

Exodus 36 – Fourth Precept God’s Holy Day

Exodus (Names) - Changing the World
Dr. Leon L. Sanders Exodus 20:8-11

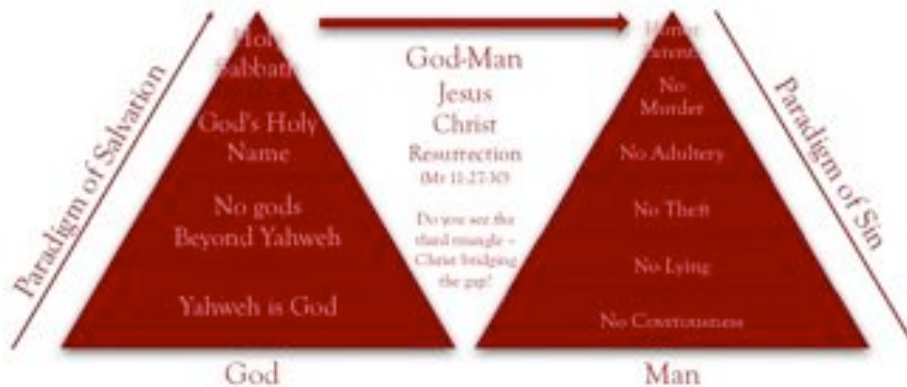


Fourth Precept

God’s Holy Day Defines His
Goal – Salvation (New Creation)

Purpose of creation, of
God calling Israel – to complete
development of man in His
image

Fourth Precept – God’s Holy Day



Most Abused Precept

- Judaism abused this concept keeping people from God
- Church age abused this concept by:
 - Taking Sabbath out of context
 - Ignoring Scripture's teaching on the Sabbath
 - Developing a system of works to hinder salvation

What is Sabbath

- In its most basic form
 - (שָׁבַט) - Means simply "rest"
 - Context must inform us the implied meaning of rest
 - Day - Specific day of the week (Saturday)
 - Event - God "rested" after six days of creation
 - Condition - Man has a rest from his works (Salvation)

God Defines Precept Parameters

- Hebrews were to work six days
 - Seventh day was Sabbath - "Rest"
 - Applied to everyone within Israel's borders
 - Previous precepts implied universality
 - God is God of all men
 - All men can, and do, violate God's holiness - sin
 - First precept that explicitly included Gentiles

This Precept Linked to Creation

- Another pointer to universality is the link to creation
 - Creation, and sin, was included all people
 - God set the pattern for Sabbath from the beginning
 - God created for six days - He "rested" on the seventh day
 - Was God tired? Did He actually rest?
 - God *never* rested, He is *always* working (1-5:17)
 - This precept *implies* salvation that includes all people

Can the Unholy Make a Day Holy?

- This is an obvious contradiction
 - The unholy can make something unholy
 - The sinner can *never* make anything holy
 - This appears to be an *impossible* task
- This precept designed to promote meditation of God
 - Pondering God's holiness, understanding salvation comes only from God, this makes the day holy - grace

Instead, Man Developed Works

- Man decided he could sanctify the day by his works
 - Hebrews developed complex system of "dos" and "don'ts" *proving* they could be holy
 - This system contained in the Talmud
 - Only the very "righteous" (orthodox) demonstrated *holiness* by keeping these Sabbath rules
 - They condemned God - They became gods (Idolatry)

Christ Condemned Their Piety

- Christ challenged their understanding of the Sabbath - often performing God's His *works* on this day (Lk 5:1-18, 21:29)
- Rather than admit their ignorance of the precept, they would kill Him - Christ did not condemn them, Moses did by the precept they misunderstood (Lk 5:39-40)
- Christ told them Sabbath made for man (Salvation), not man for the Sabbath (Works) (Mt 2:23:28)

