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The Sabbath Day

After reading the following Old Testament Scriptures of Exodus 20:8-11, 35:2-3; Numbers 15:32-36; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Jerimiah 17:21-22; and Nehemiah 13:15-16 in reference to the Sabbath Day and why it was given by God. The Sabbath Day was given by God in my opinion as for us humans to have a day of rest and make time to spend with him and to keep this day holy. If we go back to the beginning of creation according to the Book of Genesis when God created the heavens and earth in this time during God's creation, everything was completed in 6 days and on the 7th day he rested according to scripture. I believe this was the start of a 7 days period and also a time frame of God at work. According to Genesis 1:31, it says "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So, the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Chapter 2:1-3 reads, "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. The God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. In this scripture it aligns with the Torah in Exodus 20:8-11 saying, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it shall do no work: you nor you son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger

who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. This requirement was also listed as being a part of the Ten Commandment in Exodus 20:8-11 which God relayed to Moses and for him to administer the Law to the people. This scripture about the Sabbath day was reiterated in Exodus 35:2-3, this says to me that God meant for the Sabbath day not to be compromised by man. I believe that God wanted us to of course live by his standards since we are made in his image which means a likeness where the body required a day of rest and make time for a day of holiness of worshipping and praising him, giving that total day for Him to be honored and acknowledged.

According to Exodus 20:8-11 the things that were forbidden on the Sabbath Day and that were compared this to the passages in Numbers, Jerimiah, and Nehemiah was there were to be no working for any servants, sons, daughters, animals, or strangers in your gates. In the scripture of Numbers 15:32-36 during the children of Israel's time in the wilderness there were a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. Those that found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation. They put him under guard, because it had not been explained what should be done to him. Then the LORD said to Moses, The man must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp. So as the LORD commanded Moses, all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him with stones, and he died. God was adamant in his word for the Sabbath day, and we know his word will never change for anyone under any circumstances. In Jerimiah 17:19-27 it mentions about hallowing the Sabbath day which means to set apart for holy use or to make holy through meditation and prayer. Therefore, on this day should be a day of consecration,

dedication, and devotion to the LORD our God and things of the world of work should be put away to give our full attention God and to celebrate the things he has done for us, including the period of creation. This should also be a day to relish in His glory and bless His name.

In the Book of Jerimiah it doesn't mention if anyone that was working and selling product on the Sabbath day was put to death, so maybe this was a prophetic declaration on what won't be tolerated on the Sabbath. The common area of this scripture make mentions of the gates as well as it does in Nehemiah being that this was a busy area of people passing through and merchant bringing merchandise to be sold. Nehemiah make mention of 11 gates, however, in Jerimiah its not clear how many gate are people carrying products and burden in the gates on the Sabbath. In Nehemiah 13:15-16 said they are treading winepresses, and bring sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of burdens which they brought on the Sabbath. When I looked up the word "burden" in the Old Testament it means yokes around the animals to carry heavy loads. This also was forbidden on the Sabbath, although in Nehemiah it makes not mention of anyone being put to death, however in Jerimiah in verse 27 God says if they will not heed Him to hallow the Sabbath day, such not carrying a burden when entering the gates of Jerusalem, then He will kindle a fire in the gates and it will burn the palaces of Jerusalem and shall not be quenched, meaning the fire will not be put out.

I do think the Sabbath day command of obeying this day the LORD set aside is still valid today, however, people don't take heed to it. Again the word says my people perish for lack of knowledge, so now that I am learning what is right and wrong in the eyesight of the LORD I believe I will be more conscious of what I am doing, however, so people might equate that to religion. I know of the religion the Seven Day Adventist in which the serve and acknowledge the

Sabbath day as Saturday and after researching history it is on a Saturday as oppose to Sunday when it recognized as day to relish in the LORD and to honor him with praise and worship. I will admit that I too have worked on the Sabbath day in the pass, so I don't know if this will change my prospective of what's right or wrong. We do know that Jesus was accused of Blasphemy by healing someone on the Sabbath day, and he also said he didn't come to change the law but to fulfill it. Therefore, at this point I am indecisive on how to apply this knowledge to my daily life. I will definitely bring it to my Pastor's attention to get her perspective on how to go forward.

Whether I believe the Sabbath day is on Saturday or Sunday I am not sure, although research says its Saturday. I've been geared to serve the LORD on Sundays, however, there are times I have attend a service on a Saturday. I would have to definitely pray about this and be lead by the LORD in what direction should I take because most churches are opened on Sundays and I don't want to change my teachings or church, so I will probably stay with my service being on a Sunday rather than a Saturday. In the past I have had teachings of God's words on Saturdays. I don't really know if it will make a difference at this point because most of the this law was rendered in the Old Testament. Sabbath day will give me something to think about going forward. I really learned so much in these teaching because its revealing some hidden gems that have been overlooked or not preached in the church.