

Lord of the Sabbath. This did not mean the ~~Sabbath~~Sabbath was matter to be cast aside. It meant the Sabbath was to be used for the purpose for which Christ gave it rather than a matter of observing ~~===~~ rather than a day of preserving precise and minute regulations. As if if we do this particular thing we are all right, and if we do this particular thing we are wrong. The spirit of minute legalistic regulations is well typified in the actions of Wm the Conqueror, Before ~~he conquered~~ ^{he conquered} England. Harold who later became King of England and who was actually conquered by William, while Edward the Confessor was still king of Eng. was said to have visited Wm. in Normandy (I'm not sure of the details, whether he was shipwrecked and resqued or just how it was) but any rate he was ag guest of William in Normandy. According to the story William asked him ~~===~~ told him that he had a relation to this previous king, Edward the Confessor, and felt that he was entitled to be - come the next king. Harold also felt that he also had claims and was sure the Saxon people would select him instead of William but he was William's guest and actually in William's power. William said, Will you promise to help me to become king -- support me and Harold. Harold hypocritically declared that he would. Wm. said, Will you make an oath for this? Here I have certain sacred relics. Will you put your hand on these sacred relics and sware by all that is under your hands that you will support me." According to the story Harold, looking at the relics, seeing that they were nothing of any very great importance, felt that he would not be in any way jeopardizing his honor if he were to swear by these particular things, and so he put his hand over it and said, By the great honor of the sacred relics on which my ~~hms~~ hands are placed, I swear that I will support William in becoming King of England. Then when he finished Wm. picked up the relics and the piece of table cloth on which they had been placed, and showed Harold that underneath them were far more sacred relics -- a picem of the true cross, and other relics of far greater importance than the ones on which he had put his hands, and thus William felt that Harold had been tricked into making an oath which he must stand by. Today we laugh at the ridiculousness of this and we ~~x~~ certainly ought to, but it typifies the spirit of legalism. What is under my hands I swear by even though I don't know what is there. We should ~~===~~ Jesus said, Swear not at all. Say what is true and stand by it. It is not the particular thing that makes your word true, it is your relation to truth and honor.