14. Do We Worship *Satyr*?

Can Lunar Sabbatarians Trace Ancient Israel's Worship of a Goat-Demon to a Specific Day of a Continuously-Repeating Cycle?

In our chapter titled "Stranded On a Deserted Island," we presented a simple, yet profound, truth regarding lunar sabbatarians: *They are not in agreement on how to determine the first day of a Scriptural month!* Since they have disagreements over which is the first day of a month, the logical consequence is that they will be observing their weekly Sabbaths on differing days – all the while ridiculing non-lunar sabbatarians for not being able to grasp such a "simple truth" as lunar sabbath observance. Not only that, but the best they can apparently produce is a 75% success rate of having the phases of the moon align with their lunar sabbath days. Just this fact alone should be enough to silence those lunar sabbatarians who boast about being able to quickly determine, just by looking at the shape of the moon, which day of the month it is. When you combine these little-known details with the fact that the Scriptures used by lunar sabbatarians to justify their doctrine are texts that may be interpreted in another way … *and* the fact that there is no historical evidence supporting the view that any ancient (true) believers ever observed lunar sabbaths, the scales heavily tip in favor of the opposing view.

In spite of the above-listed concerns, we have found that some, though not all, lunar sabbatarians, scoff at those of us who recognize a continuously-repeating weekly cycle, depicting our choice as either representing the ignorant or willful worship of Satan. Of course, no matter which path one chooses to follow, there seems to always be someone there to inform him or her that it's the wrong path, and worse yet, that the path they're on is a *satanic* one. June and I have had this charge levied our way by Sunday-keepers and fellow Sabbath-keepers alike, so it didn't come as any surprise when we learned that some lunar sabbatarians resort to using this same approach. If it were only a few scattered lunar sabbatarians upbraiding us in this manner, we would probably just "shrug it off" without dignifying such a harsh judgment with a response. Indeed, we feel we have already answered those charges in our chapter titled "More Lunar Sabbatarian 'Hardball': Associating Modern Judaism with the Term 'Saturday.'" In that chapter, which we composed back in 2007, we predicted that lunar sabbatarians would continue chastising non-lunar sabbatarians by referring to the day on which we rest and worship as "saturnday," "satyrday," etc. We're not about to declare ourselves as prophets, but our prediction has certainly come true to this point, at least in the year 2010.

While we anticipated continued references to "saturnday" and "satyrday," we did *not* expect to be branded as *Satan worshippers* by lunar sabbatarians. Moreover, we would never have expected so many believers to fall for this line of reasoning. One fellow non-lunar sabbatarian, whose name we prefer to keep anonymous, seemed to *almost* fall for it himself. After reading many of the lunar sabbatarian attempts to trace the observance of continuously-repeating weekly Sabbaths to worship of the idol *Satyr*, here is what our friend wrote:

> They have come up with some new info about ancient Israel's alleged worship of the "satyr" or goat-demon, and the related planet Saturn (the star-god Chiun or Remphan), and their relation to the day called satyrday or satur[n]day. All told, they have built an extensive case for lunarism,

> although it's far from conclusive, and has a number of 'holes' (missing pieces).[1]

We are thankful to report that the above gentleman, though certainly impressed with the "extensive case" produced by lunar sabbatarians, simultaneously recognizes the "holes." Our friend is a very insightful and knowledgeable student of the Word, so if he can *almost* fall for the lunar sabbatarian approach of attempting to connect the observance of continuously-repeating weekly Sabbaths with heathen idol worship, you can be assured that other less-seasoned students *will* fall for this approach.

What Does the Original Modern-Day Lunar Sabbatarian Have to Say About This "Connection"?

Those of you who have followed the progress of this study from our Introduction are well aware that June and I know of no modern-day lunar sabbatarian who observed lunar sabbaths prior to the man named Jonathan David Brown. The very first lunar sabbatarian that we encountered recommended that we purchase Mr. Brown's book *Keeping Yahweh's Appointments*. We did not follow his recommendation, and it wasn't until a friend gave us a copy of *Keeping Yahweh's Appointments* that we were able to follow Mr. Brown's reasoning for believing the way he does on this topic.

I must say that, in spite of my enormous disagreement with Mr. Brown's conclusions, I appreciate his respectful delivery. Nowhere do I remember reading in his book anything demeaning with regard to those who observe continuously-repeating weekly Sabbaths. He simply presented his understanding as what he feels is a better way.

