

have no day of rest and worship under this better economy? (No.) Can you believe that the muck-rake must be constantly in your hand, the crown that is above you never steadfastly regarded? Has one of the most blessed elements of the old dispensation passed away, while nothing equal or better has taken its place? If the New Testament had said not a word about it I should not have believed that; but the New Testament is not silent. The Lord's day is the heir-at-law to the Old Testament Sabbath, and perpetuates all that is distinctive and most important in the Sabbath of the old dispensation.

Well, what is our proof for the Lord's day? Will you allow me to introduce this by stating that there are three views regarding the foundation of the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath. The first is that the Christian Sabbath is the same institution as the Sabbath of the Old Testament. It has its foundation in the fourth commandment. A second view is that we may not appeal to the Old Testament in support of a Sabbath under the new economy, but we have good authority in the New Testament for observing the Lord's day. And the third view is that the observance of the first day of the week as a sacred day rests merely on ecclesiastical authority. It is a good and valuable institution, helpful to the cultivation of spiritual life, but it cannot plead the direct sanction, either of the Lord or of His apostles. The church, however, has power to decree such a day, and it should be observed. For myself I accept the first view, if it is correctly stated. A large number of Christian scholars, no doubt, prefer the middle position, that the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, rests purely upon New Testament ground. I believe that the Lord's day is so related to the Old Testament Sabbath that we are not restricted to the New Testament for proof of the Weekly Rest. If the Old Testament testifies to the universality and