

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 10 PART-11

KJV

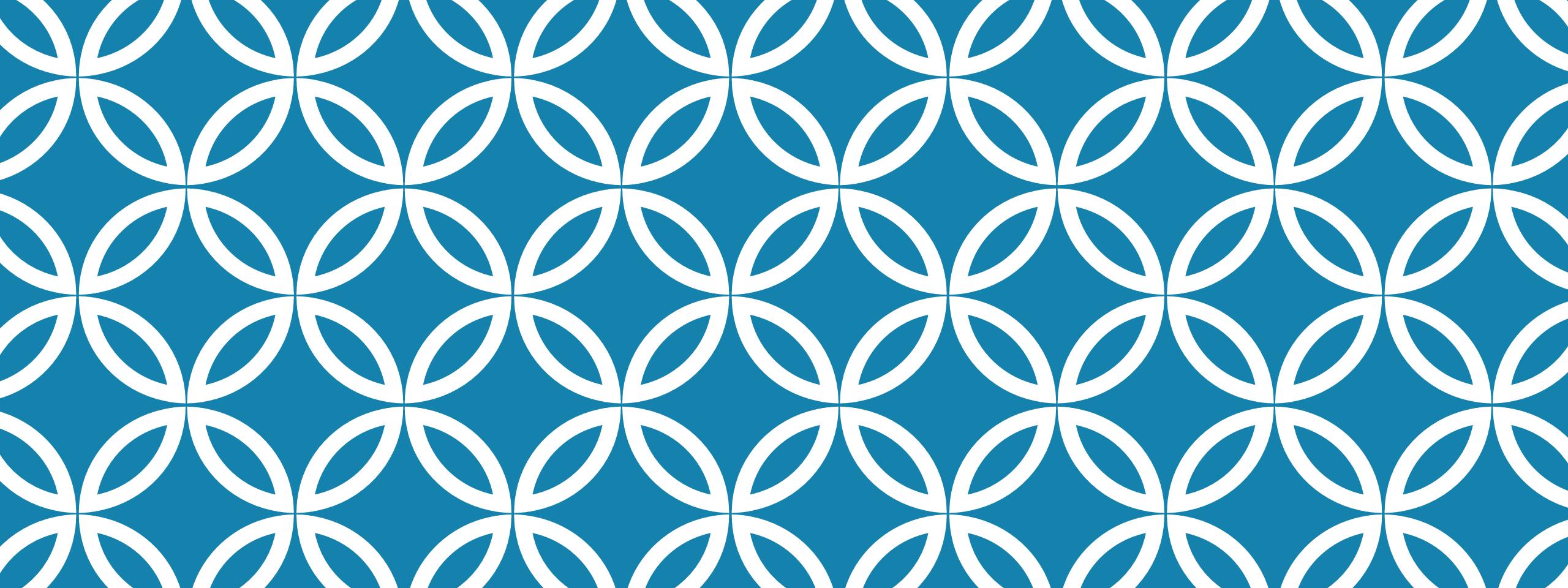
9.24.2025

ISRAEL's COVENANT WITH GOD

THE COVENANT (1-28): What prompted the signing of the covenant? Who initiated the covenant? Who are the parties to the covenant? Who signed the written covenant? Who consented verbally to the agreement? Is the covenant binding?

ELEMENTS OF THE COVENANT (29-39): What were the three main elements of the covenant? What would be the outcome of keeping the covenant?

REFLECTION



ISRAEL'S COVENANT WITH GOD

NEHEMIAH

Chapter 10, Part-11
September 24, 2025

REPAIR + REBUILDING + RESTORATION

1-6: **Repair & Rebuilding** of the wall & gates

POWER OF PRAYER

7: **Populating** the city

8-13: **Spiritual Restoration** (Ezra Returns – ch.8)

POWER OF GOD's WORD

THE PATH TO RESTORATION



THE COVENANT

The commitment to covenant reached after a long prayer of confession



9:38 And **because** of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it;

THE COVENANT

Inspired by conviction of the Word

Initiated by people

Corporate commitment

Written agreement

Binding agreement

Content (not new, existing mosaic laws)

THE COVENANT (1-28)

¹ Now those that sealed were, Nehemiah, the Tirshatha, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah,

²⁸ And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, everyone having knowledge, and having understanding;

THE SIGNATORIES TO THE COVENANT: 84 LEADERS

Governor Nehemiah

21 Priestly leaders

7 Levite leaders

45 Political leaders

Did not sign but agreed (28-29): rest of the people (wives, sons, and daughters) who had knowledge and understanding. Agreed to obey God's laws given by Moses.

CHANGE BEGINS AT THE TOP WITH THE LEADERS.

THE SACREDNESS OF COVENANT WITH GOD

We must not enter into a covenant hastily.

Prayer must precede any covenant that we make to God.

We must count the **cost** and be 100% **committed**.