This same respectful approach is reflected by Jonathan David Brown's expressed view that those who worship on the day commonly known as "Saturday" do *not* worship a heathen idol:

> I have often heard with regard to using the moon for a calendar, "that's heathen" or "moon worship." But, ".. the keeping of moon-days as Sabbaths does not necessarily imply worship of the moon as a deity,"[2] any more than keeping Saturday or Sunday as sabbaths implies worship of Saturn or the Sun.

Jonathan David Brown seems to "get it." It's too bad that other lunar sabbatarians do not. For the record, although June and I are compelled to regard lunar sabbath observance as stemming from heathen worship (obviously we cannot at this point in time believe that it came from Yahweh), neither of us have ever stated or implied that lunar sabbatarians are guilty of "moon worship." The thought never crossed our minds. If I should ever become persuaded that the Almighty expects us to reckon the weekly Sabbath by the lunar cycle, that's what I would do … *because of my desire to obey Him* … regardless of those who might so thoughtlessly accuse me of "moon worship."

By the same token, if I believe Scripture presents a continuously-repeating weekly cycle and observe a certain day as the weekly Sabbath, I do so because of my understanding of the Father's Will … without regard for what others may say about me. I am persuaded that if lunar sabbatarians and non-lunar sabbatarians could have this same mutual understanding about each other … the same understanding as

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[1] From an e-mail we received on 7/28/2010 at 10:25:45 P.M. Central Daylight Time.
[2] Note: This is Jonathan David Brown's footnote: "*Rest Days* @ pg. 148."

expressed by the man whom we regard as the original modern-day lunar sabbatarian … we might actually be able to make some progress in arriving at a mutual understanding of the *truth* of this matter.

Until that day arrives, June and I are faced with an ongoing barrage of inflammatory, insulting remarks from lunar sabbatarians. For those who might think we are "easily offended," we have decided to produce a few of the comments we have read on this topic.

We can think of no one who has more actively attempted to portray non-lunar sabbatarians as Satan worshippers than Troy Miller. In his rebuttal attempt of our original study, Troy devoted considerable space presenting those who worship on the day commonly known as "Saturday" as worshipping Satan "in spite of themselves." Shown below is what may be considered his most succinct explanation of his rationale:

> Which day do YOU keep holy?
>
>
>
>
> Sunday, the current first day of the pagan Roman/papal calendar
>
> Saturday, the current seventh day of the pagan Roman/papal calendar.
>
> I say "current" because these days were not always the first and seventh days of the week, respectively.
>
> As a side note, I find it interesting that we pronounce the "n" in Woden's day (Wednesday), but we don't for "Saturn's day" (Saturday). Have you ever heard of a Satyr? The cloven footed half-man, half-goat—the universal symbol of Satan himself?
>
> **Sunday** is the obvious fraud. Only the enemies of YHVH would observe Sunday, in honor of the pagan sun-god. But every Satyrday, of every week, of every year, Sabbatarians everywhere, in spite of themselves, worship on **Satyrday** — a day named after Satan himself.
>
> Very cleverly, the Adversary receives his worship every week, all year long, by sincere folks who believe they are following YHVH. Friends, what we have here is a dual counterfeit; one is obvious, the other not-so-obvious. Even if Saturday really is named after Saturn, don't think we are going to get off the hook so easily. Saturn worship is the oldest form of Satanism and is clearly and historically linked to Satyr, the horned goat. The Adversary does not care how you spell his many different names, or under which one you worship, as long as you do not worship YHVH. Please feel free to connect the dots… **Satan (or Pan) is also called the "Horned God"**[3]

[3] Miller, Troy, in his rebuttal attempt of our 84-page study "Something Different: Lunar Sabbaths," e-mailed to us on 06/23/2010, pp. 140-141. Troy's rebuttal attempt consists of his incorporation of commentary within the body of our original study. It is available on his website at the following URL:

Note that Mr. Miller acknowledges the fact that the "Day of Saturn" was not always recognized as the seventh day of the week. This is actually an important point that, in and of itself, refutes the association of resting and worshipping on recurring Sabbaths with the worship of Saturn. If believers worshipped on the seventh-day continuously-repeating weekly Sabbath, but it wasn't the day recognized by Rome as the "day of Saturn," then how could those people be connected to "Satyr worship"?

