

Day Seven

The Sabbath

Rules of Right Thinking	
Every thought begins with a presupposition or bias.	The rules of right thinking asks the question: Does that presupposition agree with reality or make logical sense.
After understanding the presupposition we need to look at the evidence.	<p>Cultural evidence: What do people groups have to say about creation?</p> <p>Biblical evidence: What does the Bible or say about itself?</p> <p>Physical evidence: Archeological findings?</p>
The last step in the process is to logically explain the presupposition.	"...always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you."-1 Peter 3:15

The Battle For The Mind

- Having a correct understanding and interpretation of the Bible influences how we view history.
- If a believer does not have a correct understanding of Biblical history then when he watches television or sees a movie about ancient history from a secular viewpoint he may begin to believe that the secular account is true.
- The believer may begin to see Biblical history in the context of that secular viewpoint and over time this could begin to have a devastating effect. A struggle may begin to take place in his mind as he tries to reconcile what the Bible claims verses what secular history claims.

- "[By]Rejecting the truth God has revealed to everyone, man perverts the witness of creation and conscience and creates his own gods."-Hunt
- The abandonment of a Biblical Worldview and the God of the Bible will result in something or someone to replace Him. As G. K. Chesterton observed, "When men choose not to believe in God, they do not thereafter believe in nothing, they then become capable of believing in anything."
- **It is unfortunate that people in the Church today are changing the truth of creation given to us in Scripture for the lie of evolution in order to be more accepted by society.**

Man's Reasoning Is Flawed

- At the Fall mankind began to think and reason outside of God's intended design.
- The result of thinking from our own fallen intelligence will result in a blinded logic.
- "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." - **Proverbs 14:12**
- "Then Job answered the LORD and said: 'You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' **Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.**" - **Job 42:1,3**
- "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ." - **Colossians 2:8**

- One of the most deadly deceptions today is to think and act outside the authority of God's word.
- Humanism is the religion that elevates man to the highest authority both individually and culturally.
- However, just because man has elevated himself to the ultimate authority does not make it true.
- God is the ultimate authority regardless what man thinks and does.

God Verses Man

- "Certainly not! Indeed, **let God be true but every man a liar**. As it is written: 'That You may be justified in Your words.'"
- All belief systems outside of the truth of God's authoritative word are human based and not to be trusted.
- Man thinks himself to be so smart but in the end only God's word will be proven to be true.

Pascal's Wager

<u>THE CHOICES</u>	<u>GOD EXISTS</u>	<u>GOD DOES NOT EXIST</u>
I DO BELIEVE	I RECEIVE AN ETERNAL REWARD	NOTHING HAPPENS
I DON'T BELIEVE	I RECEIVE ETERNAL PUNISHMENT	NOTHING HAPPENS

Pascal's wager is not an argument for God's existence nor does it tell us which God is the true God. It is merely a cost analysis between believing or rejecting God.

Day Seven

DAY SEVEN

RESTED
BLESSED
SANCTIFIED

Genesis 1:31-Genesis 2:1-3

"Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed **it was very good**. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."

Problem: Creation is "formless and empty" (1:2)

God's Work	<i>Forming</i>	<i>Filling</i>
	Day One: Light and Darkness	Day Four: The lights of day and night
	Day Two: sky and sea	Day Five: birds and fish
	Day Three: fertile earth	Day Six: Land animals, including man

Result: The work of creation is finished, and God can rest or cease (2:1)

- "For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who **formed** the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be **inhabited**: "I am the LORD, and there is no other." - **Isaiah 45:18**

Rest

- Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines rest as:

 1. To cease from action or motion of any kind
 2. To cease from labor, work, or performance
 3. To be quiet or still

What Did God Create On The Seventh Day Of Creation?

- It would seem that God would have said that He finished His work on the "sixth day"????
- " **For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them...**" -Exodus 20:11
- After six days what did the universe still lack?
- The universe is incomplete without "rest".
- **God created on the seventh day: Harmony, calmness, stillness, and rest.**

- GOD LITERALLY CREATED INTO HIS CREATION THE ABILITY TO STOP AN ACTIVITY AND: **RESTORE, REJUVINATE, AND REVIVE THE SOUL.**
- REST IS AS VITAL TO CREATION AS OXYGEN, WATER, AND THE SUN.
- THE SEVENTH DAY OF CREATION IS THE ONLY DAY THAT GOD BLESSED AND SANCTIFIED.

