

the first day should be regarded by the church as peculiarly sacred, and be observed as a day of rest and worship—a day when the most precious spiritual blessings may be expected and received through faith in our risen and glorified Saviour, in answer to heart-felt, public, united prayer. The force of this statement depends of course, on whether it be a fact or not the day of Pentecost really occurred on the first day. That the Pentecost, i. e. the fiftieth day from the Passover came on the first day of the week, is we think capable of proof. In Lev. xxiii: 15–16, we read as follows,—“And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering, seven sabbaths shall be complete; even unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath shall ye number *fifty* days, &c.” “*The morrow after the seventh Sabbath*” must be acknowledged to be the first day of the week;—this was therefore the Pentecost. Thus the seventh day was again rejected and the first day was chosen for the manifestation of the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit bestowed, according to the Divine promise, in his fulness on the disciples to fit them for their appointed work, and in attestation of our Lord’s progression of regal and mediatorial power and glory at the right hand of God. This fact taken in connexion with the preceeding ones we have noticed, as having occurred by Divine appointment on the first day, must produce in a thoughtful, serious, and unprejudiced mind, a conviction that Father, Son and Holy Spirit united to sanctify and bless this day as one to be had in perpetual remembrance and honour. Is it not plain from the facts stated, that it is the will of God that his church should transfer the regard that had hitherto been properly given to the seventh day as the Sabbath to the *first* day, as being more glorious, because of its more intimate relation to Christ and his victory; and from this consideration better fitted than any other day to be made the memorial of what is most glorious in the Past; and also the type of that eternal rest and glory