

Hope Trending

[6] The Surgeon—No More Fear of Stopping

- 2 Corinthians 5:20 *The Message*: “Become friends with God; he’s already a friend with you.”
- Genesis 1:1, 31 —“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. . . . God saw that all He had made, and it was very good.”
- Genesis 2:1-3 —“Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.”
 - #1—He blessed the seventh day.
 - #2—He set apart the seventh day.
 - #3—He rested on the seventh day.
- John Kellman: “Every time the Sabbath came round, while it would of necessity bring before the minds of [humanity] the glory of God’s wisdom, power, and goodness, as manifested in His works of creation, it would bring still more prominently before [our] minds, and present in special splendour and attractiveness, the crowning glory of His love, manifested in His coming so very near to [us] in friendship . . . as man’s glorious Friend.” (In *God Meets Man* 16, 17)
- Exodus 20:8-11 —“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”
- Exodus 31:17 —“. . . and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.”

HOPE

- Jesus and the Sabbath
 - Mark 2:28—“The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”
 - Matthew 11:28—“Come to Me and I will give you rest.”
 - Luke 4:16—As His custom was, Jesus kept the Sabbath.
 - Luke 23:55, 56; 24:1—The Creator died on Good Friday, He arose on Easter Sunday, and in between rested in the tomb on the Sabbath (Saturday)—even in death He kept His Sabbath.

- Brennan Manning: “This is what Thoreau had in mind when he wrote: ‘The mass of men live lives of quiet desperation.’ They still walk around. They still perform the gestures and movements that we identify as human. But the fire inside of them has died. They have lost vision. They have lost . . . ‘the inward music’ They are zonked spectators carried along on a mechanical sidewalk, like travelers at the Atlanta airport.” (*Lion and Lamb* 163)

- Marva Dawn: “In an age that has lost its soul, Sabbath keeping offers the possibility of gaining it back. In an age desperately searching for meaning, Sabbath keeping offers a new hope.” (In Gregory Nelson’s *A Touch of Heaven: Finding New Meaning in Sabbath Rest* 22)

Questions:

___Why didn’t God end the Creation week on Day 6—why did He create the seventh day?

___In a world exhausted and stressed out to the max, list some of the benefits of keeping the seventh day Sabbath.

___How does the Sabbath declare the truth, *the Maker of all things loves and wants me?*

___Would you like to celebrate the Sabbath this week?