

Transcript – The Purpose of the Sabbath Day

Okay, Shabbat shalom again. We will start our Sabbath study today, and in a way kind of on the same theme as our Torah reading here, our Scripture reading, but a little bit different subject. But I think one thing ... and we talked a lot about this in your time here at the school, and we're talking about it more today ... is you really, when you're getting into any of these kind of subjects, you can't really do justice to the subject if you don't look at the cultural aspect of some of these things. Because some of them make no sense unless you're looking at the culture doing it.

And today I'm going to give a little study on keeping the Sabbath day ... the keeping of the Sabbath day. And I think to a degree it's the same thing, that cultural wise maybe we don't fully understand or fully grasp, really, the commandment of what is it to keep the Sabbath holy—what are the requirements of us, what are the blessing that we have on the Sabbath day that we're actually protected from, as we're going to see, that the Father ... this day is a day that He's sanctifying us. He's protecting us from something. So, what is it He's trying to protect us from?

Let's start in Exodus 20. And I don't know if you ever noticed, but the commandment for the Sabbath day is a little bit different from Exodus than Deuteronomy. And we'll read both of them, discuss that here. Since we are taping today, if you have any comments, if you could please write them down and hold them until the end, and we'll be more than happy ... or anything you'd like to discuss when we're finished. Exodus 20 and verse 8 says:

Exodus 20:8-11 *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy ... set apart ... six days you shall labor and do all your work; and the seventh day is a Sabbath to YAHWEH your Elohim; you shall not do any work, you, and your son, and your daughter, your male slave, your slave-girl, and your livestock, and the stranger who is in your gates. For in six days YAHWEH made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all which is in them, and He rested on the seventh day; on account of this YAHWEH blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart.*

And interesting ... not for us, but people in the Christian world ... that they'll try to say the Sabbath doesn't go back to Creation, which is absolutely absurd. Because right here in the commandment, what is it doing? **It's showing right back the direct link, the direct line, of why the Father set the seventh day apart—because of Creation ... because of Creation week.**

And we know that ... I'm not going to go there ... but in Genesis 2 it talks about that **Yahweh's work was not complete until He rested. The actual rest completed it.** It's the same way, our week ... We work for six days, and our work is not done until we cease from our work. So, actually, the ceasing from your work is actually a part of work. It's a part of the faith in Yahweh ... and hopefully we're having faith in Yahweh all week long, but ... literally, by ceasing from that work.

And it doesn't matter whatever your work is. It doesn't matter if you're a doctor, or a lawyer, or a fireman, or a janitor, or computer programming. **The Bible is very clear. No matter what your work is, you're to cease your work on the seventh day. There's no exceptions.** And I know that there's even some Messianic teachers out there telling people that if they work in the medical field or something that it's okay to work on Shabbat. Absolutely nonsense. There's nothing in Scripture that even remotely says anything like that.

And it's pretty serious. We're going to read it. To break the Sabbath is death. **Because the Sabbath is the very sign that Yahweh set apart to make you a child, and Him your Abba, your Daddy.** And to desecrate that sign, literally, we see is death. Let's go to Deuteronomy 5. We'll just read the other part of this commandment in verse 12 through 15. It says:

Deuteronomy 5:12 *Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it set apart, as YAHWEH your Elohim has commanded you.*

Comment: *Observe the Sabbath day.* There's some people who start their month by visually sighting a crescent because of Deuteronomy 16, where it says, *Observe the month of Aviv.* But it's the same word here, "shamar," and it's not to look at. Because when the Sabbath started last night, when the sun set, did anyone see the sun? No. It's the absence of the sun that the day started. So, **observe literally means to guard and protect.** It doesn't mean to visually sight. But we're to:

Deuteronomy 5:12-14 *Observe the Sabbath day to keep it set apart, as YAHWEH your Elohim commanded you. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, and the seventh day shall be a Sabbath to YAHWEH your Elohim. You shall not do*

any work, you nor your son, your daughter, your male slave, your female slave, your ox, your ass, or any of your livestock, or the stranger that is within your gates; so that your male slave and your female slave may rest like yourself.

So, again, we see the precedent here: No work. It doesn't matter if it's cooking, cleaning, dishes, no work ... **no work whatsoever is to be done on Shabbat.** It's a blessing for us, as we are going to see, why the Father does this—Because of the curse of Adam, and how we're able every seventh day to put that curse aside and literally to enter His rest, to enter a type of His millennial rest every seventh day. He blesses us with that. But no work is to be done. And clearly, our slaves, our children ...

So, again, if you're the owner of a company ... and believe it or not, there's some brethren, some that are even ordained, that are leaders in congregations, and they have their work crews going out and working on Shabbat, going out and doing work. But we know anything that's under your jurisdiction ... Now again, we're staying here at a hotel. If the owner of this hotel came in and he was working, that has nothing to do with us. But in your room, we would not have a maid come into our room on Shabbat.

Anything that's within your jurisdiction; where you have jurisdiction, your house. So, if you have children in your house, it doesn't matter whether they're small children or teenagers, you have the jurisdiction in your house; **and nobody in your house should be breaking Shabbat.** It's your responsibility, whoever the leader of the house is, to make sure that no work is being done.

And again, like I said, we're going to see it really is a blessing to us. It's not a restriction. I know I enjoy cooking to a degree, but I certainly, I'm happy when all that stuff is done on Friday and we can just enjoy it on Shabbat. It certainly is not a curse that we don't have to work. Leviticus 23 ... Leviticus 23. Another thing that's interesting, the biggest group of Sabbath keepers in the world, the Seventh Day Adventists ... there's more than 4 million members ... they keep the Sabbath, but they don't keep the Holy Days, which I can't understand why. Because when you go to Leviticus 23, you clearly see they're together. Leviticus 23 and verse 1.