Judaism Ushered in Sabbath

- Crucifying Christ, their Messiah, the Jews brought to fruition the very concept of Sabbath they had denied
 - They killed their "Passover Lamb" on "Passover"
 - He died an atonement for sin - Holy for the unholy
 - His resurrection "proved" the adequacy of His sacrifice
 - The True Sabbath (New Covenant) was fulfilled on Pentecost in the Temple as Judaism worshiped the Law which condemned them as sinners needing salvation

Bible Interprets the Bible

- Hebrews discusses the True Sabbath, the concept, as referring to salvation (He 3:7-19)
 - Those who are saved enter into His rest *now* (He 4:1-11)
 - This world reflects the six days of creation of works
 - Eternity reflected in God's seventh day of rest
 - We rest in Christ as He works through us (He 11:25-30; Gal 2:20:21)
 - Our lives post-salvation are *eternal Sabbaths*, holy to God

Sabbath Capstone - Salvation

- Salvation, the Sabbath, capstone of God's pyramid (Ex 31)
 - His "works" of creation, and subsequent works, point to Salvation - only holy God can provide *Himself* as the sacrifice for man's unholy sin (Ex 22:7-8, 30-38)
 - Man was to reflect in awe on the work of Messiah to complete in them the development of the full image of God, the New Covenant of the indwelling Holy Spirit (similar to the Ascending Sacrifice) (Ex 1:15-23)

Christendom like Judaism

- The Church Age has only demonstrated the inability of unholy man to accept the holiness and grace of God
 - RCC decreed Sunday to be holy to legitimize themselves
 - The Reforming Protestants went further in naming Sunday as The Sabbath (Replacement Theology)
 - Some denominations put Sabbath back to Saturday
 - Following one precept of law brings one under all the Law
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/faith/faith/2009/sabbath.html>

Law Smorgasbord

- Christendom treats Mosaic Law as a "pick and choose" what you will follow
 - All agree the ceremonial aspects are void - No Temple
 - They ignore parts of the Law they dislike
 - Misunderstand the "eye for eye" concept (Payment for damages not destroying body part for body part)
 - They really want those "commandments" though
<http://www.angels.com/Topical/faith/2009/sabbath.html>

Ten Commandments Condemn Them

- Enshrining the “Ten Commandments” condemns you
 - Shows your ignorance of the purpose of these precepts
 - Implies that you can:
 - Keep these commandments
 - Judge those who, in your opinion, do not keep them
 - Violates Scripture that condemns those who seek to return to or come under the Law

(Ro 4:12, 22-25; Ga 2:15-16; 3:1-14; Co 1:19-20, 23, 27; 2:8, 16-23)

Sinful Man *Loves* The Commandments

- Man believes that he can prove himself holy keeping the commandments
 - No man keeps the Commandments - requires holiness
 - They condemn him for his works of self-righteousness
 - This is idolatry, worship of self in place of God
 - Man cannot keep God's Law or his own law of works
 - His own works condemn him to the Lake of Fire *Re 20:14-15*

Rush to Keep Commandments

- There is a rush to the Commandments today, by some, who believe they find salvation in the Law
- Shrines to these commandments, usually in or near courthouses, are torn down by the government
- People mourn the lack of godliness exhibited by *others*
 - They do not mourn their own lack of godliness

Keep Commandments - Rejects Grace

- Anyone who seeks to keep the commandments is condemned by them as the Bible says
- But, as precepts designed to teach man that he cannot attain holiness apart from God, they are our friend
 - This is the antithesis of Judaism and Christendom
 - Those who want the Commandments reject God's grace

Sabbath Always Under Attack

- Sabbath directly points to Christ's salvation
- Confusing the Sabbath points to man's religion
- Those who die in their sin provide themselves as the sacrifice for sin *forever*



Lake of Fire is Ultimate Search

- Old nature never holy
- Fire reveals but does not create holiness *(Animal sacrifice)*
- Christ, ultimate search for truth *(Jy 11:3, Is 48; 1Pe 1:3-12, 20-23)*
- Find Him *now* while you still can *(Is 4:1)*

