

The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty to God (Part 4):

Commandment Four Concerns *God's Day*—Never Fail to Observe the Sabbath, to Keep it Holy, **Exodus 20:8-11**

Exodus 20:8-11 (NASB)

⁸ "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ 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."

<u>Thought 2</u>. There is a strong lesson here about storing up and hoarding the manna. We must never hide nor hoard "the bread from heaven," Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the only spiritual food that can satisfy the human heart. We must therefore share the bread of life, Jesus Christ, with the world.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

"Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life" (Acts 5:20).

"Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God" (2 Tim. 1:8).

"These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee" (Titus 2:15).

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15).

3. God's third command was also disobeyed (Exodus 16:22-27).

Exodus 16:22-27 (NASB)

²² "Now on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. When all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses,

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Lecture # 13 Part 1



- ²³ then he said to them, "This is what the LORD meant: Tomorrow is a sabbath observance, a holy sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until morning."
- So they put it aside until morning, as Moses had ordered, and it did not become foul nor was there any worm in it.
- ²⁵ Moses said, "Eat it today, for today is a sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field.
- ²⁶ Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the* sabbath, there will be none."
- ²⁷ It came about on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they found none.

God commanded the people to gather twice as much bread on the sixth day, **two** omers (four quarts) for each person.

Note what happened.

- **a.** The people gathered twice as much bread on the sixth day and the rulers gave the good report to Moses (Exodus 16:22).
- **b.** The people were supposed to cook what was needed for the Sabbath on the sixth day (Exodus 16:23). Why? Because the Sabbath was a day of rest, a holy day to the Lord.
- **c.** Did the people obey God? Some did. And the manna did not stink nor get maggots in it (Exodus 16:24).
- **d.** Now, note what the messenger of God did. He restressed, reemphasized the third command (Exodus 16:25-26). The point is clear: the Sabbath day was to be a day given to the Lord (Exodus 16:25).
 - ⇒ Six days were to be used for gathering food, but no food was to be gathered on the Sabbath day (Exodus 16:26).

God had His messenger stress the command time and again. There could be no misunderstanding: the people knew exactly what they were to do.

- e. Again, did the people obey God? Some did not: they disobeyed God (Exodus 16:27). Despite the clear, unquestionable command of God, some of the people deliberately chose to act on their own, to do their own thing. They rebelled against God's command and disobeyed Him. They went out on the Sabbath day to gather manna. But note: they found none.
- **f.** What was God's response? He rebuked the people and gave a strong charge to them (Exodus 16:28-30).

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Lecture # 13 Part 1



- 1. ⇒ He rebuked them with a question: How long would they disobey him and His laws (Exodus 16:28)?
- 2. ⇒ He gave them a strong charge: they must keep in mind that the LORD Himself established the Sabbath.

The facts were clear:

- **a.** The Lord had given six days to gather bread, to work (**Exodus 16:29**).
- **b.** The Lord demanded that everyone rest and worship on the Sabbath day (Exodus 16:29).
- c. Note: the people obeyed (Exodus 16:30).

Thought 1. **Two clear lessons** are seen in this experience of Israel.

1) We must obey God. God means what he says, and He expects us to obey Him. We must never disobey Him, not deliberately, not in rebellion.

"Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine" (Exodus 19:5).

"O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!" (Deut. 5:29).

"This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul" (<u>Deut. 26:16</u>).

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Joshua 1:8).

"And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Samuel 15:22).

"And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days" (1 Kings 3:14).

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Matthew 7:24). BI-270A The Ten Commandments DR. EDDIE ILDEFONSO

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Lecture # 13 Part 1



"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23).

"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.... Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:10, 14).

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14).