"The Theology of "Holy Days": Learning to Think Biblically" (Part 1) Isaiah 58:13-14: Genesis 2:3; Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Why? "The fear of God is the recognition and the response that life apart from God and His will is disastrous, both eternally and temporally. Love for God is strengthened and expressed by doing everything I can to be as close to God and enjoy God in this life. God uses holy days and holy practices as a reminder and strengthener of these two truths."

"There were seven feasts in the Bible (Leviticus 23) and at least 64 Sabbath days a year for the Jewish people. God's desire was for His people to set apart days to make much of Him in worship and to be regularly reminded that all things come from Him. These 24 hour periods were set aside to think about and honor God."

(2 Peter 1:12-15)

"The Sabbath was given for the good of man (Mark 2:27-28; 3:4), both physically and spiritually (Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 11:28-30). In Christ, we do not have to celebrate the Sabbath, because He is our Sabbath (Colossians 2:16-17; Hebrews 4:1-10), but has He commanded us to celebrate "**The Lord's Day**"?

- God is to be celebrated as Creator on a certain day in a distinct way (Genesis 2:3).
- God was celebrated as Law-Giver on a certain day in a distinct way (Deuteronomy 5:12-15).
- God is to be celebrated as Savior on a *certain day in a distinct way* (Revelation 1:10; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; John 20:1-2; Luke 24:1). *Days Matter to God!!*
- Isaiah 58:13-14a:
 - We desire to take God's holy days, that are designed to glorify Him, and do our own pleasure with them.
 - Biblical days are given for our *delight* and *pleasure*, but it requires us to *love* and *value* the "object" of that day.
 - The key to *delighting* in the Lord is to first believe that He is better and then He will become
 our *delight*. That will be expressed in how we *celebrate* His days and how we *prioritize* His
 days.
 - Days will be burdensome or joyful to celebrate in light of the affections, or lack thereof, of the "object" of that day.
- Deuteronomy 4:6-10; Isaiah 49:3,6; Luke 2:25-32:
 - God gave Israel the Law (or days) so that other nations would see the wisdom and knowledge of God in how they lived out their days.
 - God's nearness is seen in the specificness and clarity of the Law in how people ought to live, namely what they do with their time/days, and that Israel knows the means (the Scriptures) to be able to call upon the God they *delight* in.
 - God used days as a means to remind His people of everything that He had done for them and commanded them to talk about those events often, even with their children.
 - God wanted to use His people, who honored Him, by honoring His days, to be a light to the nations, for their salvation. By showing the worth and value of God (*Malachi 3:16-18*).

Worship: In Christ Alone — The Gettys Nothing But the Blood of Jesus — Various Artists

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus — Various Artists

Closing Song: Holy, Holy, Holy — Sovereign Grace Music

Announcements:

- ★ <u>DONATIONS</u>: Throughout the month of August we are collecting monetary donations for HeartCry Missionary Society. For more information about HeartCry and their work around the world, please see the bulletin board on the back table. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for HeartCry.
- ★BAPTISMS: Our next Baptism service will be NEXT Sunday, August 20th. If you have any questions about being baptized or if you are interested in being baptized, please see Pastor Jeremey or one of the other Elders!
- ★FELLOWSHIP DINNER: We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and the fellowship with us!
- ★VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you are a church member and interested in serving the body by volunteering to serve in the Children's Ministry, we would love to have you join this ministry! We are in need of people who are able to serve on both Thursdays and Sundays our goal is to get enough volunteers that we can get back to a 6 week rotation on the Children's Ministry schedule! If you have any questions about this ministry or if you are interested in serving in this ministry, please see Kalen or Courtney Dees.
- ★<u>MEN'S BREAKFAST:</u> Men, we have a Monthly Men's Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, September 9th, at 7am, at The Big Apple Café Log Pond. Joel Decker [(740) 258-9532] needs a headcount by Wednesday, September 6th, in order for everyone to sit together. (You can just show up, but he can't guarantee seats!)
- ★LEGACY PRACTICUM: On September 11th we will begin our 3rd Semester of "Systematic Theology" and we will be studying, "Evidences and Apologetics" from Dr. John C. Whitcomb who taught Apologetics for 39 years at Grace Theological Seminary. This course will be beneficial for any believer, as we will learn the best method in reaching the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We will look at different systems of Apologetics and propose the "Presuppositional Method", which is that the Bible is "Self-Authenticating" and is the best method of reaching the lost. The Course will be 7-8 weeks and we will meet on Mondays from 6-9pm, with 10 minute breaks every hour. Everyone is invited to take this Course as an Audit, meaning you will receive a Syllabus, but will not be tested or have any additional requirements except to listen and take notes as desired. If interested, let Elder Richard know so we can have a Syllabus printed for you.

 I Peter 3:15: "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect."