

## Worship a Rodent?



Today is Groundhog Day. The annual observance of a rodent sticking his head out of his hole and predicting the weather. Though it is not an official holiday, folks all around the country will participate in Groundhog Day activities.

This year Groundhog Day falls on Sunday, the first day of the week. This puts Groundhog Day in direct competition with the Lord's Day. How many people around our country will spend the day in festive activities and neglect worshipping the Almighty God? The bible says, *"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image*

*made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things."* (Romans 1:22–23) It also states that they have *"exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever."* (Romans 1:25) So one might say, "People who are celebrating today aren't really worshiping a rodent, they're just having a good time and there's nothing wrong with that."

The problem here is not that people are bowing down and worshiping a furry buck-toothed beast. The difficulty lies in the fact that we may have become too permission in our reasoning to excuse ourselves from giving honor to God. We feel that it is OK to neglect worship as long as it is for a "wholesome" activity. There's nothing wrong with parties, family gatherings, sport activities, or travel. It's when we neglect worship in order to participate in these things that it becomes sinful. It's true that these things bring us great pleasure, however 2 Timothy 3 warns us that in the last days people will be *"lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."* and we never want to be guilty of putting ourselves in front of God. It's time that we step back and re-focus. "Am I really serving God or am I serving Him as long as I don't have anything else to do?" Sunday activities are robbing our Heavenly Father of the worship and service He deserves, after all He loved us enough to sacrifice Jesus for us (John 3:16) so what am I sacrificing for Him? Let us continue to be good people serving a Good God with steadfastness and consistency.

*Jay Launius – 2020*