Leviticus 23:1-3 *And YAHWEH spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the sons of Israel, and you shall say to them, The set feasts of YAHWEH which you shall proclaim as holy gatherings, shall be these: These are My appointed feasts ... These are My appointed feasts ... Work is to be done six days, and on the seventh day shall be a Sabbath of rest, a holy gathering; you shall do no work; it is a Sabbath to YAHWEH in all your dwellings.*

So, very clearly, when He's going over the set apart times—the moedim—the very first one is the Sabbath day. So, how do you separate? Why would you keep the Sabbath day, and not keep the Holy Days? And I know the Seventh Day Adventists teach that ... Colossians 2 ... that the Holy Days somehow are nailed to a torture stake but the Sabbath isn't. It makes no sense to me. It's not good theology. It's not according to Scripture. But clearly, all of the holy time are together in one set. The Sabbath is the first of those moedim. It's a weekly Sabbath, and then we also have seven annual Sabbaths. So, every one is important; every one tells the plan of salvation.

And like I said, I don't think we're going to have time today to go to Hebrews 3 and 4, but when you look at the rest that comes through Messiah ... when you look at the two things we read in Leviticus--or about the Sabbath. In Exodus, the first one talked about Creation. But what we read in Deuteronomy 5, what did it go back to? About being slaves in Egypt, coming out of slavery and the rest we have in Messiah, the rest we have when we have His Spirit. It's a type of millennial rest.

But there's still a weekly Sabbath. There's still one day of the week. And in the Hebrew, it's very clear, and also the Aramaic; the way that the participle is, that it's clearly one day. It's not a rotating day. It's not a day that can go from month to month. It clearly is one day ... one day ... the seventh day, Saturday ... what we call Saturday, the seventh day.

And I say it's amazing when you think about it, that in a world ... We've had 6,000 years. We've had hundreds if not thousands of calendars and civilizations, and everything. But for the most part, in 6,000 years, the world has always been on a seven-day week. So, why is that? Because the Father has always kept this structure. Exodus 16 ... Exodus 16, verse 22 is something else about it.

And like I said, I think it's important to go over something like this because ... and again, just in this room, we're coming from all over the world. We have different cultures. And we want to make sure where we're looking at the Sabbath blessing

that we're understanding the cultural environment that the Father gave this in, and that we're not allowing our culture today to supersede the meaning of the Sabbath blessing of what He had there.

Exodus 16 and verse 22 ... Exodus 16 and verse 22. So, we're seeing certain precedents that we've already set down. One is **no work is to be done by us or anything that's within our authority**. Some people, they don't want to go to a restaurant because they feel that when you go to a restaurant that person's your slave. That's utter nonsense. When you go to a restaurant, that person is not your slave.

We're not to go to restaurants for another reason that we're going to see here in a few minutes, because you're taking your sanctity away, and we're not to transact money. But when you go to a restaurant, that person's not your slave. I was a restaurant owner. Jay's a restaurant owner. Try to tell me that when my customer comes in to buy off me that I'm his slave. That's just utterly ridiculous. You're going in as a customer. They're providing a service, and you're getting that service for them.

So, again, when you're talking about somebody who is under your jurisdiction, you're talking about family members. You're talking about guests. You're talking about somebody that is within the jurisdiction that you have. If somebody is within your borders that you own, or you're renting, then they'll have to keep the Sabbath day according to Scripture or you'll be responsible. Exodus 16 tells us something else, now, about this—about preparation. Verse 22 ... Exodus 16 and verse 22.

Exodus 16:22-24 *And it came about on the sixth day ... and this is with the manna ... they gathered double bread, two omers for one. And all the leaders of the congregation came and reported to Moses. And he said to them, That is what YAHWEH said, Tomorrow is a rest, a holy Sabbath to YAHWEH. What you will bake, bake. And boil what you will boil. And lay up for yourselves all that is left over, to keep it until the morning. And they laid it up until the morning, as Moses commanded. And it did not stink and no maggot was in it.*

Exodus 16:25-30 *And Moses said, Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to YAHWEH. Today you will not find it in the field. You shall gather it six days, and on the seventh day is a sabbath; in it none shall be found. And it happened on the seventh day, some of the people went out to gather, and did not find any. And YAHWEH said to Moses, Until when will you **refuse** to keep My commandments and My laws? ... My Torah ... Behold! Because YAHWEH has given the sabbath to you, therefore He is giving you two days of bread on the sixth day. Each one of you remain in his place. Do not let anyone go out from his place on the seventh day. And the people rested on the seventh day.*

Now again, in context, what is He talking about "going out?" He's talking about going out to gather manna. Some people just rigidly look at those three words in this one sentence and take it out of context, that you're not supposed to even leave your dwelling on the Sabbath, period. Well, we know Yahshua was in the grain fields picking grain on the Sabbath day. So, certainly, He didn't believe He's not allowed to leave His dwelling place. There were synagogues everywhere. Yahshua was in the synagogue. Paul was in the synagogue. They had to leave their home to go into the synagogue.

So, the commandment is not saying we cannot leave our home on the Sabbath day. But it's saying, clearly, we're not to leave our home to go out to gather, to work, to do our food. And, clearly, what we see here ... *what you will bake, bake; what you will boil, boil ...* **all of your food preparation should be done on Friday—everything**. Everything should be done on Friday ... The Sabbath is not a day for doing hard work. It's not a day for doing heavy cooking ... everything that we should do.

