Matt 116

A study on the Sabbath

This will probably be a two or three part series.

The baby was born 2:25 am Friday October 18…healthy boy 7 lbs and 4oz…thank you for the prayers.

I’m official a grandpa.

I am doing this message early so I can drive up to New Jersey for a couple days and not fall behind on my teaching so you will still have two messages this week.

/Mat 12:1 At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on **the Sabbath**, and His disciples became hungry and began **to pick the heads *of grain* and eat.**\

[Mat 12:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/2/s_941002) But when the Pharisees saw *this,* they said to Him, “Look, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath.”

Mat 12:3 He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions,

[Mat 12:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/4/s_941004) how he entered the house of God, and they ate the consecrated bread, which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, but for the priests alone?

[Mat 12:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/5/s_941005) “Or have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and are innocent?

[Mat 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/6/s_941006) “But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here.

[Mat 12:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/7/s_941007) “But if you had known what this means, ‘I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT A SACRIFICE,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.

What you see in Matthew chapter 12 is considered work because Jesus and His disciples were plucking the wheat so they could eat it.

This is the extreme nature of legalism.

The Jewish teachers had corrupted many of the commandments, by either over interpreting them…or interpreting them more loosely than they were intended; a mistake which TLJC pointed out in His Sermon on the Mount: Concerning the fourth commandment they had over interpreted it too strictly. REPEAT

I read a nice commentary from the British scholar and preacher Matthew Henry…some of his stuff is a little legalistic but much of it has value if you want to read it.

As a student or even pastor of the word of God you need to learn the principle that Bruce Lee applied while developing his own system of self-defense…JEET KUNE DO way of the intercepting fist.

Absorb what is useful and throw the rest away.

/*It is common for men of corrupt minds, by their zeal in rituals, and the external services of religion, to think to atone for the looseness of their morals. But they are cursed who add to, as well as they who take from, the words of this book,* [*Rev. 22:16*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/kjv/revelation/22/16/s_1189016)*-*[*19*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/kjv/revelation/22/19/s_1189019)*;* [*Prov. 30:6*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/kjv/proverbs/30/6/s_658006)*.*

 *Matthew Henry (1690)\*

Just so you realize the legalistic Jews had added over 2,000 normal activities like moving furniture or cooking to the list of things you could not do on a Sabbath, its actually comical if you looked at the list.

Our study about the Sabbath could begin from the first mentioned principle in scripture which has to do with a doctrine or principle when first mentioned in scripture should be viewed in the same framework when it appears again unless otherwise said to be different from the scripture itself. REPEAT

The serpent is an example it is almost always a reference to something bad…evil…sometimes satanic.

But the bronze serpent that Moses used in the desert is clearly said to be a saving element God used to foreshadow the cross of Christ.

Scripture must guide us into other scriptures…the Bible interprets itself from lining up scriptures and understanding historic context and original language nuances.

So when we look at the sabbath we must first look at how it appeared in scripture in what form does it first manifest itself.

The word Sabbath has within its root word rest or to take a pause or time away…this is one of the meanings and we can see that in action in Genesis.

In fact it is the core or root word SHA-VAH that is used for rest in Gen 2:2

/Gen 2:2 By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and **He rested** (*shabath*) **on the seventh day** from all His work which He had done.\

God does not need rest.

Just like God does not need food nor does He get jealous or angry…these are called anthropomorphism and anthropopathisms. Human attributes and human elements that God uses to teach us Bible Doctrine.

The significance of this study revolves around the necessary issue of keeping the Sabbath. It is a necessary and binding obligation –

/1. It is a creation mandate just as is marriage, procreation, labor, and dominion (Gen 2:1-3)

2. It is a moral commandmentfrom the Creator of the universe just as is the prohibition against worshipping other gods, murdering, committing adultery, stealing, or lying (Ex 20:1-17)\

REPEAT ELABORATE

/3. It remains a binding dutyupon man (not just Israel) for *the Son of Man* continues to be Lord of the Sabbath (Mat 12:8 Mar 2:27-28)

4. It marks the beginning of the new creationat the Lord’s resurrection (Mar 16:9; Acts 20:7; 1Cor 16:2; Heb 4:9; Rev 1:10).\

Go to Exodus chapter 16 with me.

We noted God’s principle of rest right in Genesis chapter two– now let us see where it begins to fall into a standard and a command.

The Exodus generation were complaining about everything …the problems with the bitter water the conditions…you name it.

 No matter what Moses taught them and what God showed them they always fell back into implacability as human nature always does.

/Exo 16 :8 Moses said, “*This will happen* when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and bread to the full in the morning; for **the LORD hears your grumblings** which you grumble against Him. And what are we? Your grumblings **are not against us but against the LORD.”\**

That my friends, is the principle that when a pastor teaches you a solid doctrinal message not one from emotion or a lazy message with no depth of study behind it…a good doctrinal lesson and you reject the pastor or his teaching.

You are not rejecting the pastor or his message…you are rejecting God. REPEAT

[Exo 16:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/9/s_66009) Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your grumblings.’”

[Exo 16:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/10/s_66010) It came about as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the sons of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Clouds have great doctrinal references in scripture and it is a study for another day but this is pointing to a divine event from God.

