

## Keep the Sabbath

**“12 Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.” (Deuteronomy 5:12 KJV)**

Our life that we live, we live it by faith in God and in His power and ability to fulfill His promises to us. Faith in God brings us to the point of obedience, to listen to Him and to follow all His commands and instructions in our lives, **“3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.” (1 John 5:3 KJV)** God’s commands are not heavy; He gave them to us to make our lives easy and to be tuned with His will, mind and thoughts.

God created the whole world, the Heavens and the earth and all things on them; the day, the night, the plants, the animals, the fishes, the birds and the man; all He created in six days, and He rested on the seventh day, **“1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.” (Genesis 2:1-3 KJV)** Therefore the principle that the seventh day is for the Lord was since the beginning and it continued till this day.

The Lord God after He brought His people out from Egypt, and after they crossed the red sea and got saved from the Egyptian’s army, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in Him. But later on because of their hunger they started to murmur against Moses and Aaron, **“1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: 3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” (Exodus 16:1-3 KJV)**

God in response to the needs of the people He sent them their daily needs as he told the following to Moses: **“4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. 5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.” (Exodus 16:4-5 KJV)** Therefore God sent them the bread from Heaven, **“14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. 16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents. 17 And the children of Israel did so,**

**and gathered, some more, some less. 18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.” (Exodus 16:14-18 KJV)** So we can see that God had given to everyone of them his daily need. **The same for us till now, we go out to our work each day and as we go out to work God would provide to us our daily needs and necessities. God is faithful and He will provide to us all our needs, “19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:19 KJV)**

Now we have seen that the people when they went out to gather, some gathered much, and some gathered little but at the end there was no much difference. The same situation today you find some people are very anxious to have more; they have work, but still they want to have another work; more overtime, and more customers to collect more money, and the problem here is lack of faith. **They think they are eating because they are working and they forget that God is the one who is providing for us. We live by faith not by sight and we need to trust God for our lives.**

**“22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. 23 And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. 24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. 25 And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field. 26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none.” (Exodus 16:22-26 KJV)** In the sixth’s day God gave them double the amount because the seventh day was a sabbath day, a day of rest to the people of God. God rested on the seventh day and God wants us to enter in this rest by resting from our usual work during the week, **“10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.” (Hebrews 4:10 KJV)**

Six days we work per week but in the seventh day we rest from what we work. We give that day to God to worship Him and to serve Him. **God would not bless you if you will not keep this day for Him. If you disobey God and go and work on that day, then all what you will be going to receive of income would be of no value.** Let us read how the people of God responded to this command, **“27 And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. 28 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? 29 See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. 30 So the people rested on the seventh day.” (Exodus 16:27-30 KJV)**

Jesus the Son of God, God sent Him to die for our sins. He died on the cross for our sins. He was buried but rose from the dead to give us eternal life and life to the full, **“32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?” (Romans 8:32 KJV)** **Therefore we who believe in Him we need to follow His steps in our lives and obey the commands of**

God. He gave us His son, and He wants us to give Him one day per a week for Him. One day per week will be kept aside for God. This will be our sabbath; we go to church and worship the Lord and serve Him. God had given us all things therefore we need to revere Him and live by faith and obey also this command.

*“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.” (Exodus 20:8-11 KJV)* \* Obeying the command of the sabbath in keeping one day we rest in it for the Lord, is also good for our own health benefit, in which have physical rest, not only for us but as well as for the rest of our family members and for those who are working with us, or those who are affiliated with our families, like those who are our relatives, those who are serving with us, and those who serve us, our cattle also need to rest with us, refreshed and rejuvenated in the sabbath so they will have with us a fresh and diligent start in the next coming week. \* Therefore we need to labor for six days of the week, and do our best to finish all our works and when the sabbath or the seventh day come we need to have our full rest for the whole day, in which we also worship God and serve Him.