And one of the problems is, because of the society we live in today, it's hard enough for people to get Saturday off. A lot of people now, Saturday is a regular work day. Can you imagine having to take off half a day Friday besides Saturday? And I think that's where the biggest problem in preparation for the Sabbath comes, not in the Sabbath itself, it's that people are not using Yom Shishi. They're not using the preparation day properly.

And I know ... I'm not criticizing ... I know everybody has things in the world. I know that there's people that are single parents. There's people that have to work till certain times. But really, if you're going to get the blessing of the Sabbath, you have to use the preparation day or you're going to lose that. It's not to work till the very last minute—sunset is 6:57, and you're getting out of that office at 6:56.

Because now you didn't do any preparation, you're not going to be ready for the Sabbath. You're not going to prepare. You're not there at your house to welcome the Sabbath in with your family. **The Sabbath is a day of peace. It's a day of rest.** You don't want to be rushing down the highway three minutes into the Sabbath, trying to get to your house. It just is taking away from that sanctity.

And what we're going to see, a common thread. Because really, what I'm going to try to show you today is the blessing of the sanctity that Yahweh gives us in this day. And Satan wants to steal that from you ... Satan wants to steal it from you. Because **this day is not meant to restrict you, it's meant to set you apart and to bless you.** And if Satan can take that away from you, he will do it at any corner. But clearly from this we see that all preparation should be done on Friday; and again, we shouldn't be doing any cooking, cleaning, anything on Shabbat. Exodus 35 ... Exodus 35:1 through 3.

Exodus 35:1-2 *And Moses assembled all the congregation of the sons of Israel and said to them, These are the Words which YAHWEH has commanded, to do them: Work may be done six days and on the seventh day it shall be holy ... set apart ... to you, a Sabbath of rest to YAHWEH; everyone doing work in it dying shall die.*

Comment: Wow! So, this isn't just 40 lashes minus one. This isn't a little slap on the wrist. This is **you work and desecrate something that Yahweh set apart as holy, it's death.**

Exodus 35:3 *You shall not kindle a fire in all your dwellings on the day of the Shabbat.*

You shall not kindle a fire. Now, again, we're in chapter 35. What just happened in the verses before here, the chapters before here? Moses is talking about building of the sanctuary. He's talking about creating all the things for the tabernacle. We're talking about industrial fire. And when you look at this Hebrew word in the context, literally, he's talking about industrial work ... industrial work. So, we already know we're not to do any cooking on the Sabbath ... that's clear ... but also, any kind of industrial fire or what not.

And there's people I know that some of their only heat has to do with wood. So, there's nothing wrong with, if the fire has already been started. You wouldn't want to start a fire on Shabbat because it's a lot of work. You have to go get all your kindling. You have to get your intermediate wood. When we lived in Italy, we didn't have heat. It was only a fireplace. So, we made sure on Friday nights we had the fireplace shoved up with all the wood as much as possible. And when we would wake up in the morning, there'd be just a few little embers of coals. And we would just throw another piece of wood on it, and it would pop up on its own. No work involved.

So, it doesn't say you can't put a piece of wood on a fire; it says you're not to kindle a fire. You're not to go out and chop the wood, get it all together, prepare it, do all these things. Because it's work. It's a lot of work. But keeping a fire going is nothing against it. Nehemiah 10 ... Nehemiah 10, verse 29 ... Nehemiah 10 and verse 29. It says:

Nehemiah 10:29-31 *making strong their brothers, their honored ones; and were entering into a curse and into an oath, to walk in The Elohim's Torah which was given by Moses the servant of The Elohim, and to keep and to do all the commandments of YAHWEH your Master, and His judgments and His statutes. And we swore that we would not give our daughters to the people of the land nor take their daughters for our sons. And if the people of the land should bring goods or any food to sell on the Sabbath, we would not take from them on the Sabbath, or on the holy day. And they would forego the seventh year, and the interest of every hand.*

So, very clearly ... very clearly, from this scripture. This isn't so hard to understand. Should we be going to the market on the Sabbath day? Should we be transacting money? Of course not. We should not be transacting money. If we go to Nehemiah 13 ... Whether that's putting gas in your car, whatever you need, you do it all on Friday. And we'll see here in a minute why Yahweh gives us this blessing. Nehemiah 13 and verse 15. Because every time you see the Sabbath, you see that little word "set apart," "holy," "sanctified," "kadosh" always associated with us. Nehemiah 13 and verse 15.

Nehemiah 13:15-16 *In those days I saw in Judah one treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves and loading asses; and also wine, grapes, and figs, and all burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I testified against them on the day they sold food. Men of Tyre also lived in it, who brought fish and all wares, and were selling on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah, even in Jerusalem ... Wow!*

Nehemiah 13:17-19 *And I contended with the nobles of Judah and said to them, What is this evil thing that you do, defiling the Sabbath day? Did not your fathers do this, and did not our Elohim bring all this evil on us and on this city? Yet you are*

adding more wrath on Israel by defiling the Sabbath. And it happened, when the gates of Jerusalem began to be shaded as the sun was setting ...

Comment: So, does it tell us what time the Sabbath starts? At sunset. Right?

