

Series "Ten Commandments"
"The Lords Day"
Exodus 20:8-11
Part-5

4th Commandment "Provides The Maintenance Law;" brings to a completion the commandments dealing with reverence to God.

1st Commandment tells us – Who must be worshipped!

2nd Commandment tell us – How He must be worshipped!

3rd Commandment tells us – That we must worship sincerely.

4th Commandment tells us – When God should be worshipped.

This is the longest of all the commandments: God needed 4 words for the 6th Commandment – not killing; but 94 for the Sabbath; and it is still probably the most misunderstood of the commandments.

All of the 10 Commandments are repeated word for word in the NT. The exception is the 4th Commandment.

Thought Of The Passage: Keeping The Day Holy Guards From Being Submerged By Earthly Life, And Invites Communion With God.

1. Explanation Of the Sabbath

2. Transformation Of the Sabbath

3. Application Of the Sabbath

1. Explanation Of the Sabbath:

Exodus 20:8 – 4th Commandment (Time)

Positive – Balance of Work and Worship; if we will obey this commandment, it will give us the strength to obey all the others. It will keep us balanced!

Exodus 20:8 – The word "Sabbath" is taken from the Hebrew word "Shabbath" which means "rest." It speaks of "a cessation from labor; it refers to the ceasing of work." The word "Sabbath" does not mean a particular day; has nothing to do with Saturday or Sunday at all, but means rest, to cease from labor.

There are 3 ways of approaching this Commandment of the Sabbath:

1. The Belief That Christians Should Worship On Saturday.
2. The Belief That Sunday Is The NT Equivalent Of The O.T. Sabbath Day.
3. The Belief That The Sabbath Has Been Transformed By The Death, Resurrection Of The Lord Jesus Christ. That A New Day Has Been Given To The Church Called "The Lords Day."

Holy – "set apart"

God Cites Creation As The Basis For The Need Of Rest! Exodus 20:9-10

The Sabbath was used several different ways. 7 ways it is used:

1. The Initial Sabbath: Genesis 2:1-3

Exodus 20:11

"six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them" – Note "Not 6 billion years" but "Six Days," Isaiah 40:28.

God was so serious about this principle of maintenance; in fact, He chose to use Himself as an example.

Along with the work, there is "The Necessity Of A Break!"
Exodus 20:10

"Sabbath (Rest) is a gift from God" (To Meet Our Need)

The Sabbath was not introduced at Mount Sinai, it was prior to that; it was in the wilderness, Exodus 16, in the provision of bread called "Manna," Exodus 16:5.

It involved trusting God.

Exodus 35 – He says that Israel was not to build fires on the Sabbath.

2. Witness Of Sabbath: Exodus 31:12-17 (Covenant People)

3. Festival Sabbath – Leviticus 23:23-36

4. Agricultural Sabbath – Leviticus 25:1-8

5. Spiritual Sabbath – Given in Hebrews 3-4

6. Millennial Sabbath – Isaiah 66:22-23

7. Eternal Sabbath – Hebrews 4:9; Revelation 14:13

2. Transformation Of the Sabbath:

There are generally two extremes when you speak of the Sabbath:

1. Sabbatarians – This is the view that takes the day as withdrawing from all secular activities.

2. Antinomians – “against the law;” Look at it like any other day.

Israel learned out of the Babylonian captivity that the Sabbath was to be followed. Unfortunately they went too far and turned it into a bunch of rules and regulations.

Jesus had 6 run-ins over the right to heal on the Sabbath.

When we look at Jesus and the Sabbath, we note that He clarified it by two things – 1) His Actions, 2) His Words.

How did Jesus act? Luke 4:16 – Faithfully obeyed the Sabbath.

Mark 2:27; Luke 13:11-16

Mark 2:23-26

Mark 2:28 – “Consequently, the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

1. Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week, Mark 16:2, 9.
2. Disciples were gathered together in the upper room on the first day of the week, Mark 16:11.
3. Disciples met on the Lord’s Day that night, John 20:19-20.
4. The Day of Pentecost occurred on the first day, Acts 2:1.
5. The Holy Spirit was sent down on the first day, Acts 2:1-4.
6. The apostle Paul preached the word to believers on the first day, Acts 20:7.
7. A collection was to be taken weekly on the first day of the week, 1 Cor 16:2.
8. John received The Revelation on the Lord’s Day, Revelation 1:10.

There are 3 things that are transformed and changed about worship in the New Testament:

- 1. A transformation from shadow to substance –**
Colossians 2:14-16
- 2. A transformation from Saturday to Sunday –** Romans 14:5-6
- 3. A transformation from Sabbath to Savior –** Hebrews 4:9-11

3. Application Of the Sabbath:

Exodus 20:8 – “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.” – We are to keep it holy, make it a special day, of worship!

Exodus 20:9-10

Genesis 2:15

2 Thessalonians 3:10 – “if anyone will not work, neither let him eat.”

Exodus 20:11

Social Application – Jesus went and ate with people, and fellowship.

Devotional Application – We need a day to get away from the voice of business and hear the voice of God, Hebrews 10:25.

Physical Application – God knows that we cannot physically keep up with this work schedule.

“Beware of the bareness of a busy life which majors in work, and minors in worship!”

Application:

1. The day of rest is a gracious gift from God; it provides rest for human beings, refreshment, reflection, and the privilege to worship, obedience and dependence.
2. This 4th Commandment prevents man from being submerged by earthly life; it invites man to seek the higher things of life in communion with God.