

Outline 15

When History Played a Trick on Us

- I. The search for truth demands a choice of sources.
 - A. The commandments of God lead to eternal truth and life.
 - B. The commandments or traditions of man lead to _____ worship. **MARK 7:5-7 (975)**

- II. The story of "History's Trick" involves three entities.
 - A. The Jewish nation
 - 1. God intended for them to reflect His character to the nations.
 - 2. They swung back and forth between the worship of false _____ and a dead religious formalism with rare brief periods of true spiritual revival.
 - B. Rome's occupation of Palestine
 - 1. Rome at first allowed the Jewish religion to be legal and flourish.
 - 2. When the Jews' nationalistic hatred flared into rebellion, Rome punished them severely and destroyed their capital city, Jerusalem.
 - 3. Emperor Hadrian outlawed the practice of the Jewish religion including the _____.
 - C. The Christian church born out of Judaism
 - 1. Christianity began as a Jewish movement starting with the _____ of Christ.
 - 2. Large numbers of Jewish leaders became Christian. **ACTS 6:7 (1057)**
 - 3. Rome treated Christians and Jews alike with _____ and expulsion from the city of Rome. **ACTS 18:1, 2 (1072)**
 - 4. Jews and Christians clashed over the role of Jesus.

- III. Christians reacted to the Jewish religion being outlawed by Rome.
 - A. Christians wanted to _____ themselves from Judaism.

- 1. Celebrating the same _____ was a pressure point.
 - 2. By the second century Christians tried to reconcile with Rome by being different from the Jews.
 - 3. Justin Martyr (A.D. 100-164) declared the Sabbath was a divine _____ on the Jews to single them out for persecution.
- B. Christians gradually changed their day of worship from Saturday to Sunday.
 - 1. The Christian church in Rome soon became dominant with great influence.
 - 2. Eventually the Roman Church instituted Sabbath _____ and Sunday _____ to commemorate Jesus' resurrection.
 - 3. This built rapport with their pagan neighbors who worshiped the _____ on _____.
 - 4. Eventually most Christians abandoned the Sabbath of the _____.
 - 5. This was reinforced by the Emperor Constantine's professing Christianity and issuing an empire-wide edict (March, A.D. 321) that _____ would be a day of rest.
 - 6. The Christian Council at Laodicea in the fourth century _____ Constantine's edict.
 - C. The Roman Catholic Church claims it substituted Sunday for the seventh-day Sabbath by its _____ authority.
 - D. Whose authority shall we follow?
 - 1. The Bible says to "remember" the seventh-day Sabbath and observe it as God's special gift of time in which to fellowship with Him and enhance all our relationships. **EXODUS 20:8-11 (71)**
 - 2. The _____ church claims the power and authority to change the day of worship to Sunday, the first day of the week.
 - 3. Two separate pathways, but only one of them is the way of Jesus.
 - 4. Sincerity can never be a substitute for _____.
 - 5. We worship Him in vain when we teach as doctrines the commandments of _____ . **MARK 7:5-7 (975)**

ANSWERS: (I) B: vain; (II) A-2: gods; B-3: Sabbath; C-1: disciplines; C-3: persecution; (III) A: distance; A-1: Sabbath; A-3: punishment; B-2: fasting, feasting; B-3: Sun, Sunday; B-4: Bible; B-5: Sunday; B-6: ratified; C: own; D-2: Roman; D-4: truth; D-5: men