The Sabbath Day

- "Shabbat is primarily a day of rest and spiritual enrichment. The word "Shabbat" comes from the root Shin-Beit-Tav, meaning to cease, to end, or to rest." -Judaism 101
- The Sabbath day was created by God for the purpose of **restoring, renewing, and rejuvenating** the mind, soul and body.
- The main work that a person is to cease from is engaging in creative activity.
- In Judaism, the Sabbath Day is one of if not the most important holy day for them since it was given in the original Ten Commandments.
- The Sabbath Day is the first day of the week not the last and is looked forward to with anticipation. So, Sunday then is the first day to the Sabbath, Monday the second day to the Sabbath, etc..

1996	APRIL					1996
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Good Friday	6 Sabbath
7 Easter	8	9	10	11	12	13 Sabbath
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Sabbath
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Sabbath
28	29	30				
1st day	2nd day	3rd day	4th day	5th day	6th day	7th day

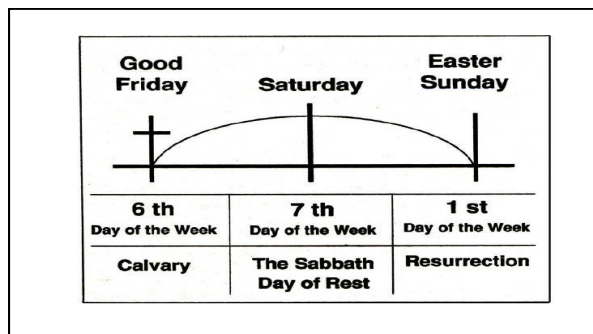
“All mankind are included in the privilege of the seventh day rest, though the Jews alone were commanded to keep it on Saturday”—FAUSSET’S BIBLE DICTIONARY

First Council In Jerusalem

"Known to God from eternity are all His works. Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood. For Moses has had throughout many generations those who preach him in every city, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath."—**Acts 15:18-21**

The Church Celebrates The Lord's Day

- The early Church changed worship of the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday to celebrate the day of the Lord's resurrection.
- The Church's celebration is the risen life of Jesus.
- Jew's and Christian's alike, recognized that Sunday was also a Roman holy day tied to sun-worship.



The Sabbath Is Linked To Creation

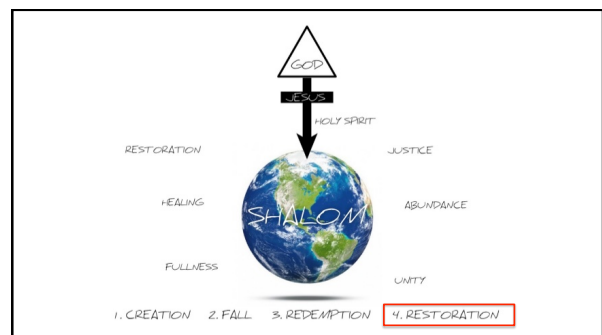
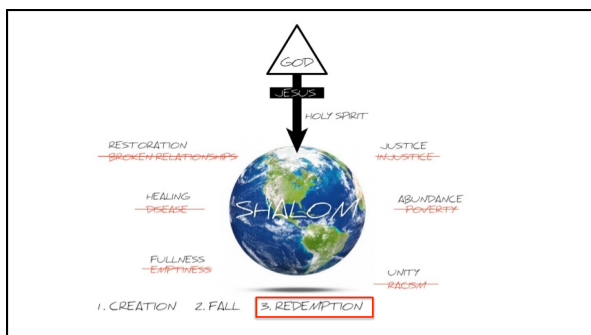
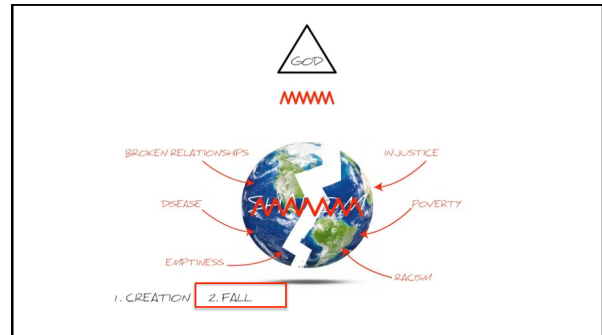
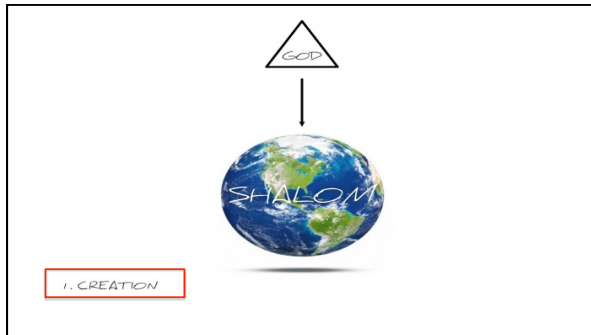
- "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. **For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.** Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." -Exodus 20:8-11

The Sabbath Is Linked To Redemption

- "And **remember** that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day." -Deuteronomy 5:15
- Every word, story, historical event, is teaching man about the redemptive work of God towards man.

