

Rest and Restoration

Sabbath Rest and First Day Festivals

Gen 2:2-3 — The work was finished and Elohim rested. That last thing He had created was Man, and He was very satisfied. That's why He could rest. It's like you make a pair of shoes and try them on. The shoe fits. You are finished and can rest. So He blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Holy means set apart for a particular purpose. Elohim set that day apart so man could rest from his work. The Shabbat is looking toward the millennial reign, the Seventh Day, and then the eternal age, the Eighth Day.

Gen 1:31 says that the work that had been done was *very* good. It was not just good. *Very* means exceedingly good. He had made man in His own image, male and female, His highest creation (Gen 1:27).

Fallen man just ignores the Sabbath and keeps on going.

Ex 20:8 looks back to Gen 2:3 — *Remember* to keep it holy. He made it holy and now we have to keep it holy. *Remember* what He said in Gen 2:3. Holy means set apart. Christianity has perverted the word *holy*, but it still means set apart.

Who else is going to keep the Sabbath holy on earth except those who belong to Him as a nation (Ex 19:5-6)? We're His holy people and we must *keep* holy what He *made* holy. Before we had understanding of this day, Saturday was our biggest day to make money. Our Father allowed the Sabbath to be the greatest temptation to make money so that our overcoming and obedience would be the greatest light to the nations.

Gen 2:3; Ex 31:13 — If you break the Sabbath and you are a spiritual person, you will die — not necessarily physically right away, but spiritually. Ayal was disciplined for seven years for deliberately working on the Sabbath. I guess he hadn't come to the full knowledge of the truth yet, and he came out on the other end of his discipline. That proved he was really determined to follow our Master.

Ex 31:13 — “Above all keep My Sabbaths.” It’s a day set apart for you to rest. Now the First Day is not a day of the same kind of rest as the Sabbath, but it will be a day we won’t do regular kind of work. It will be a festival day. The early church celebrated the resurrection on that day and also broke the bread on the First Day, but they rested on the Sabbath. Every week we’ll look forward to a great festival day. There will be music, teachings, dancing, and certain types of approved games. The elders will know what kind of teaching a person needs to go to, like for instance the sulkers will go to the *Sulking* teaching. When we get larger, there will be several teachings going on at the same time, foundational teachings, etc. After every teaching we get together and shout from the rooftop what we have learned. The First Day is a great day and it will bring much honor to our Father and His Son. We will remember what will happen in the new creation, the Eighth Day. The First Day is the day of the resurrection. People get it mixed up with the Shabbat, because they heard that the First Edah gathered on the First Day, but it was after sundown on the Sabbath.

So the Shabbat looks toward the millennium and the First Day looks towards the eternal day, the Eighth Day.

The Double Restoration of all Things

Do you know the difference between *reform* and *restore*? You can’t restore something unless it is dead. When Derush (our newly baptized disciple) was baptized, a process started in his life. Was it reformation or restoration? It’s restoration, because the old man died. You can’t reform something dead.

Acts 26:8 is speaking of a resurrection. The context Paul was speaking about is old Israel, which is dead, but will be resurrected. They will rise from the dead and be restored to be a twelve-tribed nation. But first there has to be a spiritual nation of Israel to bring this about (Acts 26:6-7), in order for fallen Israel to come back to life again (Rom 11:15). Dead Israel being restored can’t happen until our Master returns. And He

can't return until a nation bears the fruit of the kingdom *in their place*, putting all of His enemies under His feet (Mt 21:43; Heb 10:13). We will represent a foretaste of the kingdom when Satan is bound. His enemies and our enemies are the same. These enemies have always divided people. They can't get along with each other, because their spirits are connected to the fallen spiritual world.

The resurrection in Acts 26:8 is the same as in Isa 49:8, which is brought about through Isa 49:6. Paul referred to this in Acts 13:46-47, speaking of his mission to raise up the spiritual Israel who would bring about the resurrection of natural Israel. But then the First Edah died. Now there has to be a restoration of it, not a reformation. Luther didn't know about restoration; he was trying to reform something that was dead.

Isa 49:8 and Acts 26:8 are both talking about the "desolate heritages" being restored, and the twelve tribes being reestablished on the land in Israel. That will be during the Seventh Day, the 1000-year millennial age, when Israel will be restored (Mt 19:28). Our Master called that the times of restoration (Acts 3:21), restitution. But this age won't come about until there is a nation that will bear the fruit of the kingdom (Mt 21:43). Our Master took the kingdom away from Israel and gave it to another nation. It went to a "foolish nation" of Jews and Gentiles. That's how it is still today. There will be a great influx of Jews in the last days because of the glorious first fruits now.

Acts 26:8, Isa 49:8; Acts 3:21; Mt 19:28; Rom 11:15 all talk about the restoration of Israel in the next age.

To attempt to reform is to claim that the church from the first century is still alive and is only in need of reformation, in other words, to correct its mistakes and make Christianity better.

Rom 11:15 is speaking of old Israel. Rom 11:21-24 talks about the first church being grafted into the old root system. But they would be cut off if they didn't continue in His kindness. Dead old Israel will be resurrected as a nation in the next age. Individuals of the natural seed will be saved now, but not the nation as a whole. Most of

us don't know who we are or where we came from. The ten tribes that went into Assyrian captivity didn't keep their identity. They didn't care. There are certain indications of where they were scattered. They went to Europe. The Reubenites ended up in what became France, and even today look Semitic. They have similar characteristics.

We have been grafted into the same root system. The root is good. It is underground. It is still alive. Our Master is the Vine in the cultivated soil. The source is our Father (Jn 15:1-8).

