

Sabbath

David Feddes

Sabbath

- Old Testament Sabbath
- Lord of Sabbath
- Sabbath for today

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. 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.

¹¹ 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 and made it holy. (Exodus 20:8-11)

Reasons to Rest

- Fruits of creation
- Freedom of salvation
- Reality of equality
- Renewal of creation

Main reason

Enter God's rest

- Something greater than Sabbath was promised
- Refusing to rest led to eternal death

Sabbaths

- Every seventh day
- Day of Atonement
- Every seventh year
- Every fiftieth year

Sabbath

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Lord of Sabbath

The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.

(Mark 2:27-28). Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

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Three views

- Same demands, same day
- Same demands, new day
- New covenant, new day

Christ the end

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. (Colossians 2:16-17)

Don't go back!

But when the fullness of time had come,
God sent forth his Son... God has sent the
Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying,
“Abba! Father!” ...You are observing
special days and months and seasons and
years! I fear for you. (Galatians 4:4-11)

Faith rests

For we who have believed enter that rest... So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. (Hebrews 4:3-10)

Salvation?

- ? You must keep laws about foods and special days, or you will not be saved.
- † **Don't put faith in foods and special days, or you will not be saved.**

Superiority?

- ? You must keep laws about foods and special days to be an elite Christian, though you can be saved without them.
- † **Foods and special days are matters of Christian freedom, so long as you focus on Jesus.**

Room to differ

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. (Romans 14:4-5).

New covenant

- Salvation brings new creation
- Ceremonial laws are obsolete
- Rest in Christ, not your works
- Rest is a sign of break with sin
- Rest is a taste of eternal rest

New day

- Jesus arose on first day
- Spirit came on first day
- Early church met on first day
- First day is “the Lord’s Day”

Reasons to Rest

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- Freedom of salvation
- Reality of equality
- Renewal of creation

Delight!

- Rest fully in Christ's salvation
- Celebrations, not regulations
- Support and receive ministry
- Faithfully meet as church
- Make time to rest, relax, rejoice

Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 39

Q & A 103

Q. What is God's will for you in the fourth commandment?

A. First, that the gospel ministry and education for it be maintained, and that, especially on the festive day of rest, I diligently attend the assembly of God's people to learn what God's Word teaches, to participate in the sacraments, to pray to God publicly, and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.

Second, that every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through his Spirit, and so begin in this life the eternal Sabbath.