We'll address the above point more fully later in this chapter. For now, we feel we need to demonstrate that one of the major thrusts of *some* lunar sabbatarians is to depict non-lunar sabbatarians as either worshipping heathen idols or worshipping Satan himself. Of course, if one is worshipping a heathen idol, there should be no question that, in reality, the one being worshipped is the adversary. The question that needs to be answered is, "*If one is persuaded that Scripture presents the Sabbath as falling on the seventh day of a continuously-repeating weekly cycle, and this same individual is persuaded that the 'seventh day' is the day commonly known as 'Saturday,' is that individual an idol worshipper?*" We have seen that, according to lunar sabbatarian Troy Miller, the answer is, without question, yes.

While Troy Miller may qualify as the most outspoken of lunar sabbatarians who identify non-lunar sabbatarians as worshipping a heathen idol, he is by no means the only one making this charge. Lunar sabbatarian Moshe Koniuchowsky, in his article "Origins of Saturn Day and the Modern 7 Day Planetary Week," plainly presents those who worship on the day commonly known as "Saturday" as showing allegiance to the idol Saturn:

> The truth is that worship on the seventh-day of a pagan calendar does not direct one's worship to the Creator. When one worships on Saturday, he is showing allegiance to the god of that day, the cruelest, and most bloodthirsty of all the gods, Saturn. YHWH of Heaven is —merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgressions and sin. In kindness, during the times of this ignorance Elohim winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent. The call of repentance going forth today is to return to true Biblical worship on the genuine Shabbat, calculated by Heaven's ordained system of time-keeping: the lunar-solar calendar established at Creation.[4]

We have already seen that Troy Miller's answer to our question above is yes – that anyone who is persuaded that, according to Scripture, the weekly cycle is continuously-repeating, and subsequently concludes that the seventh day of that cycle falls on the day commonly known as "Saturday," worships the idol *Satyr*. We now see that Moshe Koniuchowsky echoes Troy's answer. The only difference lies in the fact that Mr. Miller uses the term "Satyr," whereas Mr. Koniuchowsky uses "Saturn." Ultimately, since it can be agreed that the worship of any being other than Yahweh constitutes Satan worship, it matters not whether we use the name "Satyr" or "Saturn."

Lunar sabbatarian Eric Bess, like Miller and Koniuchowsky, presents the connection between worshipping on the day commonly known as "Saturday" and the worship of the idol Saturn:

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http://creationcalendar.com/HallOfShame/LarryJuneAchesonRebuttal.pdf.

[4] Koniuchowsky, Moshe, "Origins of Saturn Day and the Modern 7 Day Planetary Week," The World's Last Chance Ministries And The RAMYK, April 2010, p. 11. Note: Although Mr. Koniuchowsky's name does not actually appear on the document, we presume he is the author on the basis of (A) the fact that the article only appears on his web site and (B) the presumption that "RAMYK" stands for "Rabbi Apostle Moshe Yoseph Koniuchowsky."

> The Saturday linkage to Saturn worship is completely tenable. [Author Hutton] Webster is making the same common mistake that all of us have made (if this is an accurate quote); that is, we have wrongly believed that our known calendar days of the week have been kept in perfect successions of seven since the creation. No intelligent historian or theologian will subscribe to that belief because it is simply not factual.
>
> The worship of Saturn has been going on since the days of Nimrod, who did indeed institute what is known as "The Sacred Hebdomad", named after the seven planets, well before their was ever any Hebrew nation. So Webster "plainly" doesn't know what he's talking about.
> (note: don't know what "the sacred hebdomad" is? Look it up)
>
> The pagan "week" and Yahweh's Sabbath count are not to be paralleled or compared, they are separate entities, and in many cases, have separate histories.[5]

Eric Bess composed the above as a part of his response to our original study. In our original study, we demonstrated how author Hutton Webster, in his early 20th century book *Rest Days*, on the one hand presented the weekly Sabbath as having been originally based on the lunar cycle, but on the other hand he established that the weekly cycle ordained by the Almighty is continuously-repeating. Of course, lunar sabbatarians prefer to quote the "lunar sabbatarian Webster" while ignoring the "continuously-repeating sabbatarian Webster." In Mr. Bess' criticism above, he was simultaneously attempting to refute both Webster and us.

