

“THOU SHALT DO NOTHING”

The Sinai Code, Part 4

July 18th, 2010

Exodus 20:8-10 (NIV) “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work,…”

The word “Sabbath” means “rest” or “don’t work”

For the Israelites their way of life was 24/7; this commandment didn’t seem Realistic

Exodus 16:26-27,29-30 (NIV) “Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any.’ Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none... ‘Bear in mind that the LORD has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day He gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where He is on the seventh day; no one is to go out.’ So the people rested on the seventh day.”

God gave them a weekly reminder – “I want you to be dependent on Me”

Just because you’re successful physically in the tangible realms of life, God says I don’t want you to forget that it’s because of Me

Exodus 20:10 (NIV) “...On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.

Exodus 20:11 (NIV) “For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”

God reminds us all that there is, all we use and enjoy, He made. He is the source

We feel we can’t take a day because we are “progress driven,” and we’d fall behind

God’s all for progress, but where progress and trusting in God to provide conflict, God wants your confidence in Him to take priority

Your “Sabbath” day doesn’t have to be on Sunday – it can be any day of the week; it doesn’t even have to be the same day of the week

When we take a “Sabbath” day off & trust God we don’t fall behind, it stretches our faith

We live in a world that doesn’t recognize this principle. So to apply it we have to be creative and force some things

Prayer to pray: “God, I’m going to honor You this 24 hours, but You’re going to have to do something. I don’t think I can squeeze seven days of provision out of six days of work.”

Challenge: Would you just try this for a month

There will be exceptions from time to time

The thing that will make or break you professionally has very little to do with how many hours a week you work and really very little to do with anything you can control

God controls all of that

If you are able to trust God with the thing(s) that's so difficult for you, He'll honor that

If you try this, you will be tempted and probably stressed out, your faith is being built

If the keeping the Sabbath becomes part of your life, you'll win spiritually and professionally

Put God to the test and see what He does on your behalf & perhaps on behalf of His Kingdom

My Next Step Today Is:

- I'll take the challenge and keep the Sabbath for a month
- I will memorize Exodus 20:8
- I plan to attend Class 101, New Hope's introduction class, on Sunday, August 8th at 1 PM
- I am interested in being baptized Sun, Aug 15th at the church's beach/baptism