

**THE WOMAN
WHO FOUND
THE LOST
PIECE OF SILVER**

By William T. Barrett

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THE WOMAN WHO FOUND THE MISSING PIECE OF SILVER

LUKE 15

8 Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*? **9** And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

QUESTIONS :

(THINK !)

- 1 What is the problem of the woman ?

- 2 What did the woman **lose** ?

- 3 Where did the woman lose the silver piece ?

- 4 What was the condition of the house ?

- 5 What did the woman **do** to find the silver piece ?

- 6 Did the woman find the silver piece **easily** ?

- 7 What did the woman **do** after she found the silver piece ?

- 8 Who does the woman represent ?

- 9 What does the silver represent ?

- 10 What do the 10 pieces of silver represent ?

- 11 What does the 1 piece of silver represent ?

- 12 What does the candle represent ?

- 13 What does it mean to "light a candle" ?

- 14 What does light represent ?

- 15 What does darkness represent ?

- 16 What does the house represent ?

- 17 What is the significance of sweeping the house ?

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QUESTIONS :

(THINK ! **First** about the **Physical**).


- 1 What is the problem of the woman ?
(The woman has **lost** something of **value** to her).
- 2 What did the woman **lose** ?
(The woman **lost 1 piece** of **silver**).
- 3 Where did the woman lose the silver piece ?
(The woman **lost** the 1 piece of **silver** in the **house**).
- 4 What was the condition of the house ?
(The house was **dark** and **dirty**)
- 5 What did the woman **do** to find the silver piece ?
(The woman "**lit a candle**" to produce **light** in the house and then **swept** the **house** to remove the **dirt** hiding the **silver**).
- 6 Did the woman find the silver piece **easily** ?
(The woman had to seek and search diligently to find the 1 piece of missing silver).
- 7 What did the woman **do** after she found the silver piece ?
(The woman **rejoiced** and called her friends and neighbors to share the good news of finding the 1 piece of missing silver).

(THINK ! About THE **SPIRITUAL**)

8 Who does the **woman** represent ?

Key Word 

WOMAN = ?
(Pure, dressed in white)



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WOMAN= God's church
(Pure) (True Church)


ISA 54:5,6 "Thy Maker is thy husband, the Lord of Hosts is His name. . .the Lord hath called thee, as a woman. . .and a wife . . ."

REV 19:7,8 ". . .the marriage of the Lamb is come and His wife. . .arrayed in fine linen, clean and white. . ."

THE "**WOMAN**" REPRESENTS THE "**CHURCH**"

9 What does the **silver** represent ?

Key Word 



SILVER = ?

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SILVER = Words of God
10 Commandments and Bible

Psm.12:6 The words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

THE "**SILVER**" REPRESENTS THE "**WORDS**" OF GOD
(THE BIBLE AND 10 COMMANDMENTS)


10 What do the **10 pieces** of **silver** represent ?


(The 10 pieces of "silver" represent
Gods' words in 10 parts or
God's 10 COMMANDMENT LAW)

11 What does the 1 piece of silver represent ?

(The 1 piece of missing "Silver" represents
1 piece missing from **Gods'Words**
1 Commandment missing from the 10 Commandments
1 part of **GODS'LAW** missing.)

12 What does the “candle” represent ?

Key Word 

CANDLE = ? 

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CANDLE = GODS' WORD
(The Bible)

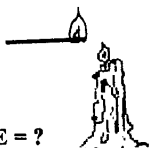
Ps. 119:105
Thy word is a *candle unto my
feet, and a light unto my path.

*Candle = Hebrew word
Lamp = English word

THE “**CANDLE**” represents THE “**BIBLE**” (God’s Word)

13 What does it mean to “light” a candle ?

Key Word 

LIGHT A CANDLE = ? 


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LIGHT A CANDLE=Study the Bible to understand truth

Ps. 18:28
28 For thou wilt light my candle:
the Lord my God will enlighten
my darkness.