In the "True Sabbath" web-based forum that I participated in (off and on) for over three years, there were occasional connection attempts to the idol Saturn and worship on the day commonly known as Saturday. One example is taken from a posting submitted by lunar sabbatarian Joey Thompson:

> Zephaniah 1:4 -- "So I will stretch out My hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. (against all the churches??) And I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the names of the idolatrous priests along with the priests. And those who bow down on the housetops to the host of heaven, and those who bow down and swear to YHWH and yet swear by Milcom (translated Molech and SATURN)". Yes, those who bow down and swear alegience to YHWH but retain an alegience as well to Saturn. Now who could those people be? Who were they? Who are they? According to this scripture they are one of the religious entities that is not part of Baal worship. These are not unknowing Sun's day keepers, so who are they? Could they be modern day Judah??...the religious entity that shaped today's Sabbath? Could they be those who have taken YHWH's sacred name, yet retain Saturn? Remember, they do not do this purposely, they are simply blind and naked (Rev 3:17).[6]

[5] From the response entitled "Something Different/Something Renewed," chapter 25, that Eric Bess e-mailed me on 9/5/2006.
[6] Joey Thompson, from a posting submitted under the screen name "JoeyThompson777" on 02-13-2007 at 09:34 PM to the "Are We Today Exempt From The Saturn Prophecies?" thread of the (now-defunct) True Sabbath forum. This forum was located at www.eliyah.com.

While clearly depicting non-lunar sabbatarians as worshipping the idol Saturn, Mr. Thompson at least presents it from a more innocent perspective. We don't do it on purpose, but we are simply "blind and naked."

Is Turnabout Fair Play?

We previously noted that the original lunar sabbatarian, Jonathan David Brown, established that just as there is no connection between the observance of lunar sabbaths and moon worship, neither is there any association between continuously-repeating weekly Sabbath observance and "Saturn worship." In spite of his acknowledging this point of view, other lunar sabbatarians have proceeded to present those of us who worship on the day commonly known as "Saturday" as worshipping *Satyr*, *Saturn* and/or *Satan*. We also noted that if we are worshipping *any* idol, then we are simultaneously worshipping *Satan*, so if we are worshipping either *Satyr* or *Saturn*, then we are indeed Satan worshippers. The question is, "Do we worship Satan when we rest and worship on the day commonly known as 'Saturday'?" According to Jonathan David Brown, the answer is no; his followers apparently disagree.

When I was presented with Troy Miller's rebuttal attempt in June 2010, he and I briefly engaged in an e-mail discussion. For some reason, he discontinued responding to my e-mails – not that I intended for us to have an extended discussion. One question that he initially answered, then left unanswered, involves this very topic – charging non-lunar sabbatarians with the worship of heathen idols.

We are glad that lunar sabbatarians such as Jonathan David Brown stop short of relegating folks like June and me to idol worship simply because we don't reckon the weekly Sabbath the same way they do. Mr. Brown seems to understand that if we were to charge him with "moon worship" for observing lunar sabbaths, then he could turn around and charge *us* with "Saturn worship" for worshipping on the day commonly known as "Saturday." Both charges would be unfair and thankfully Jonathan David Brown understands this truth.

However, we have learned from experience that not all lunar sabbatarians are willing to "play fair." In view of this fact, I thought I would bring up this matter with Troy Miller. "Surely," I thought, "If I can show him that if he's going to charge us with 'Satyr' worship, then I can charge him with 'moon' worship, and he will understand that he's not really being fair." However, as we are about to see, I was mistaken about Troy. From his perspective, he's just obeying Yahweh by keeping His "calendar in the heavens." We, on the other hand, have chosen to worship Satyr! Displayed below are some excerpts from our e-mail exchange. First, here is my suggestion for Troy to discontinue his depicting those of our persuasion as worshipping Satyr:

> Finally, another area that is going to REALLY cause us problems is your implication (maybe even assertion) that those who rest from their labors on the day commonly known as "Saturday" worship the idol Satyr.
>
> If I were to pursue that same line of thinking with you, I would assert that you worship the moon.
>
> I no more worship "Satyr" than you worship the moon.

