't our day — it's His Day. Thank you, dear Lord Jesus, for Sunday.

98

## JOSEPH R SIZOO, DD

The pace of life is so intense and the race so keen that out of sheer defence man must keep the Sabbath Day or pay the terrible price of a body broken and a mind that has sagged ... The man who will not respect the Sabbath day mortgages his future and burns energies today, which God means him to reserve for the days that are to come.

99

## ADAM SMITH

Political economist and philosopher

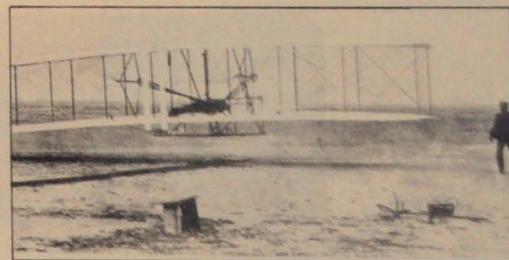
The Sabbath as a political institution is of inestimable value, independently of its claims to divine authority.

100

## The WRIGHT BROTHERS

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We were brought up to have respect for the Lord's Day. Our father was a Christian minister who loved the Lord and His Day. We would never fly on a Sunday.



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