Nehemiah 13:19-20 *And it happened, when the gates of Jerusalem began to be shaded as the sun was setting, just before the Sabbath began, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and commanded that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I stationed some of my servants at the gate, so that there should be no merchandise brought in on the Sabbath day. And the merchants and sellers of all the wares stayed the night outside Jerusalem once or twice.*

Nehemiah 13:21-22 *Then I testified against them and said to them, Why are you staying around the wall? If you do it again, I will send a hand against you. From that time they did not come on the Sabbath day. And I said to the Levites that they should be cleansing themselves, and they should come guarding the gates, to sanctify ... Once again, every time you see it: Sabbath, sanctify ... Sabbath, sanctify ... O my Elohim, remember me for this also and spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy.*

Remember what we said? What Yahweh works in patterns? He works in the circular, not the linear. As soon as you find the pattern, the rest is easy. The letter of the law doesn't change, the application may. So, what are we clearly seeing the purpose of the Sabbath day is? **It's sanctification. It's setting us apart from the rest of the world ...** it's setting us apart from the rest of the world. No buying. No selling. No exchanging money. We should not even be discussing any form of business on the Sabbath day, as we're going to see here in a few minutes from some other scriptures.

But six days—six days we do all our work. Six days we do all our preparation, and the seventh day is the Sabbath, where we're set apart from that. Well, what are we set apart from? What are we set apart from? Let's go to Genesis 3 ... and this is the 3rd chapter ... and start getting into the blessing of the Sabbath day, the blessing of the sanctification. Genesis 3 and verse 17. It says:

Genesis 3:17-19 *And He said to the man ... This is after the downfall of Adam and Eve ... And He said to the man, Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat from it, the ground shall be cursed because of you; you shall eat of it in sorrow all the days of your life. And it shall bring forth thorns and thistles for you, and you shall eat the plant of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground. For you have been taken out of it; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

So, here we see that for six days, right here ... And I think all of us live in this world; we know it. It is sometimes just getting our daily bread. It's a chore. It's a daily grind ... But six days we are cursed in Satan's world—to have to work in his world, to struggle in his world, to overcome in his world—**but on the seventh day we are blessed to come out of Satan's society.** Isn't that something? I mean, we all look forward to the Millennium. And again, some of us may be alive by the time Yahshua returns; some of us may be sleeping in the ground. But Yahweh willing, all of us are going to be there.

And I know for me, it's something that keeps me going every day of my life. Because I certainly don't live for this society that's getting worse by the day, Satan's society with all the evils that he has, the wickedness ... We've talked about it many times ... in every form and fashion, Hollywood and all these things, all the wickedness of television, and all this other stuff. And we have to work in this. We have to deal with it, like Paul says. He says, "I command you not to deal with fornicators," but he said it was not fornicators in the world, or you'd have to leave the world.

So, we have to work in jobs where we're working with people that are liars, and crooks, and adulterers. And we have to sweat by the sweat of our brow. We have to work hard just to survive every week. But on the seventh day, Yahweh says, "I am going to bless you. I am going to take you out of this. I am going to sanctify you—set you apart." **And we get one out of seven to enter His rest, to be only with brethren, to be lifted up, to be hearing the words of Yahweh, to literally have communion with Him, to be one with Him.** "Daddy-son day." That's what I call it. And not Sunday, son day. Daddy-son day. It's the day for Daddy and His son, His children. That's really what this day is about. It's a special day to set us apart from everything out there.

And that's why I say I don't want the internet on on the Sabbath. I don't even want to watch the news. We used to watch half hour news years back. And I thought to myself, "Even if the world ended, let me enjoy one last Sabbath before I have

to find out.” There’s nothing going on out there that you need to know. We don’t need to know the latest rumor about Obama, or whatever else is going on.

We are blessed that you have 24 hours that you can leave the world behind. And every time you go on the internet, every time you turn on a TV, even if it’s the news, you’re going to lose that. **Any influence you have with the outside world, instead of Yahweh and His Congregation, you will lose a piece of that sanctification.** And sometimes we can’t help it. We might have unconverted mates, and we’re living with them. But every single time you have any influence, and definitely people that are not Shabbat, covenant people, you will lose a piece of that sanctification.

We just had my parents here. It was wonderful to have them. I love them. And they’ll do anything we ask them. They’re respectful. They don’t do anything or try to get us to break the Sabbath. But just their presence ... just their presence ... takes a piece of that sanctification away, because they’re not covenant people. Because they’re not going to 24 hours only talk about the Bible. They’re not for 24 hours not going to talk about their own things. They can’t. It hasn’t been given to them. They haven’t been blessed with this.

So, whenever you bring in anybody that’s not a covenant person into your fellowship, you are taking a piece of that sanctification away. And it even includes videos, even Torah observant videos. I know some people, they’ll listen to Torah people as a video, and that person sells his stuff. What did we just read? You’re not to buy and sell on Shabbat. So, if I’m watching a video of somebody who’s supposedly a Torah observant believer, and he’s selling that video, I’m promoting that video then on the Sabbath. Because maybe it’s a good message, and maybe five people in the audience will say, “Wow, where did you get that video from? I want to buy it.”

So even inadvertently, I’m promoting the sale of that, which is abominable anyway for Torah observant people. There shouldn’t be any Torah teacher who’s selling it. We talked about that ... putting the Word of Yahweh in a cart ... We talked about that last week. But some are doing it. So, is that something that you want to bring into your fellowship? Do you want to have somebody, “Oh, well, he’s a good Torah teacher,” who’s selling that word on Shabbat? It’s going to take your sanctification away. And it’s breaking the Shabbat. We are not to buy and sell on Shabbat, period. So, that would restrict any, even if they’re Torah observant, from watching any kind of videos or sermons from somebody who’s doing that.

