

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, December 10, 2023

Passage: Various

Memory Passage: Hebrews 4:9–11

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Ex 20:8–11 & Deut 5:12–15.** The word “Sabbath” occurs 7x in Isaiah (1:13, 56:2, 4, 6; 58:13; 66:23 [2x]) and 137 other times throughout the Bible (in the ESV). Because we are working on a short week (totally my fault!), I give you one task (albeit not a small one): (1) read the following two paragraphs from *A Faith to Confess: The Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689 (Rewritten in Modern English)* concerning the Sabbath (quoted below in c, d), (2) read the passages the authors of the 1689 cite in support of these claims (in parentheses at the end of each paragraph), and the list of passages in (e), and finally, (4) state whether you agree or disagree with the 1689. If you disagree, in part or entirely, write a paragraph detailing what you think the Bible teaches concerning the Sabbath and how a New Testament believer should obey and apply the Sabbath commands.

(b) Don’t be overwhelmed! There are less than two dozen passages to examine, many of them one or two verses. As you study, get a flavor of the place of the Sabbath in the life of a faithful Jew, assess how Jesus speaks about the Sabbath, see how Paul and the writer of Hebrews apply the Sabbath to their New Testament audience, and formulate your paragraph explaining how you should obey and apply the Sabbath as a New Testament believer.

(c) “It is a law of nature, applicable to all, that a proportion of time, determined by God, should be allocated for the worship of God, so, by His Word, He has particularly appointed one day in seven to be kept as a holy sabbath to Himself. The commandment to this effect is positive, moral, and of perpetual application. It is binding upon all men in all ages. From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ the sabbath was the last day of the week, but when Christ’s resurrection took place it was changed to the first day of the week, which is called the Lord’s day. It is to be continued to the world’s end as the Christian sabbath, the observance of the seventh day being abolished. (Exod. 20:8; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1; 2; Rev. 1:10). (chapter 22, paragraph 7).

(d) “Men keep the sabbath holy to the Lord when, having duly prepared their hearts and settled their mundane affairs beforehand, for the sake of the Lord’s command they set aside all works, words and thought that pertain to their worldly employment and recreations, and devote the whole of the Lord’s day to the public and private exercises of God’s worship, and to duties of necessity and mercy (Neh. 13:15–22; Isa. 58:13; Matt. 12:1–13). (chapter 22, paragraph 8).

(e) In addition to the proof texts listed in (b) and (c), read (and take notes on what you learn): Ex 16:4–5, 27–30; 20:8–11; 31:12–17; 34:21; Lev 23:1–2; 25:1–7; Deut 5:12–12; Is 56:1–6; 58:13–14; Ezek 20:9–24; Matt 12:1–14; Mk 2:23–28; John 5:1–17; Rom 14:1–12 (esp. 5); Gal 4:8–11; Col 2:16–17; Heb 3:7–4:13 (esp. 9–10).

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*Sabbath Study*