

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

The Law of Moses
(The Ten Commandments)

Christians and the Law

Christocentric View

➤ *Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law in His life, teaching and work*

Christians and the Law

Christocentric View

- The entire Law applies to us, but only as it is fulfilled by Christ
- The Law is not a *direct* and *immediate* guide for our conduct

The fourth commandment as a paradigm

The Sabbath Day

Exodus 20:8-11

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all you work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you.

For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.”

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the OT

➤ *The sign of God’s relationship to the people of Israel*

- signified their “rest” in God as His people by pointing to God’s “rest” in creation, and reminding them of deliverance from Egypt

Sabbath points forward to fulfillment in Jesus

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the NT

1. Jesus and the Sabbath

➤ *Matthew 12:1-8*

- accused of breaking the Sabbath law
- responded with the examples of David and the priests

❖ *“the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath”*

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the NT

1. Jesus and the Sabbath

- Jesus never broke or contravened any law of Torah concerning Sabbath
- Jesus implies that Sabbath rest is bound up with God's ultimate purpose of salvation
- In asserting His lordship over Sabbath, Jesus anticipates a coming change

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the NT

2. Paul and the Sabbath

- There is no command to keep the Sabbath in any of Paul's letters!
- Sabbath was a shadow pointing to fulfillment in Christ (Col. 2:16-17)
- An individual may keep Sabbath or not, but it is not to be imposed on any (Rom. 14:5)

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the NT

3. Hebrews 3:7– 4:13

- *Meaning of God's "rest"?*
 - Salvation in its consummated form – the resting place of the future, eternal kingdom
 - The goal of creation and redemption brought by the work of Jesus
 - It is both "already and not yet"

The Sabbath Day

Sabbath in the NT

3. Hebrews 3:7– 4:13

- *How do we enter this rest?*
 - by faith (persevering) in Jesus "today" that leads to inheritance of His kingdom when He comes

This is how we keep the true Sabbath!

The Sabbath Day

Conclusion

- The physical, seventh-day rest of the OT has become the salvation rest of the true Sabbath
- There is no warrant for transferring the physical, seventh-day rest of the OT to the first day of the week