Let’s go to Luke 4 because I really want to stay on this point. Because **I think it is so important not to let Satan rob us of this blessing.** Because it’s a blessing that no matter what happens during the week, if you’re house burns down, if you’re Job and there was death in your family, if you lost your job, **no matter what happens those six days, every seventh day you have the right to claim this blessing ... every seventh day.**

It’s something that Yahweh put in there as a measure; the same way, the Holy Days. It’s a clock in the sky. And if you keep the Holy Days every year, and you teach them to your children, you will never lose the plan of salvation; starting with the Passover, going to Shavuot, into Sukkot and the fall Holy Days. You’ll never lose it. **And the same way here, it is a safeguard, a human safeguard that one out of every seven days we can come out of Satan’s society and be absolutely blessed for 24 hours.**

And yet, out there, what are they telling us? They’re telling us that we’re under a curse for this. They’re telling us it’s bondage. The bondage is the six days in Satan’s world. The bondage isn’t being with Yahweh’s people and here on the Sabbath day. So, Luke 4 and verse 5 ... Luke 4 and verse 5. And this is when Satan was tempting Yahshua. And he says:

Luke 4:5-7 *Leading Him up into a high mountain, Satan showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the Devil said to Him ... to Yahshua ... I will give this authority and their glory to You, because it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Then if You worship before me, all will be Yours.*

Now Yahshua didn’t argue with him that all of these kingdoms in this world are Satan’s and he has authority over them. Yahshua never said that. Yahshua just clearly told him, *“It has been written, you are to worship Yahweh your Elohim, and Him alone.”* **But Satan is the god of this world. Satan is the leader in this society.** Satan does have his cohorts. We know even ministers, even religious people that are working for Satan. It says it. *If Satan is an angel of light don’t be surprised if His ministers are also come as angels of light.*

It’s not the purpose of this sermon to get into all this, the globalism and all that stuff, but we know. We know that many people that are world leaders today are 33rd degree masons. They’ve taken a vow to Lucifer. So, it’s no doubt who’s

running the world out there. But never forget who's running the world in here. And the Spirit in you is stronger than the spirit in the world. **See, this is where we come every seventh day to refuel ourselves. This is where we come to strengthen ourselves. This is where we come together so we can go back out there six more days and bear fruit to Yahweh.** But we need it ... we need it.

And that's why I say the Sabbath is not for people that haven't made that commitment yet. It's not for people that just come off the street that might want to see what you're doing. You have Bible Studies for that. It doesn't mean somebody has to be baptized, but they should at least be accepting ... they should be accepting that this is a set apart day for Yahweh. You don't want someone coming in here and fighting with you whether Saturday or Sunday is the Sabbath on the Sabbath day. It'll take your sanctification away. And like we said, **every single point that talks about the Sabbath is to set you apart for a blessing.** And that's why Satan wants to steal every single Sabbath blessing from you; he wants to take it away.

Now, how has Satan used his system from the Garden of Eden, from that time? He's used it through a system of trading ... a system of trading. And that's basically the system we have today ... is called what? World Democracy. What is World Democracy? It is a globalized, very intricate system of trading that they have. They have the International Monetary Fund. They have the World Bank. I mean, it is so intricate you can't even imagine. But it's all under Satan and all his leaders; and this whole system of trading is set up for him.

Yahweh's isn't a system of trading. That's not Yahweh's way. Yahweh's way is a system of give. You have two coats, your brother has none, give it to him. "You need this more than I need it. Here, take it. It's yours." It's not a barter system. It's not a system of trading. But who does have a system of trading? Let's go to Ezekiel 28. We'll see who runs the system of trading. And what is Babylon all about? Trading, right? And end time Babylon, the system of Babylon is all about trading. How has America prospered for these 70 years? How have they run the world? Sure, they have the greatest military; but how were they able to fund that military? Through trading ... through trading. Ezekiel 28 and verse 1.

Ezekiel 28:1-5 *And the Word of YAHWEH was to me, saying, Son of man, say to the ruler of Tyre, So says Adonai YAHWEH, Because your heart is lifted up, and you have said, I am a El, I sit in the seat of Elohim ... Who else but Satan himself? ... in the heart of the seas; yet you are a man, and not an El, though you give your heart as the heart of Elohim. Behold, you are wiser than Daniel. Every one of the secret things are not hidden to you. With your wisdom and with your understanding you have made riches for yourself, and have worked gold and silver into your treasuries. By your great wisdom, by your trade ... **by your trade** ... you have multiplied your riches, and your heart is lifted up because of your riches.*

If you go on there, you very clearly see: *you were the covering cherub that were in the Garden, in My holy mountain.* No doubt, this is Satan the Devil who He's talking to. And He's saying, by this system of trading, that's the way Satan has done it. And that's why most of the people in Yahweh's Congregation aren't rich and multimillionaires, although there's a few that Yahweh calls, but there's not many. It doesn't say none; it says there's not many mighty—Corinthians 1:26. Not many men of noble birth. Most of the ones of noble birth are out, what? They're out there in this global system trying to do that.

So, we are blessed. We are blessed that every seventh day we can come out of that system. We can be sanctified. We can be set apart, and we can strengthen ourselves. And you know what? When you come between these four walls, it doesn't matter what is going on in your life. I gave a message like this years ago, and somebody came up to me afterwards, believe it or not, and said, "I'm offended at what you said." I said, "Whoa, what did I say that offended you?" They said, "You said on the Sabbath that we can be blessed and not have to worry about anything else. That's a lie." I said, "It's not a lie."

Because, I'll tell you something. I went through in my life ... I went through my hell. I went through the deepest part of my life. I went through bankruptcy, and things that I would never want anybody to go through. And I know the only thing that got me out of that darkest part of my life was Yahweh's Sabbath day. And I know when Friday evening came and the sun set, I would literally put everything out of my mind. Why not? My problems weren't going away anytime quick. So, to have a 24-hour period where I can actually forget my problems and just worship Yahweh, be with His people, be lifted up, get strength ...

