

XXX. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Third Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8

Does God require that believers of the New Testament observe the Sabbath (Saturday) and other holy days of the Old Testament?

Matthew 12:1-8

Colossians 2:16,17

Conclusions: The Sabbath (Saturday) and other holy days of the Old Testament were fulfilled in Christ Jesus, therefore God does not require that New Testament believers observe the Sabbath or the other holy days of the Old Testament.

Did God command New Testament believers to observe any specific day?

Romans 14:5,6

Galatians 4:10,11

Conclusion: God did not command New Testament believers to observe any specific day.

Why, then, do we observe Sunday and other church festivals?

Hebrews 10:25

Acts 2:42

John 20:1

Acts 2:1

Acts 20:7

1 Corinthians 16:2

Conclusions: We gather together weekly and at other times in order to have time and opportunity for public worship. We observe Sunday as our primary day for public worship since, it was on a Sunday, that Jesus rose from the dead; it was on Sunday fifty days later that the New Testament Church was born; Sunday was the pattern set by the New Testament Church.

...DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Third Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Deuteronomy 5:12

When are we SANCTIFYING the holy day?

Deuteronomy 5:13,14

Exodus 20:9-11

Hebrews 10:25

Deuteronomy 5:15

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Luke 22:19,20

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Isaiah 66:2

Ecclesiastes 5:1

Psalms 26:8

Acts 2:42

Colossians 3:16

Joshua 1:8

Luke 11:28

Hebrews 13:17

Galatians 6:6-7

1 Corinthians 9:11

Mark 16:15

Bible examples: Jesus gladly heard and learned the Word of God. Luke 2:41-52. - Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and learned His Word. Luke 10:39. - Mary kept and pondered the Word of God in her heart. Luke 2:19. - The Bereans searched the Scriptures daily. Acts 17:11.

Conclusions: We are SANCTIFYING the holy day when we:

1. set aside one day a week as a day of rest;
2. gather together with the church for public worship;
3. partake of the Lord's Supper in remembrance of our of deliverance from Egypt through the death of Jesus on the Cross;
4. hold preaching and the Word of God sacred;
5. gladly hear it, learn it, and meditate upon it;
6. honor and support the preaching of the Word of God; and
7. diligently spread the Word of God.

... DISCERNING EVIL

According to the Third Commandment, what evil (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

John 8:47

Luke 10:16

Acts 13:45

Numbers 15:30-36

Hebrews 10:25-26

Bible examples: The scribes and the Pharisees despised

Baptism. Luke 7:30. - Saul rejected the Word of God. 1

Samuel 15:10-23.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Third Commandment that it is EVIL to despise preaching and the Word of God by not attending public worship; by not using the written Word or disobeying the Word; or when by being negligent or careless about attending public worship, or the use of the Word of God, or in obeying the Word.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Do you feel it is important to attend Church services regularly and faithfully? Why or Why not?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Are you SANCTIFYING the Holy Day?