

Sabbath — for All of God's People

Every week as we wait for the sun to go down, we talk about the SABBATH.

All of God's people keep the Sabbath. If not, they are not His people because they do not keep His word.

Isa 56:1-2 — This speaks about a people who are keeping the Sabbath right before YHWH's Salvation returns, because He wants people to maintain justice and do what is right. YHWH is speaking, "Maintain justice, do what is right, for My Salvation is close at hand." In Hebrew that is YAHSHUA. Thus YAHSHUA said, "I will soon be revealed; My righteousness will soon be revealed." Blessed be those who do it and keep from profaning the Sabbath and from doing any evil (verses 2-3). This is speaking of a people living at the time when He is close at hand — right before He returns to the earth.

Then in verse 6 it talks about foreigners who come into Israel and join themselves to Him; there it talks about all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it: these I will bring to My holy mountain. That holy mountain is in the next age. In verse 6, He said, "...who hold fast to my covenant..." That covenant, as you can see in Ex 34:28, was the Ten Commandments. And the fourth commandment was the sign of keeping the rest of the commandments. This covenant is now transferred over into the New Covenant into the hearts of His people. 2 Cor 3:3 — So that the law would be close to us since it is His word and we love it. It is not that we are under the law, but that we are *controlled* by the Spirit, walking in love and doing righteousness. Love *fulfills* the law.

So we see in Ex 31:13-17 that the fourth commandment was the sign of the covenant and still is. If you violate one, you have broken them all (Jms 2:10). We do not want to violate *any* commandment. We have a High Priest and He is our King. We love Him with all of our heart and we worship Him. We have made a covenant with Him that we would abide in His lovingkindness.

Taking the Sabbath away was the official announcement by the first church that they were no longer God's people. The Catholic Church boasts of their changing the law. They say they have the authority to change the law of God. But God's word says there will be a restoration of all things, and here we are keeping the Sabbath again, right when our Master is about to return to the earth. It is in the word of God (Isa 56). We have the covenant in our hearts — it's secure.

God loves the world so much. You *know* he loved the world as much as His own Son, because He *sacrificed* His Son to love *you*, to save you! And it is a shame, a *catastrophe*, that people would not receive it and pour everything out for Him. How can we live for ourselves after He died for us like He did? (2 Cor 5:15).

The sign of His people in the New Covenant is a people who keep the Sabbath and those people are maintaining righteousness and justice — loving one another as He loved us. If we are not doing that, we are hypocrites. If there is not perfect unity and we do not have a good conscience, and we are still lifting up our hands, we would be the biggest hypocrites who ever lived. But we are loyal and we are going to love our brothers and endure right here. We grew up in hypocrisy and we are tired of it. The last thing we want to do is establish some more hypocrisy here. But we have the real life of the Son of God and that is what we invite you to — to the life that is going to take over the whole earth and go over into the next age, when Messiah will return and take these people to His holy mountain to rule with Him for 1000 years. He needs us so much; but we need Him more.

Nahaliel: Our heart is like a fountain. What we do comes from there — the law is in our heart now and keeping the Sabbath comes from what is in our heart. The commandments of the Creator are like laws of the universe. If you violate the fourth commandment, you violate the earth; change this and you change the order of the universe. Like the law of gravity — this is a law of God. He says to work six days and rest on the seventh. And this law is being restored because it was taken out of us. Everything has to be restored. Even the love of brothers has to be restored. Everything has to be restored before the Messiah can come back.