

What was blotted out on the cross of Christ?
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Let us examine the position that the following text renders the weekly Sabbath optional or abolished:
Colossians 2:13-17-

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it. Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ.

The charge that the Holy Ghost here speaks through Paul to eliminate the weekly Sabbath day, or the decalogue which contains it is fraught with problems:

1. Christ solemnly promised that not one jot or tittle would pass from the law without heaven and earth passing away first and all being fulfilled: Matthew 5: 17,18
2. The text cites 'handwriting'. The ten commandments were written with the FINGER of God, while the ceremonial, judicial, hygienic, dietary and other laws were those written with the 'handwriting' of Moses.
3. The ten commandments were written in STONE (which cannot be nailed to anything BTW), while the other laws were written on parchment (in a book).
4. The ten commandments were deposited INSIDE of the ark of the covenant, while the other laws written by Moses were placed "in the side of the ark" Deut. 31:26
5. The text cites 'ordinances'. The ten commandments are not referred to as ordinances in scripture. They are always referred to separately from ordinances. Note the direct connection of this word with ceremonial laws in the following text:

Hebrews 9:8-10 The Holy Ghost thus signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which [was] a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; [Which stood] only in MEATS and DRINKS, and divers WASHINGS, and CARNAL ORDINANCES, imposed [on them] until the time of reformation.

This text clearly relates to the text under examination and does not include any of the ten commandments, showing the function of type/antitype, shadow/body, which Paul is referring to in Colossians.

6. What Paul refers to as being blotted or 'erased' (Greek) is described as "against us" and "contrary to us" and "in our way". This could only refer to the laws dealing with animal sacrifice/shadows, for the Word testifies of the ten commandments in the following terms:

"...perfect, CONVERTING THE SOUL" and "...pure, ENLIGHTENING THE EYES" Psalm 19:7,8

"HOLY, AND JUST, <<FAIR>> AND GOOD" and "SPIRITUAL" ROMANS 7:12,14

7. The original Greek does not contain the single article (the) before the word 'sabbath', AND it appears in plural form - 'sabbaths', which much more clearly identifies what Paul's intended meaning was. The only sabbaths which were blotted out by the death of our Lord were those "which were a shadow of things to come". These were the ceremonial sabbaths outlined in Leviticus 23 (7 of them), which could fall on any day of the week and were specifically instituted to FORESHADOW the redemptive work of our Lord. The body being Christ Himself, the shadow is now obsolete.

8. Even if the weekly Sabbath could be constituted 'shadowy', (which it is not, although there are certainly spiritual applications to be drawn from it's significance concerning redemption) nothing will ever change the basis upon which Deity FIRST established it's sanctity:

"For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: WHEREFORE << THIS IS WHY>> the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. Exodus 20:11

Had man never chosen to rebel in Eden, this day would still be holy and always will be upon this basis alone.