

## Exodus 20:8-11 - A Date with God

Intro - Trick question - "How many commandments are there? (100's,10?) Only 2 laws in life. Love God & neighbor. These 2 sum up the 10 (applied in 100's). Now...do *The 2* sum up only 9? Did the NT & Jesus erase Rule #4? Many think so, and so openly ignore Rule #4. The 4<sup>th</sup> is the longest law. God spoke more words giving this rule than in all the rest. The Lord only allocated 4 words to some...but 98 to Rule #4 (137 in Deut. 5). We are prone to look for loopholes in the longest laws. Today we will look at: 1] *The Law of the Sabbath*. 2] *Is there a Christian Sabbath?* 3] *Having a Date with God*. The law is all about love. You fall in love with who you spend your time with, and you spend time with the one you love. We are love God by respecting: (1) His Person, (2) His Image, (3) His Name, & (4) His Day. God spoke these 10 and wrote them in stone in the OT but in NT they are written on our hearts. The Law (& this law) is all about love.

### THE LAW OF THE SABBATH

1. Ex. 20:8 "Remember the *Sabbath*..." Sabbath = intermission/pause/rest/break
  - a. *Day* - There is a day that is to be different (not part of a day, but a day)
2. *Remember* - This is the 1<sup>st</sup> rule put in the positive. It's not, "*Thou shalt not*", but *remember*
  - a. We are prone to forget this intermission, so we need to *remember* it. Ps. 103:2
3. *to keep it holy* - keep it special keep it different KEEP IT CLEAN
  - a. Don't dirty up *The Day* with duties from the other days (clean your calendar)
4. Ex. 20:9-10 Rule #4 requires work -&- Rule #4 requires rest
  - a. We are to labor and not be lazy. 6 days are to be allocated for work/labor/duty
  - b. 1 day belongs as an intermission *of the LORD*. (1 day dedicated for the Divine)
    - i. A day of remembrance & rest even when really busy - Ex. 34:21
  - c. No work for: you, your family, your servant/employees, animals (tools), visitors
    - i. There is to be universal application for the allocation of the intermission
5. Ex. 20:11 - there is a precedent established from creation for a Sabbath observation
  - a. There is no astronomical reason for a 7-day week. It comes from creation
  - b. God made everything in 6 days & He rested & enjoyed its goodness on the 7<sup>th</sup>
    - i. An age in love with evolution hates the God of creation...and His day
  - c. God blessed the day and made it holy. It is His day (not a Jewish day)
  - d. The Sabbath was in effect before Sinai Gen. 2:2; 8:10,12 Ex. 16:23, 29-30
    - i. Regular duties were even to be done different (Numb.15:32-36; Ex. 35:3)
6. Deut. 5:14-15 (Moses' rehearsal of the law) more words - 137
  - a. Ex. - Remember Creation Deut. - Remember Subjugation (slavery)
  - b. God is not a slave driver. He wants us to work...but not 24/7
  - c. We aren't to be slave drivers and make other work 24/7 while we rest - Ex. 23:12
    - i. We break the sabbath when we don't take a break or give others a break
7. The sabbath was made for man to enjoy and for him to enjoy his God
  - a. Mark 2:27 an intermission in life a day of remembrance & rest

## IS THERE A CHRISTIAN SABBATH?

- Jesus often had conflict with the religious leader over the law .....sabbath law
  - They often accused our Lord of breaking the Sabbath. (healing or eating)
- Jesus is Lord of Sabbath - Mark 2:27-28
  - He is the *Lawgiver*. He came as the *Law-keeper* He is the *Law-interpreter*
  - Jesus was correcting their misuse of Sabbath law, but not erasing Sabbath law
- Jesus said the Sabbath was to be in our prayer life. Matt. 24:20
  - How terrible to have to flee on a day of joy/rest/remembrance. Pray it won't.
  - We profane the sabbath by neglecting the House of Prayer - Isaiah 56:6-7
  - *The Sabbath & The Assembly* are not exclusively Jewish (foreigners/all peoples)
- Hebrews 4:9-10 sabbath rest = *sabbatismos*
  - This rest *remains* for the people of God. It hasn't been erased - it remains
  - Those who have entered that rest....rest....even as God rested (Heb. 4:10)
  - Preachers who say the Sabbath is not repeated in NT are lying. (Matt. 5:17-19)
- Jesus fulfilled all the law for us.
  - Jesus is our Sabbath, and we are to remember this on every Christian Sabbath
    - Matt. 11:28-29
  - *Remember Creation* - Gods great work & that He rested from that work
  - *Remember Subjugation* - our endless work as slaves with no rest
  - *Remember Salvation* - Christs great work & that He rested from that work
    - We are to remember and rest in Him on His day
- The Lord's Day An amazing thing happened on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week
  - Christ's Resurrection The Resurrection changed the day of congregation
    - Lord's Day or SONday (Rev. 1:10; 1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7)
  - The early Jewish church changed their day of assembly/sabbath to remember the SON and His great work of salvation. He rested in the resurrection...we do too
- I plan on us discussing the particulars and application of the Christian Sabbath on SONday night next week - (BFM)
  - Remember - it is the *Lord's Day* not just the Lord's morning (hint, hint ;)

## HAVING A DATE WITH GOD

- God has scheduled one day a week as a special date in our relationship with Him.
  - Do you like going on dates? Are they a drudgery/bummer/downer?
    - Not if you are with your lover
    - Who continually says NO to a date? Those not interested in the Asker
- You fall in love with the one you spend your time with...
  - and you love spending time with the One you love
- The sabbath is a date with the Divine
  - It is an intermission/a break/a pause/a rest from the weariness of life....to spend time... special time...extra time...with our loved One
  - To cease from our work to rest in His work. And to anticipate the eternal rest
- The Sabbath day is a symbol of that Eternal Day Heaven is the eternal rest
  - Hell - rest not day or night (Rev. 14:11) going 24/7 prefigures hell
    - "*There are no sabbaths in hell*" (R.M. McCheyene)