TO “**STUDY**” THE “**BIBLE**” (TO UNDERSTAND TRUTH)

14 What does “light” represent ?

Key Word 

LIGHT = ? 

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LIGHT=TRUTH

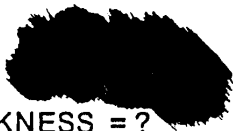
Ps. 43:3 “O send out thy light
and thy truth....”

John 3:21 “ But he that doeth
truth cometh to the light...”

“**LIGHT**” represents “**TRUTH**”

15 What does “darkness” represent ?

Key Word 

DARKNESS = ? 

(Evening, night, black, **MIDNIGHT**)

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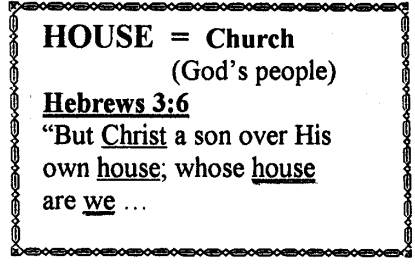
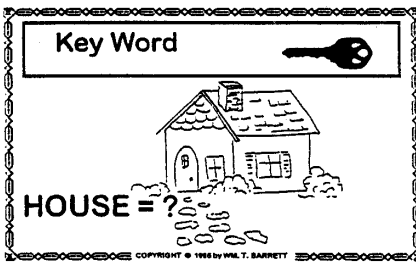
DARKNESS = LACK OF UNDERSTANDING (ERROR)

Ps. 82:5 “They know not, neither do they understand, they walk on in darkness....”

MIDNIGHT (Greatest Physical Darkness)
(Greatest Spiritual Darkness) or **ERROR**)

“**DARKNESS**” REPRESENTS “**ERROR**”
(Lack of Understanding)

16 What does the “house” represent ?



THE “HOUSE” represents THE “CHURCH”

17 What is the significance of “sweeping” the house ?

ISAIAH 28

17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plumper : and the hail shall **sweep away** the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

The Bible uses the word “sweep” in the context of removing evil or removing something that is false (lies).

If the woman had to “sweep” the house in order to find the piece of silver, then there **must** have been **dust** or **dirt** or **sand** which was **hiding** the piece of silver and had to be “swept away” before the silver piece could be **seen**.

Similarly the **church** (woman) must have had to **remove** (sweep away) the “**dust**” or “**sand**” of **man's words**, before **God's Words** (SILVER PIECE) could be **seen** !

JOSHUA 11

4 And they went out, they and all their hosts with them, much **people** even as the **sand** upon the seashore...

GENESIS 2

7 And the Lord God formed **man** of the **dust** of the ground,

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- 9 And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me ; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

QUESTIONS :

(THINK ! **FIRST** ABOUT THE **PHYSICAL**
AND THEN ABOUT THE **SPIRITUAL**)

1 What is the problem of the woman ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman has lost something of **value**

(SPIRITUAL) The **church** has lost something of **spiritual value**

2 **What** did the woman lose ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman **lost** 1 piece of 10 pieces of **silver**

(SPIRITUAL) The **church** **lost** 1 PART of 10 PARTS of **GOD'S LAW**

3 **Where** did the woman **lose** 1 piece of silver ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman **lost** 1 piece of silver **in the house**

(SPIRITUAL) The **church** is **responsibile** for causing **1** of the **10 Commandments** of **God** to be **LOST !!**

4 What was the condition of the house ?

(PHYSICAL) The house was dark and dirty

(SPIRITUAL) (The **church** was lacking in understanding (dark) and relying on man's word (dirt, dust, sand).)

5 What did the woman **do** to find the 1 piece of silver ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman "**lit a candle**" to produce **light** in the house so she could **see** and then swept the house to remove the dust and dirt that was hiding the 1 piece of silver.

