

Series: Striving Together For the Faith as a Family

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY

EXODUS 20:8

Text: Exodus 20:8

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⁸ Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Introduction:

As we have been looking at these commandments over the last few weeks we can see clearly that the first four commandments deal with our relationship with God while the remaining have to do with our relationship with others.

We must remember that unless our relationship and fellowship is right with God all other relationships will not be right.

This commandment though there is some confusion among different groups and individuals, is a commandment that has been grossly disregarded especially in this generation. Romans 1:21 describes very accurately what we see taking place today.

Romans 1:21

²¹ *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain*

in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

As God looks from Heaven, He sees the blatant appropriation of every hour and every day set aside for self-worship, pleasure worship, possession worship; observing man's determination to yield nothing, not even a seventh of his life to his Maker.

Note:

1. THE REQUIREMENT OF THE COMMANDMENT

Exodus 20:8-11

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: ¹⁰ But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

We see two things in this commandment.

A. We Are Commanded to Work

- This part of the command often gets overlooked
- It is the purpose for the second part of this command that deals with rest.

John 5:17

¹⁷ *But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*

2 Thessalonians 3:10

¹⁰ *For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.*

- Work is not a bad thing but it can become wrong if it fails to follow God's Word.

Note the second part of this command.

B. We Are Commanded to Rest and Worship

This part of the command is just as important as the command to work.

Exodus 20:8

⁸ *Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

Exodus 31:17

¹⁷ *It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for*

ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

Note:

God's words are clear

- We are to Remember
- We are to Rest

The word Sabbath means to rest, to leave off from doing something.

The Sabbath is a day of rest from our normal labor.

Just as God stopped creating, we are to lay aside our ordinary affairs, lift our eyes above the hustle and bustle of created things and focus upon the Creator.

Remember:

Mark 2:27

²⁷ And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

Notice not only the Requirement of this Commandment but also:

2. OUR RESPONSE TO THIS COMMANDMENT

As you study the Ten Commandments all of them but this one are found in the New Testament.

We are no longer under the law but under grace.

Romans 10:4

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

Galatians 3:24-25

²⁴ Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Our response to this commandment:

- A. Is Not to Return to a Sabbath Observance
- B. But to Follow the Pattern of the New Testament Church

The early church didn't worship on the Sabbath, but on the first day of the week, Sunday.

John 20:19

¹⁹ Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples

were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Acts 20:7

⁷ And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

1 Corinthians 16:2

² Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Remember:

Hebrews 10:25

²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

We observe Sunday as our day of worship not only because it is the pattern seen in the New Testament Church but also it is a special day for Christians from the very beginning.

- The Lord was raised on Sunday

Matthew 28:1

¹ *In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.*

- The church was empowered of Sunday

Acts 2:1

¹ *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

- The Lord's Supper was observed on Sunday

Acts 20:7

⁷ *And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.*

- The offering was taken on Sunday

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

¹ *Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.* ² *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

Close:

God wants our worship...our love...our witness... and He wants our time.

Each of the first four commandments deal with our walk with God.

Do we honor God with our time?

Remembering this day will help keep our priorities right.

Remembering this day will help keep our desires right.

Remembering this day will help keep our faith right.

Isaiah 58:13-14

¹³ If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: ¹⁴

Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.