> Please try to look at it this way, Troy. If I were to somehow decide that the weekly Sabbath ACTUALLY falls on the day commonly known as "Monday," you would have to assert that I worship the moon.
>
> Guess what I would do then? I would turn around and say, "Well, Troy, you do the same thing!"
>
> I hope you see my point.
>
> The idol after which the day of the week is named should be irrelevant to this discussion, especially since it wasn't the Jews who named the days of the week anyway. It's like blaming the clerk at the gas station for the rising price of gas.
>
> If we can get past this one obstacle, we will have made "a giant leap" forward in our discussion. Otherwise, ... I'm afraid it'll be more of the same.[7]

In Troy's response, he made it clear that we can expect "more of the same":

> Your point is valid, very valid, but it is valid if you only look at the semantics. Of course you don't worship the half man-half goat (satyr), I never said you did. SCRIPTURE says you are. Observing a day on a pagan calendar is observing a day TO that pagen deity. That is the point of this entire argument. You will not admit that the Hebrew week is different than the the current week (which you admit is pagan). I do not observe the pagan week, so when I observe a day it is to YHVH, and Him alone.
>
> I do not worship the moon any more than you worship your watch. The moon is the hour hand on the Creator's cosmic clock. All I'm doing is looking at it in order to tell time. That is the precise reason it was put in the heavens (**Genesis 1:14**). If you ONLY worshipped on monday, then you would indeed be acting as a moon worshipper because that is what the moon worshippers did. **Jeremiah 10:2** says to learn not the way of the heathens. Monday is only found on the pagan seven day planetary week, it is not found on the Creation Calendar.
>
> So, I see your point. But my point is that the week you are using is pagan, not of YHVH, so your worship of Him is in vain, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men. Can you show any evidence in Scripture or history to dissuade me from this statement? Remember, this is about your position, not you the man.[8]

I believe we can summarize Troy's conclusion by stating that, from his perspective, he's just going by the "calendar in the heavens" to reckon the weekly Sabbath (which happens to be the moon), whereas June and I are either ignorantly or intentionally worshipping the "half man-half goat (satyr)."

I believe the *correct* perspective, which would also improve relations between lunar sabbatarians and non-lunar sabbatarians, is to state that, just as Troy is going by his understanding of the Scriptural presentation of the how to determine the weekly Sabbath, so are we. Just as the means by which Troy determines the Sabbath happens to be the moon, in the same way, the day on which June and I are persuaded is the Scriptural representation of the continuously-repeating seventh day just happens to fall on the day commonly known as "Saturday." I believe this would be a *balanced* perspective, in spite of

[7] Excerpt from an e-mail that I sent to Troy Miller, dated 7/2/2010 5:25:04 P.M. Central Daylight Time.
[8] Troy Miller, excerpt from an e-mail that he sent me dated 7/4/2010 6:55:57 P.M. Central Daylight Time.

the obvious fact that both sides would continue to disagree with regard to the correct interpretation of Scripture.

However, this is not the way Troy sees things. As a result, I decided that "turnabout is fair play" with Troy, and I sent him the following response to his previous comments:

> I completely disagree with you here. I believe what you are unable to see is the fact that when I read Exodus 20:8-11, I see "continuously-repeating weekly Sabbath." Six days work, rest the seventh. Six days work, rest the seventh … ad infinitum! You do not see that, so you choose to label me a "Satyr worshipper" because at some point in history unregenerate men chose to name that particular day of the weekly cycle "The day of Saturn."
>
> Can I help it that I see "continuously-repeating weekly cycle" within the wording of the 4th commandment? That's just the way it is. That is the way I interpret that passage. The next step is to investigate to see which day of the continuously-repeating weekly cycle corresponds to the 7th day of the Creation account. To the best of my knowledge, that day so happens to correspond to the day commonly known as "Saturday."
>
> To point a finger at those of my persuasion and label them as "Satyr worshippers" is not only inaccurate and wrong, but I feel it is childish. If I were to play this childish game, I would lean heavily on the following quote from [lunar sabbatarian] John Keyser's article "From Sabbath to Saturday":
>
> > According to Janet and Stewart Farrar in ***The Witches' Goddess***, "The modern use of seven day weeks also stems from the ancient lunar calendar. The first of every lunar month was marked as the first day of a new week and a Sabbath was celebrated every seventh day *to mark the 4 quarters of the moon*. The last week was followed by the *days of the dark moon* when the goddess was held to be menstruating and so *an extended Sabbath* was observed until the waxing crescent moon reappeared and the new month began" (Phoenix Publishing, pp. 24-25, p.106).[9]
>
> If I wanted to play this game, I would make a big deal out of how lunar sabbatarian beliefs stem from ancient pagan moon worshipping rituals, and that although your particular method of worship isn't the same as theirs, the heathen aspect cannot be overlooked.
>
> I don't think I have ever tried doing such a thing to lunar sabbatarians; yes, I have traced lunar sabbaths to the Babylonian culture, but I've never (to my knowledge) tried to use this against lunar sabbatarians in such a way as to suggest that they are worshipping Babylonian idols or whatever. If I have suggested that lunar sabbatarians worship idols, please show me and I will work at a retraction.[10]

