



QA: What Happened to Columbus Day? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "What happened to 'Columbus Day'?"

ANSWER: Begun as a celebration of Italian American heritage, first observed as a federal holiday in 1937, which was moved from October 12 to the second Monday in October in 1971. **Though meaningful to many Americans, it is left up to the individual States to determine the scope or celebration of it. Special days are a good way to pause and remember.**

1. **Jewish Special Days.** In God's Law through Moses, the Israelites were given annual special days in **Leviticus 23** which were given to them as reminders that God had delivered them out of Egyptian bondage:

- 1) **Passover**;
- 2) firstfruits of harvest and **Pentecost**;
- 3) Day of **Atonement**; and
- 4) feast of **tabernacles** (or booths, or tents).

These are meaningless to Christians, for "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law" (**Galatians 3:13**):

- 1) "For indeed Christ, our **Passover**, was sacrificed for us" (**1 Corinthians 5:7**);
- 2) On **Pentecost**, Peter commanded: "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (**Acts 2:38**);
- 3) **Atonement**: God's mercy "made us alive together with Christ" (**Ephesians 2:5**);
- 4) Jesus ministers "the true **tabernacle**" (**Hebrews 8:2**).

Jews keep the "old days," Christians keep the New!

2. **The Jewish New Year.** God commanded Moses,

"On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting." (**Exodus 40:2**)

This first "**Rosh Hashanah**" began Jewish religious worship obeying Moses' Law. The New Testament teaches:

It was symbolic [Greek, *parable*] for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience — concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. (**Hebrews 9:9-11**)

Everyone celebrating "Rosh Hashanah" today is celebrating a people, worship, and law that Jesus Christ has removed. Observing "Rosh Hashanah" and Jewish special days today denies the Priesthood of Jesus Christ!

3. **Jesus' Day.**

From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. (**Matthew 16:21**)

On the third day, "He rose early on the first day of the week." (**Mark 16:9**)

— jtp11, 10/8/2023