Natural Israel will be restored only after spiritual Israel is restored (Mk 9:12; Isa 49:6; Mt 28:18-20). Our Master chose twelve apostles. This was not a coincidence, but a deliberate choice. He knew He had to fulfill Isa 49:6. The twelve tribes would bring the light of salvation to the end of the earth — exactly what He commissioned the apostles to do.

Mt 21:43 says the kingdom would be taken away from the Jews. Verses 33-45 go into detail about it. The chief priests and Pharisees realized that our Master was talking about them. There was a restoration in the first century, but it died and was cut off. When love left, there was no more light and it died off.

Our Master prophesied in Mk 9:12 that there would be a restoration of Acts 2 and 4. In Acts 1:6 the apostles asked Him whether it was the time for the restoration of Israel. He didn't tell them that it wasn't the time. He knew it would be 2000 more years. Daniel had said that it would be in the time of the ten kings (Dan 2:44). He also said that knowledge and travel would exponentially increase (Dan 12:4,9). You just have to push a button today, and there you have all the knowledge of the world. Knowledge has increased 1,000,000 times in the last 50 years. They used to travel with donkeys and camels. When the Roman Road came along they thought, "Oh, it must be the days." When the apostles asked our Master whether it was the time, He knew it wasn't. He didn't want to tell them that the church wouldn't make it and would die, that after the

first century they would lose their love. Then the Catholic system would start, and then Luther would make the division 10,000 times worse. It was actually good that he came around (Rom 8:28). It was what they call *providence*, because otherwise we probably couldn't do what we do.

Acts 26:7 says they do it *for them*. The twelve tribes of spiritual Israel who serve day and night do what verse 6 says *for them*, for old Israel. By bearing the fruit of the kingdom they will give them the enemy-free land. Old Israel never went fifty years without tribal wars. There was always division. They always fell into idolatry. They never celebrated the Jubilee. There has to be a people who will do it. It starts small with a little witness that expresses that Satan is being cast out. This peace we have here has to go to all localities in Florida. If we are in Florida it has to go to every place here, otherwise it wouldn't be fair. Yehudah will expand and start putting out tent pegs to the right and left, just as every tribe will do.

The only way natural Israel can be restored is when our Master returns (Acts 3:21). Then the earth will be replenished by the people who survived the end. There will be a remnant of the Jews who mourned for Him, and there will be survivors from among the other nations. They will reproduce and establish cities. We will rule over them, not as tyrants or potentates, but as shepherds (Lk 19:17,19).

Acts 3:21 — Heaven restrains our Master. He couldn't come back now if He wanted to. He's restrained from coming back *until* we have put all of His enemies under His feet (Heb 10:13) and restored all things in this age. This is speaking of the church. Then Acts 26:8 and Isa 49:8 will happen.

Old Israel never bore the fruit of the kingdom. We have to bring it about for them. They don't even know what we are doing. Many will be jealous when they see us and will join us. Some will hate us because we call ourselves Israel. John the Baptizer called them a brood of vipers and told them that they aren't anything special just because they

were natural descendants of Abraham. Our Master said God could make children of Abraham out of these stones.

Mt 24:14 is the witness of Satan being bound. He is not bound, but we function as if he were. His chief job is to accuse and to divide. He did a good job in Christianity, but he's not dividing us.

We have to be dressed and ready for His return (Rev 19:7-8). Heb 10:13 causes Acts 3:21. There is a lot to these things. We have to understand it in order to know who we are and not waste our life. We have nothing better to do than to bear the fruit of the kingdom and bring about the restoration of all things.

Jn 13:34-35 — “Those who love one another will be one as the Father and I are one. Then all men (male and female) will know that the Father loves them as much as He loves Me.” This is going to be an incredible witness. When the Race starts we have to demonstrate that. We are a small beginning now, but it will grow. To do this will be the greatest miracle. Nothing can be compared to it, even in the next age and in the eternal age. If we can't do it then our Master prayed a useless prayer and gave us an impossible command. All men will know. We'll bring it about. Christianity can't do it. They are spiritually dead. So are the Jews.

David Zerubbabel — It really struck me when we were reading Rom 11:24 that it says, “grafted into *their own* olive tree.” It just underscores the absurdity of thinking that Christianity today is that olive tree that the Jews could be grafted into. It's as foreign from the cultivated olive tree they were cut off from as it could possibly be. Our Master had in mind Isa 49:6, the restoration of the tribes of Jacob. That's why He chose twelve men from the seed of Abraham — not just by blood, but because they were willing to leave everything just like Abraham left everything. They had that kind of response; they did what Abraham did. So with these Jews He was going to restore that vital connection to the holy root, and then through Paul's ministry Gentiles could be grafted “contrary to nature” into that cultivated olive tree. But today it would be “contrary to nature” for the Jews to be grafted into Christianity, which is the opposite of what Paul said in Rom 11:24.

Gal 3:29 — If we are baptized into Messiah we are Abrahamish, not Jewish. Our Father made a self-cursing, maledictory oath (Gen 15:8-21; Jer 34:18). God will be cursed if He doesn't give the natural seed of Abraham that land He promised them. They have no idea what we are doing for them in order to bring it about.

There will always be conflict between the sons of Ishmael (the Arabs) and the Jews. There will be no peace until the next age when our Master returns and brings it about. One third of the Jews will mourn and weep as for an only child when they realize the truth about our Master. They heard about Him and heard about Him and maybe wondered. They can repent and start the twelve tribes in the next age (Rev 1:7, Zec 12:10). We're not cursing them because of what they did with our Master. They were the priests who made the sacrifice. They have to admit that they put Him to death. They have listened to the horrible things the Talmud says about our Master. It was passed on from generation to generation. Somehow they have to make it stop. This is not speaking of the Jews who are being saved in the Body now; it is the third of the Jews that will go on into the next age because they listen to the two witnesses. That third will be cut to the heart just as on the day of Pentecost.