

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

“The Fourth Commandment – Honor the Sabbath Day”

Part II: Rest – Exodus 20:8-11

I. Review and Introduction

A. Review

1. Honoring God’s name in how we live.

B. Today’s focus:

1. Exodus 20:8-11

a. God notes how serious he is about this commandment because it is accompanied by capital punishment.

1. Numbers 15:32-35

2. This commandment is completely focused upon God.

a. Not apparent in cultures prior to Sinai. A prelude found in Exodus 16:23,29.

3. Meaningful rest may only be realized when it follows meaningful labor.

4. “The Day America Told the Truth”

5. Bruce Ray – “Celebrate the Sabbath.”

II. What is the Sabbath (Genesis 2:1-3)

A. Definition:

B. Jewish Understanding – Weekly routine.

III. New Testament controversy on how it should be observed.

A. Arguments against its observance.

1. It is not restated in the New Testament.

2. It may not be part of the eternal moral Law – Horton.

3. Key New Testament texts do not note observance in an

Old Testament Mindset – Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:2

4. Some assert that it was fulfilled by Christ on the cross.

a. Heb. 4:9-10; Matt. 11:28-30; Rev. 5:1

b. Ceremonial command attached to commandment now fulfilled

5. Paul’s concern for legalism over special days – Col. 2:16-17

6. Calvin’s comments. Patrick Miller.

B. Arguments for observing the Sabbath day.

1. Puritan influence – Westminster Confession.

2. New Testament evidence – Ignatius; Col. 2:16-18

3. This commandment addresses one of the greatest areas of sin –

a. A new rendering of Psalm 23 – an antithesis.

b. Acts 17:28

IV. The true Sabbath rest is found in concentrated focus upon God.

A. Addressing our need and not what we want.

B. A day to refocus.

1. Puritan understanding – Market day for the soul.

2. Church of England view – “Continental Sunday.”

C. We need the day to refocus our attitude on G_____ -- Gen. 2:1-3

V. Avoid Legalism

A. Dos and don’ts often end in a false righteousness – Luke 6:1-5.

B. Some good ideas:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

C. Some bad ideas:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

a. Isaiah 58:13-14 – Moderation.

D. When thinking of Sunday, ask yourself these questions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

VI. Points for Reflection.

A. Sundays should be different.

1. Holy means sanctified or set apart from the other six.

B. Prioritize church involvement and being with the people of God.

C. Avoid legalistic rules, but be sure your conscience has been instructed by the Word of God.