And every Saturday night, as the sun was setting, and I'd go in my room and say my prayer, I'd have tears in my eyes knowing another week's coming, have to face it again. **But for that 24-hour period, yes, you can come out of the world; yes, you can be sanctified; yes, you can leave all your problems at the foot of the throne. You can do it! It's a blessing**

from Yahweh. It's a guarantee from Yahweh. And it's the sanctity that He's trying to give us here. And I'm telling you Satan wants to take that away from you. Satan wants to take it away from you because his system is one of trading.

And like I said, then we go back for six days. You barter—you give 40 hours; they're giving you this little paycheck with so many numbers on it. Everything is bartering, one way or another. That's Satan's world. Yahweh allows it. That's what we do. But we know on the seventh day it's going to be different. We know when the Kingdom comes it's going to be a whole totally different system. It's going to be a system of love, of outgoing concern, of give without looking in return, of just meeting people's needs, of love, service. And this is why we come together every seventh day.

We come together to keep all that outside. The biggest thing with the Sabbath day ... And all the work, and all this other stuff we started with, all that is, is to get your mind away so you can be sanctified. That's not what we're supposed to be focusing on. **To me, it's pretty easy, "Don't do any work." Great, I got it!** One sentence. Throw that away now. Now, let's get into being sanctified. Now, let's talk about the blessing that comes through leaving all this stuff behind.

One other thing ... one other thing ... Isaiah 58 ... when we're talking about this sanctification. Because, you know, it's not only unconverted people that can take that sanctification from you. You can actually take it away from yourself. You can defile yourself and take that sanctity away. I know a lot of times we always like to put the blame on other people, but I think most of the defilement of the Sabbath day is coming from within not from without. Isaiah 58:13 and 14.

Isaiah 58:13-14 *If you turn your foot away because of the Sabbath, from doing **what you please** on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, to the holiness of YAHWEH ... the setting apart to Yahweh ... glorified; and shall glorify Him, to the holiness of not doing your own ways, **from finding your own pleasure or speaking your own words**; then you shall delight yourself in YAHWEH. And I will cause you to ride on the heights of the earth, and make you eat with the inheritance of your father Jacob. For the mouth of YAHWEH has spoken.*

Wow! So, now, it's more than just not working. It's more than just ceasing from our normal job. We have to mentally, up here, [pointing to the mind] ... **We have to mentally, up here, not be speaking our own words, doing our own pleasure.** You know for years ... Like I said, 27 years I'm in this faith. And I can tell you many more Sabbaths than not, as soon as the sermon was over, and you hear the conversations: broken car that week, what's a new movie playing at the movie theater, what's on sale at shop. It would just go on and on and on. And it's very clear ... it's very clear what He says. *If you speak your own words, and seek your own pleasure* ... It's not the day for going to the ballgame. It's not the day for hiking up a mountain. It's not the day for seeking pleasure.

And you know the Pharisees, they want to come, "Is it wrong to go in the pool on the Sabbath?" You can't figure it out? If you're in your house and it's 114 degrees, and you want to jump in the pool for two minutes to cool off, yeah, that's not wrong. But, yeah, if you're out there for two hours swimming and playing the pool games in there ... Come on, it's pretty simple ... it's pretty simple.

That's why most of these questions that people come up, if you have the Holy Spirit, it should be self-evident. The same way going out in nature, and going to a park and talking with your family about Yahweh and maybe reading Scripture, is that breaking the Sabbath? No. But you want to put your hiking boots on and take six miles up Mount Hermon ...

The key is this: Yahweh knows your heart. So, it's not for a man, it's not for a rabbi, it's not to come to the rabbi and the rabbi to decide, "Yes son, you can do this." "No son, you can't." Because you can even fool yourself, but you can't fool Yahweh. And in the end, who is the loser? Ourselves. Because Yahweh stays sanctified no matter what. His sanctification never loses. But when we come outside of the realm of this, we're only losing our own sanctification; we're losing our own blessing.

Every single week there is a blessing in this day, every single week. Ask Yahweh for it, and then live it ... Ask Him for it, and then live it. And you want to make sure you get it, that when the "Amen" goes out, **you go to someone and you encourage. Give a word of wisdom. Give a word of encouragement. Help somebody. Talk about Scripture. Be uplifting.** Do exactly what He says to do in this day. Be an encouragement to somebody else. And just don't speak your own words ... **Don't speak your own words; don't seek your own pleasure.**

I had a rabbi years ago that liked my book, *The Great Falling Away*. And he called me in, in Jerusalem. He's one of the top rabbis there. He actually asked for more copies. He wanted to give them to all the rabbis. And when I was telling him that

we don't do the oral law, he said to me, "But how can you keep the Sabbath day?" He said, "We have 1,000 laws here to show you how can you do it." And I read this scripture to him. I read the one in Deuteronomy about not working, and I read him this one about seeking your own pleasure. And I said to him, "It fits everything. What more do you need?" And he thought. He said, "You know, you're right. What more do we need?"

You only need the 1,000 laws if you don't have the mind of Yahweh; yeah, then maybe you need 2,000 laws. But, if you have the mind of Yahweh, the principle should be enough ... principle should be enough. And like I said, it's 117 degrees out, and you have not even a fan in your house, and you want to take two minutes and jump in the water just to cool yourself, you don't have to feel guilty. But then, be careful ... **be careful. Because you could be sitting out there for three hours** and doing/saying the same thing; playing in the pool, doing all these water games, maybe even going to a water park. "Yeah, it was so hot. We didn't have air conditioning. We took the kids to the water park on Shabbat." It's not the day for it ... it's not the day. And like I said, you can kid even yourself, but you can't kid Yahweh.