(SPIRITUAL) (The **church** began to "**study the Bible**" (GOD'S WORD) to see **truth** and the **church** began to **understand** and it began to remove the lies and the **false teaching** of **man** that was hiding the **1 Commandment of GOD** that was **LOST!**)

6 Did the woman **find** the 1 piece of silver **easily** ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman had to **seek** and **search** **diligently**.

(SPIRITUAL) (The **church** had to spiritually search the **scriptures** **diligently**, comparing them, to find the **missing Commandment** of **God** that was **LOST**.)

7 What did the woman **do** after she **found** the 1 piece of silver that was missing ?

(PHYSICAL) The woman **rejoiced** and called her friends and neighbors to **share** the **good news** of **finding** the 1 piece of silver that had been **lost**.

(SPIRITUAL) (The **church** **rejoiced** and began to **share** the “**Good News**” of **finding** the **1 Commandment** of **God** that had been **lost** by the **church** !)

PHYSICAL

SPIRITUAL

Woman	=	CHURCH
Silver	=	<u>GOD'S WORDS</u>
10 pieces silver	=	GOD'S WORDS in <u>10 Parts</u> (10 commandments)
Candle	=	The Bible
Light a candle	=	Study the Bible to understand it
Light	=	Truth
Darkness	=	Error and false teaching
House	=	Church
Sweep the house	=	<u>Remove false teaching of men</u>
Dust + Dirt	=	Teaching of men

COMMENTS :

- 1 The **Church** (woman) is **responsible** for **1 Commandment** of God (1 piece of SILVER) being **lost** !
- 2 The **1 law** of God (1 piece of SILVER) was **lost in the church** (house).
- 3 The **church** (house) was full of **Error** and **False Teaching** (darkness).
- 4 In order to **find** the **LOST Commandment** (1 piece of SILVER), the **church** (woman) had to **Study the Bible** (light a candle).
- 5 The **truth** (light) of the **Bible** (candle) removed the **error and false teaching** (darkness) and helped the **church** (woman) to **find** the **LOST commandment** (lost piece of silver).
- 6 The **LOST commandment** (lost piece of SILVER) was **hidden** because of the **teaching of men** (silver piece covered with dust + dirt).
- 7 The **church** (woman) had to **remove** (sweep away) the **words of men** (dust + dirt) and then she could clearly **see** the **LOST Words of God**, and she **found** the **missing Commandment** (1 piece of silver).
- 8 The **church** (woman) **searched diligently** in order to **find** the **LOST Commandment** (LOST piece of silver) and **when** she had **found it** she **shared** the **Good News** with her **friends** and **neighbors** !

8 Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*?

9 And when she hath found *it*, she calleth *her* friends and *her* neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

BIBLE VERSE : Luke 15 : 8,9

(church) (10 Commandments) (church)
 Either what **woman** having **ten pieces of silver**, if **she** lose
 (1 Commandment) (study the Bible to find truth)
one piece, doth not **light a candle** and
 (clean up) (church) (church)
sweep the **house** and seek diligently till **she**
 (missing Commandment)
 find **it** ?
 (church) (missing Commandment)
 (church)

And when **she** hath found **it** **she** calleth her friends and her neighbors together, saying, Rejoice

(missing Commandment)
 with me ; for I have found the **piece** which I had lost.

PARAPHRASE :

(woman) (10 pieces of silver) (she)
 The **Church** had the **Ten Commandments** but the **Church** lost
 (one piece)
 One **Commandment**.

(light a candle)
 Then, Gods people began **to study the Bible to find truth** and
 (sweep) (house)
 to **clean up** the **Church** and to search diligently until they had
 (it) (she)
 found the **lost Commandment**. And when the **Church** had
 (it)
 found the **lost Commandment** she called her friends and
 (piece)
 neighbors together, saying, I have found the **Commandment**
 which I had lost.

What 1 commandment (1 piece of SILVER) of **God's Law** has been **removed**" (lost) from the 10 commandments (10 pieces of SILVER) ?

