

# TRUTH & RIGHT

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## RASH WORDS

In the New Testament, we learn that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day. In this article, I want to focus on a few important things that occurred on the first day of the week. **The Empty Tomb of Christ:** *"Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. They were saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?' Looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was very large. Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed"* (Mk. 16:1-5). On the first day of the week, the women came to the tomb and saw that Christ was not there. John's account includes Mary Magdalene saying, *"They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him"* (Jn. 20:2). The empty tomb of our Lord is of utmost significance to our faith. If His

dead body is still in the grave, we have no hope (I Cor. 15:12-20). Notice that in the planning and wisdom of God, He made sure this took place on the first day of the week. Furthermore, God includes in His word that this event occurred on the first day of the week. **The Resurrection of Christ:** *"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying'"* (Matt. 28:6). Earlier in the chapter, we learn that this occurred on the first day of the week (Matt. 28:1). The women saw the empty tomb, they saw the angel, and the angel told them that Jesus arose. This all happened on the first day of the week. The very thing that Jesus promised and prophesied has come to pass (Jn. 2:19; Mk. 14:58). Jesus prophesied that He would give His life on the cross, and

would be raised from the dead. Jesus was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead (Rom. 1:4). The resurrection of Christ is so crucial to our faith that God says our faith is useless if it did not happen (1 Cor. 15:14). Christ arose from the dead on the first day of the week.

### **Partaking Of The Lord's**

**Supper:** *"On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight"* (Acts 20:7). We see in this passage an approved example of worship to God. Notice that Scripture makes it clear that disciples were gathered together on the first day of the week. They were not gathered on the seventh day or the fourth day, but the first day. They were gathered to break bread (the Lord's Supper). The Lord instituted this Supper on the night He was betrayed. He commands us to eat the bread and drink the cup to remember Him and His sacrifice (Matt. 26:26-28). In Scripture, we see no command, example, or necessary inference that states that we can partake of the Supper on any other day. If we decide to do it on the 6th or 7th day of the week, we go beyond God's authority. Only those who do God's will can enter the kingdom of Heaven (Matt. 7:21-23). The silence of God does not permit, but prohibits. We see that the first day of the week is the

Lord's Day. His tomb was found empty on the first day, He rose from the dead on the first day, and we gather to partake of the Supper and to worship on the first day. Let's obey God and honor Him as He commands us each first day of the week. Jordan Lawson

A large part of being a faithful servant of God is refuting false doctrine. In Jude 3, we are instructed to *"contend earnestly for the faith."* In our society, there are many false views of the Lord Jesus. There are many opinions on who Jesus is. Some think Jesus was just a good man. Others think Jesus was a created being. Some believe He is the only member of the Godhead. I want to deal with a specific issue on the identity of Jesus from the book of Mormon. *"Behold, I am Jesus Christ, I am the Father and the Son"* (Ether 3:14). This is a direct quotation from the book of Mormon. Notice, it has Jesus saying He is the Father and the Son. What does Scripture say? *"I came forth from the Father and have come into the world..."* (Jn. 16:28). Jesus says He came from the Father. Notice, Jesus and the Father are separate. They are One in nature, purpose, and doctrine, but they are not the same Person. If the Mormon view is true, then this text has Jesus saying, *"I came forth from Myself and have come into the world."* John 1:1 says, *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God..."* Notice, Christ the Word is with God. He is not the

Father also.

Col. 1:10). – Jordan Lawson

We need to be concerned with what Scripture says about Jesus. We need to be willing to use the sword of the Spirit (the word of God, Eph. 6:17) to combat false views of our Lord.

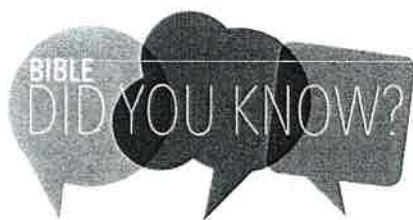
Think about it like this, if someone is slandering the name of your loved one, will you sit back in silence, or will you defend their name? I believe most of us would agree that we'd defend their name.

We need to love our Lord Jesus more than we love any human being (Matt. 10:37). So let's defend His name and His honor!

Having a scriptural view of Jesus is paramount to our faith. If we believe in a false Jesus, we have no eternal life (Jn. 6:53). If we submit to a Jesus that is not the One revealed in Scripture, we are still in our sins (Jn. 8:24).

Psalm 2:12 tells us to "Kiss the Son." This simply means to pay homage to the Son or submit to the Son. We pay homage to Jesus by obeying Him and seeking to learn about Him as He is. We always need to be ready to defend the name of our Lord (1 Pet. 3:15).

Let us search the Scriptures daily so we can know our Lord and please Him always (Acts 17:11).



***“Do not be envious of evil men, nor desire to be with them; for their minds devise violence, and their lips talks of trouble. By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong, and a man of knowledge increases power. For by wise guidance you will wage ware, and in abundance of counselors there is victory.”***

***Prov. 24:1-6***

# People, Places, and Things of the **BIBLE**



## *Son of Immer Inscription Found*

As the Temple Mount Sifting Project reopened in a new Jerusalem location, researchers announced the discovery of a clay seal impression (bulla), identifying it as “the first readable ancient Hebrew inscription found on the Temple Mount.” The priestly family of Immer served in the temple (1 Chron. 24:14). Pashur, son of Immer, is called the chief official in the temple of Yahweh, when he had Jeremiah beaten and put in the stocks (Jer. 20:1–2). Minister of Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage Zeev Elkin played show and tell at the June 2 Cabinet meeting this week. To mark Jerusalem Day, a national holiday celebrating the 1967 reunification of Jerusalem, Elkin brought to the Prime Minister’s Office a rare 2,700-year-old First Temple clay sealing impression, fittingly inscribed with the name of a priestly family of Temple Mount political administrators. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu studied the minuscule artifact and called for a magnifying glass to read the faint paleo-Hebrew script while Elkin explained that he had just arrived from the relaunch of the Temple Mount Sifting project, an “amazing” endeavor that has unearthed huge amounts of fascinating artifacts, he said. After a two-year hiatus, the project, up and running again since Sunday, is now housed in a previously abandoned tree-filled grove in east Jerusalem, located at the nexus of the Mount of Olives and Hebrew University’s Mount Scopus campus. As in the previous nearby location, paying volunteers sort through a jumble of debris and earth that was illegally excavated by Muslim authorities from the Temple Mount, a site holy to all three monotheistic religions. The clay seal impression Elkin brought to the meeting bears the fragmented ancient Hebrew inscription, “(Belonging to) [...] lyahu (son of) Immer,” which could be read as “Belonging to Ga’alyahu son of Immer.” The inscribed name references a priestly family mentioned in the Book of Jeremiah, thought to have lived in the 7<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> Centuries BCE. According to archaeologist Zachi Dvira, co-director of the Temple Mount Sifting Project, aside from almost illegible fragments of ancient Hebrew inscriptions on potsherds, “this is the first readable ancient Hebrew inscription ever found from the Temple Mount.”

