

## *Sermon Notes*

**Series: Exploring Exodus: Redemption from the Depths to Glory**

**Text: Exodus 23:10-19**

**Title: The Book of the Covenant, Pt. IV**

### *2 provisions*

## **I. SABBATH MERCY REASSURING REST 23:10-13**

### **A. THE SOUND REQUIREMENT 10-11**

The Sabbath Year; same principles as weekly Sabbath. Divine provision for the hungry, poor, animals, Fallow = unplanted, unseeded, unharvested. Yahweh = God, Lord of all creation.

### **B. THE STRICT REINFORCEMENT 12**

Of the rhythm of work and rest. Firm contrast with slavery in Egypt where no rest was offered. Sabbath owed to God but Also applied to man's relationship with man. Workers needed to be refreshed by celebrating the weekly Sabbath. If God provides for animals, wild beasts, how much more will he provide for man whom he made in his image?! 10-12 = divine care for creation, environment.

### **C. THE SUPREME REGULATION 13**

A summary of Ex 20:1-7. The premier consideration. A comprehensive command, Cf. Mt 28:20a. Redemption brings a new affection that centers on our Redeemer and that rejects and redefines all pretenders. Our Lord not interested in partial obedience, 1 Sam 15:10-23; Mt 5:8; 6:24; Jas 4:4; etc. The Lord enables us to do his commands, Phi 1:6; 2:12-13; WSC 35.

## **II. SUPPORTING MANDATES RECALLING REDEMPTION 23:14-19**

See Ex 34:18-26; Lev 23:4-44; Num 28:16-29:40; Dt 16:1-17

### **A. THE DETAILED PATTERN 14-17**

3 annual Pilgrim Feasts. Man has an inherent restlessness, a deep-seated desire for ultimate stability, security and sanctity. The grand, controlling, redemptive purpose

14- Its Frequency. Exodus refrain, Ex 3:12; 4:23; 5:1; 7:16; 8:1; 10:9; 20; 9:1, 13; etc. Also 1 Pe 2:9

**15-17 – Its Feasts.** 15-Feast of Unleavened Bread- celebrated in **March or April**; recall divine redemption from Egyptian slavery; closely linked, associated with Passover; Ex 12:14-20; etc. Celebration of liberation, redemption. Its Rule

16a-Feast of Harvest. See Dt 16:9-12; **April-June**. A.k.a. Feast of Weeks, Pentecost, Acts 2:1. Firstfruits - Lev 23:9-11; etc. Significance of Ex 11:5; Num 8:17. More of same will follow in larger quantities; Christ our firstfruits, 1 Cor 15:20-23.

16b-Feast of Ingathering- A.k.a. Feast of Booths, Tabernacles. Lev 23:34, 41-43; Dt 16:13-15. Celebrated in **Autumn**. Cf. Dt 16:17; Jn 7:37. Anticipates fullness of the gospel.

17- escalating continuity building to overwhelming conviction. Not chronological but theological, redemptive, fulfilled in Christ.

Theological significance of Lord's Supper. Males as heads of households, but Dt 16:11. *Adeste fideles*.

Exhortation: don't forget these principles, precepts, patterns. Don't forget your redeemer Lord and God!!

### **B. THE DEMANDED PURITY 18**

Obedience in all details, areas of life, Ex 34:25; Lev 2:11. Significance of leaven; contamination of offering; wholehearted consecration,

### **C. THE DEFINED PRIORITY 19**

Insistent, inflexible, immutable. No syncretism in worship; reject pagan ideas, esp. at Xmas, Easter