*“12 Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee. 13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: 14 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, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. 15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.” (Deuteronomy 5:12-15 KJV)* We need to sanctify the sabbath making it a holy day and set it apart to rest, to worship and serve God. Here God reminded the Israelites that they were servants in Egypt and God already delivered them with His mighty hand from that bondage and made them free and so now they needed to keep the command of the sabbath that He commanded them to keep and have rest to honor Him, and to honor what He did to free them, and to worship Him and serve Him. In the same way as Jesus saved us from sin and death and delivered us out from the hand of Satan and set us free from sicknesses, and all the power of darkness, then we need to honor His command to keep the day of worship and rest in it and serve Him.

From the beginning God had put the ordinances of the sabbath, *“1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.” (Genesis 2:1-3 KJV)* But God implemented the rule of the sabbath on His people when He delivered them out of Egypt and freed them from slavery and were set free, that they can have power on themselves to keep the sabbath day holy and to observe it. Now the application of that for us as followers in Christ, that we who are scattered

in various places in the world, we might not be able to keep the sabbath because of our works and other rules that we are under from the governments that are over us, in such a case we may choose any other day that we can rest, worship God and serve Him. And if one whole day not available we may need to free ourselves in parts of few days to keep a whole 24 hours to give rest for our physical bodies and to worship God and serve Him.

*“12 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you. 14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. 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.” (Exodus 31:12-17 KJV)* Here God commanded that the sabbath needed to be kept throughout the generations and it is a sign between God and His people, including ourselves, in which God reminded that He made the Heaven and earth in six days and on the seventh day He rested, and so it is mandatory to man to rest one day per a week. Those who would not observe that would be put to death because they disobeyed God as we read here, *“32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. 33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. 34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. 35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. 36 And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses.” (Numbers 15:32-36 KJV)* For us the application of that, is that those who does not observe the day of worship or the sabbath, they are spiritually dead.

Those who does not implement such and break the command of God and they think their continuous work and those with them will be of benefit they are at wrong view. They will get nothing but they will exhaust themselves and those with them and all what they labored would be in vain. There are many companies, establishments, or organizations they don't give rest to their workers, those they will not be blessed, and all their abuse to their workers will turn to be a curse on them because they are breaking the command of God the Creator and abusing what He had created. Therefore, fear God and obey Him and do not be among those who break His command of the sabbath and abuse what He created.

The day of worship or the sabbath God considers it as a feast for us that we need to observe, *“1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. 3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall*

*do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.” (Leviticus 23:1-3 KJV)*

We continue to go through the Scriptures and study them to see why we need to observe the feast of the sabbath or the day of worship, “*1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually. 3 Without the vail of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the congregation, shall Aaron order it from the evening unto the morning before the LORD continually: it shall be a statute for ever in your generations. 4 He shall order the lamps upon the pure candlestick before the LORD continually. 5 And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. 6 And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD. 7 And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon each row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, even an offering made by fire unto the LORD. 8 Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. 9 And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'; and they shall eat it in the holy place: for it is most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute.” (Leviticus 24:1-9 KJV)* God ordered here that twelve cakes made by fire needed to be set before the LORD continually on the sabbath, to be food for the sons of Aaron the priests who were ministering in the sanctuary. **Now the application of that for us is that each day of worship or sabbath we need to observe so we can receive the fresh bread of God, the Word of God that will help us, guide us, and strengthen us for the next coming week. Therefore you need to keep the sabbath, the day of worship, in order to receive the fresh weekly message that you need to feed your soul on, and to direct you during the next coming week.**

Those and we who honor the day of worship or the sabbath God shall honor and bless as we read what God had promised, “*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.” (Isaiah 58:13-14 KJV)*

We as a church should make awareness and do all what we can and take the needed measures in order to stop all works and activities that would disturb the sabbath rest or the day of our worship as Nehemiah did his best to keep the sabbath honored and kept by the people as we read here, “*15 In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. 16 There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. 17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day? 18 Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath. 19 And it came to*

*pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day. 20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice. 21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath. 22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the sabbath day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.” (Nehemiah 13:15-22 KJV)* Those who are absent on the day of worship and do not observe the sabbath we need to approach them, admonish them, teach them about the meaning and the importance of it, and counsel them to start to honor God, stop their other activities on the sabbath and keep the day of worship holy to God, to rest in it and to come and worship and serve God.