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 : 3-17)

- (1) 3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me 1 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (2) 4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 2 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- 5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them or serve them : for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God...
- (3) 7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. 3 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (4) 8 Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy 4 ✗ MOST MINISTERS
- 9 Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work DO NOT ACCEPT THE
- 10 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God : in it thou shalt not do any work. Thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, that is within thy gates. 7TH DAY SABBATH
- 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- (5) 12 Honor thy father and thy mother : that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. 5 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (6) 13 Thou shalt not kill 6 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (7) 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery 7 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (8) 15 Thou shalt not steal 8 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (9) 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor 9 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT
- (10) 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's 10 ✓ ALL MINISTERS ACCEPT

{ THE 7th day SABBATH (4th Commandment) }
 has been **LOST** or "removed" from the **LAW**
 by the Ministers !

NOTE : This letter is an example of how the Ministers and teachers are causing the “**one piece**” of GOD’S LAW (4th Commandment) **7th day** SABBATH to be **LOST** !

POPULAR TEACHING (CHURCH OF CHRIST)

Dear Diane,

May 31, 2000

Thanks for your continued and excellent work in your Bible Correspondence Courses. This letter is in response to your observation about the ten commandments. The following is sent for your consideration with hope it will be helpful.

The ten commandments are a part of the law of Moses which was God’s law for the nation of Israel in the Old Testament days. We find the ten commandments listed both in Exodus chapter 20 and in Deuteronomy chapter 5. A close reading of these passages will show that this law was between God and Israel. This is the law which Christ fulfilled (Matthew 5 : 17). He took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross (Colossians 2 : 14-17).

It is often said that Jesus took only the ceremonial law away but left the moral part of the law. Of course, the Bible teaches just the contrary. He took all of the law out of the way and we are no longer under the law of Moses. In Romans chapter seven, Paul is discussing the fact that under Christ, we “become dead to the law by the body Christ” (Romans 7 : 3). In verse six he says “we are delivered from the law”. In verse seven he is very specific and identifies the law by one of its precepts namely “Thou shalt not covet”. Obviously, the ten commandments, of which “Thou shalt not covet” is one, are a part of that which we have been delivered from.

Well, does this mean that we can have other gods, or build idols, or take God’s name in vain, etc. Of course not. But the reason why is because the law of Christ, under which all people now live... forbids these things. In fact, some of the ten commandments are listed in Paul’s letter to the Romans (Romans 13 : 9). This makes them a part of the law of Christ. Some of the ten commandments have been made even stronger. For example, under the ten commandments, murder was condemned ; under the law of Christ, becoming angry which leads to murder is condemned (Matthew 5 : 21-22). Under the law of Christ adultery may be committed even in the heart (Matthew 5 : 27-28).

The one law of the ten commandments which is not part of the law of Christ is the Sabbath observance. Even those today who claim we ought to keep the Old Testament ten commandments do not keep the seventh day ; and those who do profess to keep the seventh day do not do so as the Old Testament teaches ; they have made new rules, which, of course, God prohibits.

I hope this will be of some assistance. I realize it sounds strange to many to say, we are not to keep the ten commandments today. However, once we see the true Bible teaching on the subject, we realize that we live under even a better law. The great principles which were so important to the nation of Israel have been made even greater for us under the law of Christ.

Thanks for studying. Please write again if further clarification is desired.

Sincerely, Jim Lewis CHURCH OF CHRIST CORRESPONDANCE COURSE

THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC QUARTERLY REVIEW
Volume VIII
FROM JANUARY to OCTOBER, 1883
THE OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAY AND CIVIL LAWS
FOR ITS ENFORCEMENT. 139

The **Sunday**, as a day of the week set apart for the obligatory public **worship** of Almighty God ; to be sanctified by a suspension of all servile labor, trade, and worldly avocations and by exercises of devotion, is **purely a creation of the Catholic Church**.

