

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#35] *Entering into the Joy of Yahweh's Rest: Get a Better Dream* – Dt. 14:21b–29

Sermon Outline – May 6, 2018

Children's Sermon: Get a Better Dream

- Our Culture: Follow your dreams
- Jesus: Get a better dream

1 Corinthians 2:9–10

⁹ But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

What is the Sabbath?

Notes:

Genesis 2:2–3

² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and **he rested on the seventh day** from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it **God rested from all his work** that he had done in creation.

“‘Rest’ resembles the word ‘peace’... It stands for consummation of the work accomplished and the joy and satisfaction attendant upon this.”¹ (bold mine) **Illustration:** Stones in our back yard

Exodus 31:13 (Cf. 16-17; Ex. 20:8–11)

¹³ “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for **this is a sign between me and you** throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you.’

Deuteronomy 12:9–12

⁹ for **you have not as yet come to the rest** and to the inheritance that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹⁰ But when you go over the Jordan and live in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to inherit, and **when he gives you rest** from all your enemies around, **so that you live in safety**,¹¹ then to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name dwell there, there you

¹ Vos, Geerhardus (2000). *Biblical Theology: Old and New Testaments* (p. 140). The Banner of Truth Trust.

shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, and all your finest vow offerings that you vow to the Lord. ¹² ***And you shall rejoice before the Lord your God***, you and your sons and your daughters, your male servants and your female servants, and the Levite that is within your towns, since he has no portion or inheritance with you.

Hebrews 4:8–10

⁸ ***For if Joshua had given them rest***, God would not have spoken of another day later on (Psalm 95:11). ⁹ So then, ***there remains a Sabbath rest*** for the people of God, ¹⁰ for ***whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.***

The “Sabbath” rest was pointing at nothing less than the full reception of God’s promised inheritance! (not yet realized)

How Was Israel Being Taught to Keep the Sabbath?

Today’s Clear Biblical Bullet...

Israel is told to recognize Yahweh’s provision, to rejoice in His provision and to participate in His provision.



A Warning from Paganism (Cf. Exodus 23:19; 34:26)

^{21b} “You shall not boil a young goat in its mother’s milk.

Learning the Joy of Yahweh’s Rest

You Bring your Tithe to Eat Before the King

²² “***You shall tithe*** all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. ²³ ***And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe*** of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and ***the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.***

The Law of Exchange

²⁴ And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, ***because the place is too far from you***, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, ²⁵ then you shall turn it

into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses

Joyful Feast Before the Lord!

²⁶ and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And *you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice*, you and your household.

Participation in the Joy of Yahweh's Rest

Yahweh Provides for the Levite

²⁷ And *you shall not neglect the Levite* who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you. ²⁸ “At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. ²⁹ And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you...

Yahweh Provides for the Poor

...and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled...

Yahweh's Blesses those who care for the Levites & the Poor

that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

Summary:

Tithe = Yahweh is your King and you belong to him/**rest**

Feast = Yahweh's rule is for your joy/**rejoice**

Levite = Yahweh provides for his servants/**imitate, participate**

Poor = Yahweh provides for the poor/**imitate, participate**

Jesus is Teaching Us to Dream Bigger!

...Fired at our Life & Heart

Jesus has finished his new creation work and is bringing us into his promised inheritance. **Rest** in him, **rejoice** before him, and **imitate/participate** in his love.



1 Peter 1:3–5

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ **to an inheritance** that is

imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Hebrews 4:11

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Rest in the work Jesus has done, is doing & will do (We belong to Jesus)

Rejoice before the triune God! (spend time & money)

Imitate/participate in the love of Christ (share generously)

- Care for the Lord's servants (church)
- Care for the Poor (especially with the gospel; church & lost)

Next 2 Weeks:

1. Release for the Poor — Deuteronomy 15
2. Feasting before the Lord — Deuteronomy 16:1-17