Redemptive Theology





Hebrews 4:1-5

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said:

"So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,'" although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest."

- Rest is used eleven times from Hebrews 3:11 to Hebrews 4:11
- There are three states of rest mentioned in these verses: **Past, Present, and Future**
- The **past rest** is the rest of salvation
- For we who have believed do enter that rest..."-Heb 4:3
- The **future rest** is the rest of heaven when all our toils will be behind us

- "There remains therefore a rest for the people of God."-Heb 4:9
- "'Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."'- Rev 14:13
- The **present rest** is the rest that comes from trusting and believing in God to fulfill what He has promised
- "Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it."-Heb 4:1

A Song For The Sabbath

- "It is good to give thanks to the LORD, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare Your lovingkindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night, on an instrument of ten strings, on the lute, and on the harp, with harmonious sound. For You, LORD, have made me glad **through Your work**; I will triumph in **the works of Your hands**. O LORD, how great are **Your works**! Your thoughts are very deep."- **Psalm 92:1-5**
- Psalm 92, is a praise song for the Lord, Who created all things through the work of His hands.

THE SABBATH IS MADE FOR MAN

- "....The Sabbath was **made for man**, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." -**MARK 2:27**
- The Sabbath day of rest was set aside for man to worship, praise, and revive his soul.
- In the same way the the earth was created by God to be inhabited the Sabbath day was created by God for rest.
- The Lord built rest in to the universe.

The Sabbath Was Sanctified

- The Sabbath was created before the Fall.
- Man worked in the garden before the Fall.
- The rest for man is not so much a day of rest as it is a day of relationship.
- Relationship with God, man, and family.
- The Sabbath was created for man to stop working, producing, creating and to worship the creator who gives life.

The Fall Affects Work

""Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground...""-**Genesis 3:17-19**

The Fall Affects Rest

- Due to the Fall man is now restless
- Studs Terkel: "Most people....live somewhere between a grudging acceptance of their job and an active dislike of it." Working
- Mr. Terkel found, work was a search, sometimes successful, sometimes not, "for daily meaning as well as daily bread."



Workaholics: The Respectable Addicts

- Most people are obsessed with their jobs. In other words, work consumes them. When they are not working, they think about work, complain about work, worry about work, talk about work. They spend time preparing for work. They feel guilty when they are not doing enough and resentful when they do too much.

Everybody's Working For The Weekend

- All week long it is inevitable that we will encounter problem after problem.
- More than likely we will worry about money and wonder if we have enough to pay the bills.
- We probably fret about our jobs and wonder if we are succeeding or failing at our chosen occupation.
- Like Atlas we are condemned to carry the weight of the world on our shoulders



- Cultural historian Witold Ryszynski stated: "waiting for the weekend is where we see work as only an extended interlude between our real lives that happens on the weekend when we find leisure."
- Ryszynski believes that leisure has become despotic in our age enslaving us and exhausting us by demanding more than it gives.
- We insist on a vacation only to return more exhausted than when we left

Vacation Or Recreation

- **Vacation** according to Webster is: "The act of making void, vacant or of no validity"
- Vacation is escaping without really dealing with the root of exhaustion.
- **Recreation** according to Webster is: "Refreshing and giving new vigor; refreshment of the strength and spirits after toil; relief from toil and pain".
- What man needs is to daily recreate moment by moment by resting in the presence of God.

Frustration Is Coded Into The Very

Structure of Fallen Creation

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. **For the creation was subjected to futility**, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." - **Romans 8:18-21**

Rest Is Something We Must Enter

- For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has **entered His rest** has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His." --Hebrews 4:8-10
- The gift of rest is a daily exercise of entering into the promise of God.
- Man needs to enter into that relationship and learn from Jesus what it is to BE Restful.

"Entering In" Is The Opposite Of Receiving:

- We enter into worship on the Sabbath day.
- This will set the tone for our lives by initiating our awareness to His daily presence.
- Everything we do on the Sabbath is set apart to engage our worship and awareness of God.
- Learning is entering in
- Teaching is entering in
- Community is entering in
- If we are not engaging in relationship with Him then our attitude is to wait for Him to perform **FOR US**

WHEN WE COME TOGETHER:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, **teaching and admonishing one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”-**Colossians 3:16-17**