

INTRODUCTION

1. Lk 23:54-24:1 I arrive at these vss w/ convictions re: Sabbath that have been formed from previous sermons & past & recent studies. I am convinced of importance of Sabbath yet extensive neglect & some opposing opinion among good brethren in our day.
2. We move from OCov Sab to 1st Day resurrection of Jesus. We pivot from OCov to NCov on the Sabbath. Today & next LD: instructive overview to inform our judgment re: importance of 1st day Sabbath.

1st: The Sabbath Is a Creation Ordinance

1. Moral foundations of this age: marriage & parenthood; labor & Sabbath. The definition of "good".
2. Assumed in NT, not re-established by explicit command. Marriage [Mrk 10:2-9 on Gn 1-2]; gender distinctives in [1C 11 & 1T 3 on creation & fall]; 1T 4:1-5 - demonic doct perverts creation [marriage & food - sex & physicality]; Eph 5:22-24 marriage rooted in creation & points to age to come. Morality of labor - discipline of the *unruly* in Thess.
3. Mrk 2:27-28 Jesus liberate Sab from Phar's legalism - Sab made for man. Sab is more foundational than OCov ceremonial laws in Jewish calendar.

2nd: In The OCov The Sabbath Included Ceremonial Observances

1. IVth commandment - *remember*. Sab = sign of OCov - Exo 31:12-18
 - i. Directives for OCov worship - tabernacle, ark, priests, sacs, etc.
 - ii. Lord gives Israel *His Sabs* [plural] based on 7th day Sab: IVth rooted in creation [Ex 20:8-11] & the Exodus [Dt 5:12-15]. Salvation augments & elevates the significance of Sab blessing.
2. OCov theocracy had nat'l holidays called *Sabs*: wkly, monthly & annual; also cycles of 7 yrs & Jubilee [50th yr].
3. Often the 8th day/yr was signif - points to 1st day of next age.
 - i. Purification from birthing [depravity]; Nazirite vows & leprosy.

ii. Circumcision on 8th day - points to regeneration of heart

iii. Lev 23:33-39 - annual holidays w/ Sab rest on the 1st & 8th day

4. Col 2:16-17 speaks of ceremonial Sabs: all substantiated in Christ. The descriptions used of OCov Israel are applied to NCov Church: we are *a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people for God's own possession* [Ex 19:5-6 cited in 1Pt 2:8]

3rd: Jesus Observed the Sabbath

1. Lk 4:16 *His custom* -> synagogue on Sab - *favorable year* = Jubilee
2. Jesus/NCov = fulfillment of OT hope: Sab Shalom.
3. Jesus did not neglect or negate Sab: as Lord of Sab He advances promised blessings of Sab into resurrection fulfillment. Lk 23:56-24:1

4th: Jesus' Disciples Observed the Sabbath

1. Commentators simply see reference to Sab as part of plot line, or validation of the piety of the disciples.
2. JCRyle notes how observing Sab benefited the ladies but also calls us to embrace the morality of the IVth commandment. "It is but a few steps from 'no Sabbath' to 'no God'." He who denies Sabbath knows little of our vulnerabilities to worldliness - much less the honor due to God. Ryken: laments the eclipse of Sabbath among evangelical churches.
3. Evangelical view: focus on pious ladies who serve as the bridge that connects the cross to the resurrection. Their witness is credible - see their piety? But little is said re: the Sabbath & our piety.
4. Does Luke assume the things that we have surveyed when he references the Sabbath? Are we correct to perceive Jesus' resurrection as embedded within & then advancing the Sabbath into NCov significance & blessing? May God give us wisdom.