[9] John D. Keyser, "From Sabbath to Saturday: The Story of the *Jewish Rest Day*," Hope of Israel Ministries (Ecclesia of YEHOVAH), Temple City, CA, printed from the Internet in January 2003, page 11. This article may be read in its entirety by accessing the following URL: http://www.hope-of-israel.org/sabtosat.htm.

[10] Excerpt from an e-mail that I sent to Troy Miller, dated 7/8/2010 8:28:29 P.M. Central Daylight Time. Mr. Miller did not respond.

What would make our "turnabout is fair play" approach all the more persuasive would be to emphasize that *we* aren't the ones who present lunar sabbath worship as stemming from the worship of a moon goddess – it's a lunar sabbatarian who does it for us!

Of course, the fact that some ancient heathens regularly observed an "extended Sabbath" during the dark phase of the moon in honor of a goddess whom they believed was menstruating does not mean that June and I believe this ancient practice explains why modern-day lunar sabbatarians observe "extended Sabbaths," or as they prefer to refer to them, "extended worship days." However, if this is the approach that lunar sabbatarians are going to use with us – charging us with the worship of Satan – then we may as well charge them with the same thing! After all, if you worship a heathen moon goddess, who are you *really* worshipping?

If I were to choose to take the same approach being exhibited by lunar sabbatarians such as Troy Miller, I might go so far as to even chide them for worshipping a different deity each month. One month, for example, I might say that lunar sabbatarians are worshipping Tieu (also known as Mars) on the day commonly known as "Tuesday." I might ask, "Which deity will lunar sabbatarians worship next month?"

But that is ridiculous. I have never painted a picture of lunar sabbatarians being idol-worshippers, nor have I ever labeled them "loony sabbatarians," as some folks have done. When I first began dialoguing with lunar sabbatarians, I feel it was mutually respectful. But lunar sabbatarians such as Troy Miller have changed all that, and this would include the references to "satyrday."

The Day of Saturn Was Originally the First Day of the Week

Earlier in this chapter, we provided a quote from Troy Miller in which he acknowledged that, originally, the "day of Saturn" was not assigned to the seventh day of the week. In chapter four, we demonstrated that it was the Romans who came up with the designation "Day of Saturn" and that heathens in the first century BCE understood that particular day to be a Jewish rest day.[11] We also read of how Justin Martyr, a second century theologian, wrote that the Messiah was crucified on "the day before that of Saturn."

Just because Roman non-believers noticed that those who followed the instructions found in Scripture rested on a day that those non-believers referred to as the "day of Saturn" does not mean that the believers worshipped *Saturn* any more than I regard the Jehovah's Witnesses who visit us on the weekly Sabbath as sabbatarians. In other words, just as Jehovah's Witnesses visiting us on the Sabbath doesn't make them sabbatarians, neither were ancient sabbatarians found resting on the Romans' "day of Saturn" considered Saturn worshippers. Although this "day of Saturn" fell on the first day of the Romans' week, it was the believers' *seventh day*.

[11] Cf., Chapter 4, "More Lunar Sabbatarian 'Hardball': Associating Modern Judaism with the Term 'Saturday.'" This chapter may be read by accessing the following URL: http://www.ponderscripture.org/Lunar%20Sabbath/LA%20Updated%20Study/LSChapter4.pdf.