The Sunday laws are in their origin a part of the Catholic system enforced by the state when Europe was Catholic. The day and the regulations have no logical basis except the authority of the Catholic Church.

In the primitive days of fervor and piety all days were so consecrated by exercises of devotion that **no special command** for the sanctification of the first day is traced.

This became gradually obligatory, although the command was not at first peremptory. The Council of Laodicea, in 364 A.D., defines : "That *Christians must not Judaize and refrain from manual labor on Saturday, but work on that day ; and that, preferring the Lord's day, they must then rest, if this can be done, as becomes Christians*".

The **Church** thus began by **calling her children to sanctify the first day of the week**, that on which God the Son rose from the dead, that, on which God the Father began the creation of the world, and God the Holy Ghost descended on the Apostles. She commanded a laying aside of business, a refraining from servile work, as a means to the end she had in view, the sanctification of the day.

Constantine lent the **power of the state to enforce the regulations** of the **Church**, and the **civil law** began to enforce the **spiritual decrees**. He commanded the **Lord's day to be observed by all** as a festival and **day of rest**.

Protestantism, in discarding the authority of the Church, **has no good reason** for its **Sunday theory**, and ought, logically, to **keep Saturday** as the **Sabbath**, with the Jews and Seventh-Day Baptists.

COMMENTS

Thus, the Catholic Church is clearly responsible for accomplishing the change of the days of worship !

Men and women did not willingly change from the 7th day to 1st day.

They were forced by civil laws of the government, enforcing the decrees of the Catholic Church, to make the change or suffer the penalty of the law !

According to the Catholic Church, “nothing in Scripture requires the change or justifies it”.

Most of the Protestant world has accepted the change of worship days from the 7th to the 1st day without having a Biblical or Scriptural basis for the change.

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

You have just seen how God predicted in His Word that the Church would “lose” one of His Commandments.

You have also seen how the Church used the Civil power to force men to worship on the 1st day instead the 7th day.

You have also seen a typical letter from a “teacher” telling a student that of all the Commandments, only the 4th Commandment (7th Day Sabbath) should not be kept.

Now **you** will have to decide whether you will accept man’s word or whether you will accept God’s Word !

Other Bible Study Helps:

You will want to order “*How to Study and Understand Your Bible*” (104) for yourself or for friends or relatives. This book will simplify your study of the Bible using word pictures of real objects to explain the Spiritual meaning of Bible texts. (See *Bible Word Pictures* reference booklet described below.) “*How to Study...*” is also available in Spanish: *Cómo Estudiar y Entender Su Biblia* (204).

Along with the “*How to Study and Understand Your Bible*” book, you will need to also order the *Bible Word Pictures* reference booklet (106). This booklet contains 240 Bible Word Pictures which can be used to study the **Spiritual** meaning of any Bible text. The **Pictures** and corresponding **Bible texts** identify the **Spiritual** meaning of objects and make it easy to visualize and remember them. The *Bible Word Pictures* will allow you to discover the “**hidden treasure**” of the Bible. Also available in Spanish: *Ilustraciones de la Biblia* (206).

You can start a Bible Study Group using the “*How to Study...*” book (104) or the pamphlet lessons (105), along with the *Bible Word Pictures* ref. booklet (106).

The books “*Bible Parables Made Simple*” (101) and (102) cover the Parables, which contain the **Truths** that Jesus felt were the most important for us to understand. You will be **fascinated** as you see how the Bible explains itself, as the *Bible Word Pictures* reveal the hidden meanings of the parables. **Volume 1** explains 13 parables from the book of Matthew and **Volume 2** explains parables from Matthew and other books of the Bible.

The booklet *Last Day Events* (103) will amaze you as you see all the major events foretold to happen to the church outlined in the first book of the Bible, Genesis.

The book “*Bible Concepts compared to Popular Beliefs*” (107) will surprise you, as you compare the Scriptures and discover the Bible Concept of various subjects as compared to Popular Beliefs.