*Psalm 92 is a psalm or a song for the sabbath day, “1 It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High: 2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night, 3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound. 4 For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands. 5 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep. 6 A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this. 7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; it is that they shall be destroyed for ever: 8 But thou, LORD, art most high for evermore. 9 For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered. 10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil. 11 Mine eye also shall see my desire on mine enemies, and mine ears shall hear my desire of the wicked that rise up against me. 12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. 13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing; 15 To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.” (Psalm 92:1-15 KJV)*

Jesus observed the sabbath, the day of worship, “*21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.” (Mark 1:21 KJV)* “*31 And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days.” (Luke 4:31 KJV)* “*10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. 12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. 13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.” (Luke 13:10-13 KJV)* **During the sabbath rest or the day of worship we will not only worship God and serve Him, but we will also receive teaching and direction in life, as well as healing, deliverance, comfort, mercy and grace.**

**“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. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.” (Matthew 28:1-7 KJV)** Christ as we read rose from the dead on the first day of the week. In the gospel of John Christ went and met His disciples who got the joy in meeting Him and He did important things to them on that meeting as we read here, **“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. 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD. 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.” (John 20:19-23 KJV)** Commemorating the resurrection of Christ on the first day of the week, the first day of the week became the day of worship for the followers of Christ and His church and to do the ordinances and the ministries of Christ as the following Scriptures indicate that, **“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.” (Acts 20:7 KJV)** **“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.” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2 KJV)** But again, if for some the first day of the week is not suitable, then they can take any other day of the week and consider it their sabbath or the day of worship.

**My dear and beloved:** One day per week needed to be kept aside for God. This will be our sabbath; we rest in it, we go to church and worship the Lord and serve Him. Therefore let us listen to His Word and obey His commands. He is worthy of honor and praise. Keep what is due for Him; a day to worship Him and adore Him, and not to exchange it with any other things; neither to work for extra money, nor to go for entertainment, nor to be involved in any other activities but to give rest to your physical body, to worship God and to serve Him. Let us pray . . .

**My prayer:** Father God I thank you for your Son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that taught me to keep the sabbath, the day of worship to rest in it, to worship God and serve Him. Lord thank you for all your provision to me and for all your material and spiritual blessings in my life. Lord thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message. Now repent and renounce all your sins. Repent and renounce your sin of breaking the sabbath, the day of worship, and using that day to work and make money. Repent

of your worldliness and your love for material things. Repent of your stubbornness and disobedience to God's commands. Repent of your lack of faith and your lack of full trust in God. Repent of your lack of fear in God. Repent of your injustice and abuse to those whom God placed under your care. Repent of your selfishness, doing your own will, neither the will, nor the plan of God. Repent of your lack of reading God's Word in the Bible and your lack of prayer. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and live your life for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent from the following

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Lord, I promise you to obey your command and keep the sabbath day, the day of rest and worship unto you. Not only for me but also to my family and to those who are with me and under my care. Lord I commit myself to start to serve you and to live my life for you. Lord I commit myself to use all my resources to employ them into your kingdom. Lord continue to provide for me and give me strength and good health to continue to serve you, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my brethren and my sisters who repented of their sins and committed themselves to keep the sabbath, the day of worship. Lord reward them for that and uphold them with your grace and continue to provide for them so they will continue to serve you. Lord set their lives good examples and good testimonies to others to follow you and serve you.

Lord we pray for us as a church that we will continue to teach your Word and to proclaim your ways to our families and to the rest of our workers and members. Lord we commit ourselves to take the measures to keep the day of worship and we will teach the people the importance of that. Lord we commit ourselves to walk before you in holiness in accordance to your will and plan for us. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit, and lead us and enable us to reach new people, making new disciples and training new workers to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord spread this message to reach all the congregations, the workers and the members of the church, and to the lost souls. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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