The late Seventh-Day Adventist scholar, Samuele Bacchiocchi, in his book *From Sabbath to Sunday*, supplied validating information that the Romans' "day of Saturn" originally fell on their first day of the week, but was later moved to the seventh day in order to give prominence to the "day of the sun":

> *The enhancement of the day of the Sun*. The contemporaneous existence of Sun worship and the planetary week suggests the possibility that with the development of the former, the day dedicated to the Sun took on greater importance. This is corroborated by the process whereby the primacy and prestige of the day of Saturn was transferred to that of the Sun. In fact, initially the day of the Sun 'had nothing to distinguish it from the other days' since it was the second day of the week following Saturn-day which was the first. In time, however, the day of the Sun came to occupy the first and 'most venerable' position.[12]

Mr. Bacchiocchi, in addition to providing information about the original Roman ordering of the days of the week, provides helpful footnotes, including this one from the book *Sunday*, by W. Rordorf:

> Note that initially the day of the Sun was the second day of the planetary week, following the day of Saturn which was first. This is clearly proved, for instance, by several stone calendars (so-called *indices nundinarii*) where the days of the week are given horizontally, starting with the day of Saturn.[13]

Those who want to research this matter further will find that the Romans adopted the Jewish weekly cycle shortly before what is known as the "Christian era." However, for quite some time, the Jews' numerical order did not match up with that of the Romans. The first day of the week for Romans, as mentioned above, was the day of Saturn, but that same day was the *seventh day* for Judaism. Shown below is a chart depicting how the Jews' seven-day week differed from the Romans' seven-day week:

Roman Days of the Week vs. Hebrew Days of the Week (c. 100 B.C.E. - c. 200 C.E.)

Roman Day #	Roman Name	Translation	Hebrew Day #
1	Dies Saturni	Day of Saturn	7
2	Dies Solis	Day of the Sun	1
3	Dies Lunae	Day of the Moon	2
4	Dies Martis	Day of Mars	3
5	Dies Mercurii	Day of Mercury	4
6	Dies Jovis	Day of Jupiter	5
7	Dies Veneris	Day of Venus	6

[12] Bacchiocchi, Samuele, *From Sabbath to Sunday*, The Pontifical Gregorian University Press, Rome, Italy, 1977, p. 247.
[13] Ibid.

As the above chart indicates, prior to the second century, the "Day of Saturn" was, for Jews, the seventh day of the week. However, for Romans, it was the first day of the week. Later, during the second century (101 C.E. - 199 C.E.), the two groups finally agreed on the numbers/names of each day of the week. The following chart depicts the subsequent change. Please notice that the designation for the Jews' seventh day has always been the "Day of Saturn":

Roman Days of the Week vs. Hebrew Days of the Week (c. 200 C.E. - Present)

Roman Day #	Roman Name	Translation	Hebrew Day #
1	Dies Solis	Day of the Sun	1
2	Dies Lunae	Day of the Moon	2
3	Dies Martis	Day of Mars	3
4	Dies Mercurii	Day of Mercury	4
5	Dies Jovis	Day of Jupiter	5
6	Dies Veneris	Day of Venus	6
7	**Dies Saturni**	**Day of Saturn**	**7**

As depicted by the above chart, the Jews' weekly cycle was later in agreement with the Roman system of numbering. We have already established that it was the Romans who named the days of the week, not the Jews. The Romans' first day of the week was made to conform to the Jews' first day of the week. Prior to this synchronization, the Romans' "Day of Saturn," which was their first day of the week, was the ***seventh*** day of the Jewish week. It appears that lunar sabbatarians somehow misunderstand how things were before the switch was made that aligned the two weekly systems. It's as though lunar sabbatarians believe the Jews must have at one time worshipped on "*Dies Veneris*," which would have been the seventh day for Romans ... instead of "Dies Saturni" – the seventh day for Judaism. It needs to be re-emphasized that the Jews themselves did not refer to the seventh day as "the Day of Saturn." This was strictly a heathen designation applied to the day on which the Jews worshipped.

What some lunar sabbatarians attempt to do is accuse those who observe the continuously-repeating weekly Sabbath, which happens to fall on the day commonly known as "Saturday," of worshipping the idol in whose honor ***Romans*** named that day. Is it a false accusation? Yes, it is.

Just ask the original lunar sabbatarian, Jonathan David Brown.