[Exo 16:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/11/s_66011) And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

[Exo 16:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/12/s_66012) “I have heard the grumblings of the sons of Israel; speak to them, saying, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

[Exo 16:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/13/s_66013) So it came about at evening that the quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

God was dropping food out of the skies scattered all over the campsite…piles of quails.

[Exo 16:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/14/s_66014) When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there was a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground.

[Exo 16:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/15/s_66015) When the sons of Israel saw *it,* they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.

This is believed to be angel food the manna from heaven.

[Exo 16:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/16/s_66016) “This is what the LORD has commanded, ‘Gather of it every man as much as he should eat; you shall take an omer apiece according to the number of persons each of you has in his tent.’”

An O-MEAR is a measurement… about 2 liters on today’s scale.

[Exo 16:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/17/s_66017) The sons of Israel did so, and *some* gathered much and *some* little.

[Exo 16:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/18/s_66018) When they measured it with an omer, he who had gathered much had no excess, and he who had gathered little had no lack; every man gathered as much as he should eat.

[Exo 16:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/19/s_66019) Moses said to them, “Let no man leave any of it until morning.”

[/Exo 16:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/20/s_66020) But **they did not listen to Moses, and some left part of it until morning**, and it bred worms and became foul; and Moses was angry with them.\

Miracles are falling out of the sky… God is showing a symbol of Himself in the clouds of the air and yet they still do not follow His commands.

Don’t ever believe for a minute that our generation today would act much different…human nature is stubborn and seeks its own way.

[Exo 16:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/21/s_66021) They gathered it morning by morning, every man as much as he should eat; but when the sun grew hot, it would melt.

The Sabbath is observed and this becomes a powerful moment in Jewish history as well as Christian history because everything in the OT has significance to us even if it is to simply learn from it.

But many of the commands of the OT had a shadow significance concerning what would the reality become in the CA.

[Exo 16:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/22/s_66022) Now on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. When all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses,

[/Exo 16:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/23/s_66023) then he said to them, “This is what the LORD meant: Tomorrow is a **sabbath observance**, a **holy sabbath** to the LORD. Bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until morning.”\

SHAB-AH-THOWN is a Hebrew masculine noun used twice for the words - sabbath observance- pointing to an observed holiday meaning a day set aside different than the rest. (observe)

Then you see- CO-DISH SHA-BAATH for that term- *holy sabbath.* Meaning a sacred or set apart day…*sha-baath* points to a rest or a time of yielding or abstaining to recognize something.

REPEAT BOTH!!!

[Exo 16:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/24/s_66024) So they put it aside until morning, as Moses had ordered, and it did not become foul nor was there any worm in it.

[Exo 16:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/25/s_66025) Moses said, “Eat it today, for today is a sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field.

26 Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the* sabbath, there will be none.”

Interesting how the full week we see on the calendar came from the Bible and they have tried different ways to alter or play with that on calendars all around the world and the 7 day week is the standard that keeps us accurate.

[Exo 16:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/27/s_66027) It came about on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they found none.

[Exo 16:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/exo/16/28/s_66028) Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions?

/Exo 16:29 “See, **the LORD has given you the sabbath;** therefore He gives you bread for two days on the sixth day. Remain every man in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.\

That is a strict standard and a shadow of what it would mean for the CA Bel.

Because God wanted them to gather together as a family or small group and rest in His grace and recognize His blessings.

The Jewish nation in the OT scriptures were under the law this has shadows or elements that lead into the CA but it is a different dispensation and therefore once the OT laws and rituals and shadows became fulfilled in TLJC there was a shift…a change, a new covenant and grace became much more apparent and it became the standard for living in the CA dispensation.

REPEAT

/The original Sabbath of Gen 2:2 was designed by God to teach grace. God rested because everything was provided in grace for man. There was nothing else He could do. The seventh day was always a memorial to who and what God is and to what God does. It was a memorial to grace.\

In Exodus 16:14-26 the Sabbath had to be called to the attention of the Jews. And it was called to their attention in a special way. Manna represents divine provision for the believer in time. Manna was the food that God provided for the Jews in the desert.

And Exodus 16:14 said, “Look, you will always gather manna on day one, day two, day three, day four, day five and day six.

/On day six (Friday) you will gather a double portion because on day seven - “ *I will provide no manna and you will not, gather manna.”* This was the first specific reference to the Sabbath day since God rested in the restoration of Gen 2:2. \

All of that time man understood this principle without being commanded.

It was a natural principle because of Gen 2:2.

The Jewish Sabbath: a day had to be instituted finally. The Jewish Sabbath is the fourth commandment of the decalogue – Exo 20:8-11; Deu 5:12-15. It is also mentioned in Lev 23:3. It was designed with one purpose in mind:

to commemorate grace by doing no work on the Sabbath day.

/This is in fulfilment of the concept of Gen 2:2. The Sabbath was never designed to be difficult to understand or to over analyze, it was designed to be a time of rest, relaxation and tranquility, a reminder of grace. A time where labor and daily concerns are put aside.\

God intended for the Jews to stay home with family and friends…have fellowship & cease from worry and working recognize God is the one in control…a time to give thanks and rest the body and mind.

They would not follow God’s commands so you see how often God became strict with the Jews because of the rebellious nature of what was going on.