And this is a day that Satan, more than any other day of the week, he wants to steal from you. Because you're not out there. You're not out there in the world today. You're not working. You're not the guy at the corner selling this or doing that. **You are a firstfruit, a sanctified child of Yahweh. And this day only matters to you and to Yahweh. This is a day for His children.** You don't want to lose that, and you don't want to give it up for somebody else.

Let's go to Exodus 31. Let's look at this scripture on that. Remember what I said, and we're going to read it here, guard and protect. **We're not just to keep the Sabbath, we are to guard and protect it.** And we talked about things we're willing to die for; this goes on the top of my list. If Yahweh has been there for eternity and He set a sign for me and Him, and you and Him, you better believe if somebody wants to steal that sign from me, they're going to have a battle. I'm not going to give it up easily. I'm not going to just hand over to Satan something that Yahweh has given. Exodus 31 and verse 12.

Exodus 31:12-13 *And YAHWEH spoke to Moses, saying, And you speak to the sons of Israel, charging them ... So, literally, commanding them ... **only My Sabbaths you shall keep** ... only His Sabbath. We don't make any other Sabbath. We don't keep our own. We don't change it. Only His Sabbaths ... **for it is a sign between Me and you for your generation; to know that I am YAHWEH your sanctifier.***

Comment: Every time you see the Sabbath, you see this word "being sanctified;" being set apart for holiness.

Exodus 31:14-16 *And you shall keep the Sabbath ... That's the word. **You shall guard; you shall protect; put a hedge around** ... **for it is holy to you; the profaners of it shall surely be executed; for everyone doing work in it, that soul shall be cut off from the midst of his people. Work may be done six days, and on the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, holy to YAHWEH; everyone doing work on the Sabbath day surely shall be put to death. And the sons of Israel shall **guard the Sabbath, to observe and to do the Sabbath** for their generations; **it is a never ending covenant.*****

Comment: And I don't like to say I believe in the Sabbath. They'll say, "Do you believe in the Sabbath?" Because the demons believe, but they don't do. I like to say **I keep the Sabbath; I do the Sabbath. Because it's not enough to just believe it, you have to do it. And you have to guard it and protect it.**

Exodus 31:17-18 ***It is a sign forever** ... verse 17 ... **between Me and the sons of Israel** ... Daddy-son day, Daddy-daughter day, depending who you are ... **for in six days YAHWEH made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed. And when He finished speaking on Mount Sinai, He gave to Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of Elohim.***

What does that mean to you? What does that mean that this eternal Creator that we can't even begin to imagine His wonders and His greatness, and His awesome power, that He actually set one day in seven for you to make an appointment? That's what it means. **He made an appointment with you, His children.** What does it mean? Out of all these 60-70 billion people that ever lived, and He says, "No, but to you, to Me, and My children this is forever ... this is forever." Is it special? Is it special that Yahweh would make this special sign just for you? And what would you be willing to trade for that? A job ... a job? Money? "I'm afraid of losing a job." Who cares about a job? Jobs come and jobs go.

This is Daddy-son day. This is my Abba, who's setting the whole universe to the side here for 24 hours to say, "I'm coming down upon you." And we call His presence. That's why you have to have judicial order in your Congregation. Because you're calling His presence down. Do we respect that? Do we reverence that, that we're literally ... Yahweh is putting His

presence in this day and in this room that's not anywhere else, what it means? How do we come? How do we appear before Him?

And like I said, if you had an appointment for a worldly job, everybody would dress nice to go there. And yet we have an appointment with the Creator of the universe, how do we even dress? Do we come with nice clothes? Sometimes I've been shocked in the last years, what I've seen. People come in ripped jeans, short pants **to appear before Yahweh. Sanctity. Holiness.** We don't even know what that means. We don't even have the first inkling of what holiness is, and that's cultural. That is totally cultural.

Because we went from a culture that knew it, even the Sunday keepers knew it back in the '40s and the '50s. But now we're a whole culture that we don't know the first thing about holiness or being set apart. We just don't understand it. It's not part of our culture. Worship—That's another thing that we've lost, what it means to worship.

Even being on time. And again, things happen. But I'm talking about if periodically, if every week, like some of the brethren were telling me in their congregations, sometimes people every week 20-30 minutes late. You mean you have an appointment with Yahweh, and you're going to make Him wait every week for you 20 or 30 minutes?

Do we reverence the greatness of Him? We only read the story in Exodus, ... And that's why it's great being here. Because you get to see part of it ... but none of us saw Mount Sinai yet rumble. But I can tell you one thing, I know it would scare my boots. For 2.8 million people to be shaking in their boots, and say, "Moses, you talk to us not Yahweh."

And I just think of a lightning storm, thunder and lightning, and it was probably nothing compared to what happened there. But there's been a few when we lived in Italy that, whoa, I didn't think we were going to make it. We had lightning hit our house, and every single thing in our house blew up at one time, all of our electrical things. There was fire coming out of the sockets. And, man, when you hear that thunder, you know who is in charge.

Do we have that reverence for Yahweh? Because if you have the reverence for Him, a lot of these questions of what we can do and what we can't do, they disappear ... they disappear. Because we don't want to look to the minimum standard for Yahweh. I want to do far and above whatever the minimum is. **Whatever is the minimum requirement, I want to go above that because I want to please Him ... I want to please Him. And I don't even want to remotely, not even remotely would I want to do something to take away Yahweh's blessing in the day or the sanctification that comes by it.**

So, it's important that we have to look at this. Sabbath is a family day for other covenant believers. If Yahweh put aside the whole universe on the seventh day, like I said, at least we can do is keep the appointment with Him. And literally the word for "holy convocation" ... We're told to have a holy convocation like this ... is a rehearsal. That **every week we're blessed that we're rehearsing His Kingdom.** And how will His Kingdom be? Like we're doing here.

That's why we have a fellowship meal. Everybody brings, and if someone doesn't have, that's okay, somebody else will make up. And nobody's looking for anything. Nobody's looking for something in return. Nobody's saying, "Hey, I brought this. You better bring this." No, we come and we all want to just give. We want to give to Yahweh first of all, and we want to give to each other as His children. That's what it's about.

And that's the way we're going to learn. **How will we learn to love Him? By loving each other.** *How can you love Yahweh, who you haven't seen if you don't love your brother or sister, who you have seen? This is our training. This is our rehearsal.* Every week you come together, you're rehearsing whether you're going to qualify for that Kingdom or not by how much we love each other, by how much we have that servant attitude, by how much we're willing to give or to share.

The Sabbath is a day that separates us from the rest of the world, but we need to keep it separated. It sanctifies us, separates us. But we need to keep that sanctity. Isaiah 66 ... Isaiah 66. There's one other aspect of the Sabbath that I tipped on, but I would like to get into a little deeper. Because, like I say, I think it's something that we've lost a lot in recent days. 66:22 and 23 ... Isaiah 66 ... Isaiah 66:22 and 23.

Isaiah 66:22-23 *For as the new heavens and the new earth which I make stand before Me, declares YAHWEH, so your seed and your name shall stand. And it will be, from new moon to its new moon, and from Sabbath to its Sabbath, all flesh will come to worship before Me, says YAHWEH.*

From Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh will come and worship before Me. So, like I said, it's a day, of course, we refrain from work, so we can be sanctified. It's a day that we're coming out of the world, so we can be sanctified. It's a day we're not seeking our own pleasure, speaking our own words, so we can be sanctified. But it's also a day of worship. Remember that. **It's not just a day of resting, but it's a day of worship.**

And that's why He wants nothing else in our mind but worship toward Him. He doesn't want us thinking about the car that broke down. He doesn't want us thinking about what we didn't do at work Friday afternoon when we left there. He doesn't want us thinking about all the physical things of our body, what we need to eat, and what we need to put on, because He provides that. **This is a day to give Him worship for providing that.**

And that's why we sit around ... We'll do it right after we eat ... we'll all get a chance to get up and share something that Yahweh blessed them with. And we share it because this isn't the day to seek, this is the day to give blessing to Him who gave us. Every one of us, every covenant believer, and even those not covenant believers ... *The sun shines on the righteous and the wicked, and the rain comes down,* just like here in Israel. There's a lot of wicked people here in the Land, but even here, His rain still came. It didn't only rain on the areas the last week where there were righteous people ... so every single person on earth, really, should be bowing down today, giving worship to Yahweh.

Nobody would be alive that's alive today if Yahweh took his breath away. But they don't understand it. They're in the world. They really don't understand it. But we understand it. We understand what He's given us for six days, and that's why we come here. And to me, it's one of the most exciting parts of the day is to hear what everybody was blessed with. Because it's just awesome to see Yahweh's provision, to see how He takes care of every one of us in a different way. And yet, we share it. And we come together as a body, and we share it as a body.

So, like I said, remember, it's not just a day of resting but a day of worship. **We need to learn reverence to Yahweh in everything we do in life.** The last thing is in Mark 3, which kind of goes without saying. But, yet, since I am doing a message, I will say it. Mark 3, verse 1.

Mark 3:1-5 *And again He entered into the synagogue. And there was a man who had a withered hand. And they watched Him, whether He will heal him on the Sabbath, that they might accuse Him. And He said to the man who had the withered hand, Rise up into the middle. And He said to them, Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath or to destroy that which is evil or to give life to a soul? But they were silent. And having looked around on them with anger, being greatly grieved over the hardness of their heart, He said to the man, Stretch out your hand! And he stretched out, and his hand was restored sound as the other.*

So, again, **it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day.** We don't want to take the sanctity away from this day. We want to make sure we're not seeking our own pleasure, speaking our own words. But at the same rate, we don't want to be like Pharisees. We don't want to be afraid. *It's lawful to do good on the Sabbath day.* If you look at most of Yahshua's miracles, many of His miracles were done on the Sabbath day.

Because, what do we say? **This day pictures His Kingdom.** It pictures that millennial rest when no one will be sick. No one will be hungry. Nobody will have any kind of ailment. The whole world will be at peace and in covenant relationship. It's such a beautiful thing, what this represents, and the dichotomy of the world we're in now. Wow! Thank you, Father, for this Sabbath day. Thank You that You give it to us.

So, just in recapping. Like we said, we want to make sure we prepare on Friday, on the preparation day, so that we keep the sanctity of the Sabbath day. We want to make sure we're not seeking our own words, doing our own pleasure. And most of all, we want to make sure that we're worshipping the One who blessed us with this wonderful, wonderful day.

And I know the Feast, everybody loves the Feast every year. And you think to yourself, "Wow! What if the Feast could be every week instead of just once a year?" And here we do ... we do. We do have a feast. We have a feast every single week that Yahweh blesses us with. So, it's a great day. It's a great blessing. And may Yahweh bless every one of you as you keep it.