

How should we then live?



#thePLEDGE is a series on the Ten Commandments to guide us through this season:

— Read Exodus 20:1-17

— Summary of the first 4 Commandments:

- #1 – *Who* to worship (Ex. 20:1-3)
- #2 – *How* to worship (Ex. 20:4-6)
- #3 – *Attitude* of worship (Ex. 20:7)
- #4 – *Time* of worship (Ex. 20:8-11)

— Today: #4 – *Time* of worship (Exodus 20:8-11)

- ❖ Rest in the LORD on the Sabbath. (Ex. 20:8-10a)

- ❖ GOD's reason? Remember Creation. (Ex. 20:8, 11)

- ❖ GOD's reason? Remember Exodus. (Deuteronomy (4:15)

- ❖ It's a Harvest Day of the Soul. (Ex. 20:10b)

— The "Lord's Day" (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20; Rev. 1:10)

— Sabbath rest for the Soul (Hebrews 4:9)

Application Questions



Note: GOD's Word is interpreted best in group where everyone is engaged. As a church of small groups, we discuss application of the Scriptures as a community. See a pastor if you want to join a group.

Application Questions: Exodus 20:8-11 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15

1. Out of the Ten Commandments, application of the 4th Commandment is the most hotly disagreed about concerning application.
 - a. Some Christians believe a literal 24-hour time of rest devoted to the Lord (like in the Jewish community) is still valid today (e.g., this is an essential – i.e., go to church and then no TV, no phone, no play time, just do spiritual activities).
 - b. Other Christians believe the Sabbath was for the Jews only and no longer applies, and they would interpret Hebrews 4 to imply that a Christian can do whatever they want (e.g., liberty – this is not an essential – i.e., play, do your hobbies, or work because it doesn't matter if you go to church or devote the day to the LORD or not).
 - ❖ **Here is the question:** so, the above (a & b) are obviously the extremes – what do you think and why?

2. This commandment is the only one of the 10 in which GOD gives reasons for why we ought to keep the Sabbath. The first is that GOD is Creator, He rested and made the day holy, therefore we should do the same (see Ex. 20:8, 11); and the second is because GOD redeemed Israel, He rescued them out of slavery, therefore Israel ought to keep the Sabbath (see Deut. 5:15).
 - a. Only a free person can choose to keep Sabbath, otherwise he is a slave (by force or choice).
 - b. Jesus (and rabbis and the disciples) did the “work” of the Lord on the Sabbath and thus modeled for us how to practice the Sabbath.
 - c. Nowhere in Scripture did Jesus annul the Sabbath day, but for us it switched to Sunday.
 - ❖ **Here is the question:** what might hinder you from taking a full 24-hour period and making it holy unto the LORD in corporate and private worship? What benefit might you gain? What benefit would there be for your family? For your marriage?¹

¹ Especially if one or both of you are workaholics or enslaved to debt.