

The primitive Christians assembled on the first day of the week (Acts 20, 7, 1 Cor 16, 2 &c) but it is called the "Lord's day" only in one place Rev 1, 10. It is not called Sabbath that term being restricted to the 7th day which was still kept by Jewish converts.

Pliny, ^{a heathen writer} in his Letter to Trajan (A.D. 100) says of the Christians, "They are accustomed to assemble on a stated day before light and sing a hymn &c

Ignatius (about A.D. 100) has a passage in which he seems to contrast the Jewish Sabbath with the Lord's Day; but the meaning of this passage has been disputed.

Justin Martyr (A.D. 140). Justly mentions it in his Apology for Christianity.

"On Sunday we all assemble in common, since that is the first day, on which, God having changed darkness & chaos made the world, and on the same day our Saviour Jesus Christ rose from the dead."

Tertullian (A.D. 200) calls it the "day of the Lord's Resurrection" and says we ought to abstain from business on it.

~~Ignatius~~ Dionysius of Corinth (about A.D. 200) calls it the "Lord's Day" and says that Christians "keep it holy"

He later writes for ex. Clement

Alexandrian, Hilary, Augustine &c
it is frequently mentioned; but there
seems to have been no controversy
about it among the early christians,
though it seems to have been observed
with different degrees of strictness in
different times & places. Perhaps the
more frequent mention of it in writers
after the 2^d century, may have arisen from
its beginning to be more neglected as the
church fell away from its primitive zeal.
Constantine (A.D. 300) enacted a law
enforcing cessation from ordinary work
on the Lord's day; and thus in some degree
changed the character of the day by
making it a state institution and en-
forcing it on all whether really christians
or not. Before that it rested on its true
foundation the law of love to Christ, and
the original sanctification of a seventh part
of time.

It is certain that in the Romish
Church the importance of the Lord's day has
declined in proportion to the increase of
Saint's days, festivals &c.

Most of the above facts are taken from an article by
Prof Baden Powell a Semi-naturalist, who endeavours to make
the Lord's day of as small importance as possible.