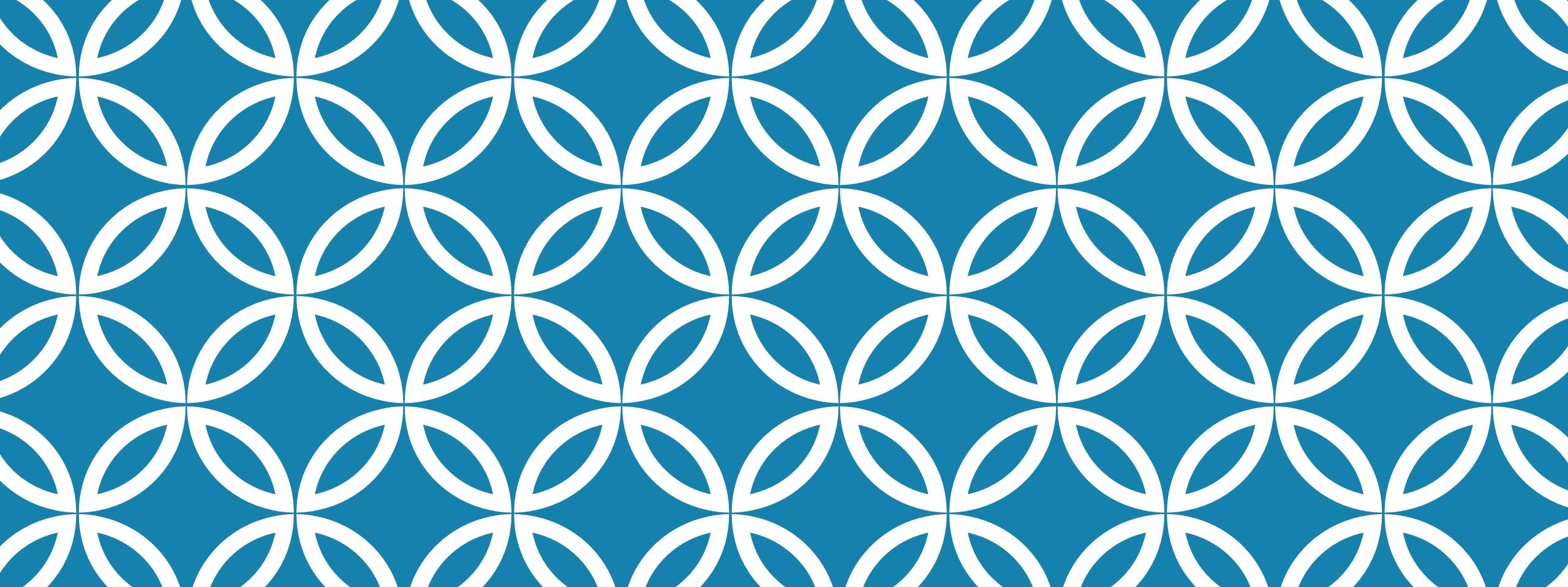
THE SACREDNESS OF COVENANT WITH GOD . . . *DO NOT BREAK IT!*

Prayer + Cost + Commitment = Honored Covenant

Luke 14:28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

Numbers 30:2 If a man vow a vow unto the Lord, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth.

Have we broken any promises? Why did we break?



THREE ELEMENTS OF THE COVENANT

29-39

THREE SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF THE COVENANT

²⁹ all these now join their fellow Israelites the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the Lord our Lord.

FOUNDATION:

WILL OBEY GOD'S WORD (29)

1. NOT TO BE UNEQUALLY YOKED

2. HONOR SABBATH

3. SUPPORT GOD'S WORK

#1 NOT TO BE UNEQUALLY YOKED

³⁰ We promise not to give our daughters in marriage to the peoples around us or take their daughters for our sons.

#1 NOT UNEQUALLY YOKED IN MARRIAGES

In those days, parents took full responsibility for marriage of their children.

[Genesis 24](#): ... that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living,⁴ but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac.”

Today children may choose to find their own spouse.
If so, what is the role of parents?

#1 NOT UNEQUALLY YOKED IN MARRIAGES

What is the role of parents?

If children are choosing for themselves, parents must:

- Pray for their children
- Teach them the biblical principles of marriage
- Warn about the dangers of being unequally yoked
- Accept & Counsel if it is too late to change (do not reject or abandon)

WARNING, DEUTERONOMY 7:1-4

When the Lord thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, ... thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them:

³ Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. ⁴ For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.

Example: Solomon (I Kings 11)

SOLOMON: LOSS FROM BEING UNEQUALLY YOKED

Solomon drawn to strange women

And women draw him away from the Living God

I King 11: But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites:

² Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.

³ And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

⁴ For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father.

TWO BECOME
ONE IN A
MARRIAGE...
DO NOT MIX
LIGHT WITH
DARKNESS!

II Corinthians 6:14 **Be ye not** unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Let us not be deceived or justify unequal marriages

Marrying to convert after marriage is not biblical wisdom! (no exceptions given in II Corinthians 6:14)

- It is likely better to be single than to be unequally yoked

#2

HONOR

SABBATH

31 AND IF THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND BRING
WARE OR ANY VICTUALS ON THE SABBATH DAY
TO SELL, THAT WE WOULD NOT BUY IT OF
THEM ON THE SABBATH, OR ON THE HOLY DAY:
AND THAT WE WOULD LEAVE THE SEVENTH
YEAR, AND THE EXACTION OF EVERY DEBT.

No buying on Sabbath

No work on Sabbath (Exodus 20:10)

Land allowed to rest in 7th year (Leviticus 25:4)

Servants released in the 7th year (Exodus 21:2-6)

Debt cancelled in the 7th year (Deuteronomy 15:1-3)

Genesis 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

Exodus 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it

SABBATH WITH A PROMISE

ISAIAH 58:13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: ¹⁴ Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

SABBATH & FAITH

SABBATH MAY MEAN SACRIFICE AND A LOSS OF INCOME

CAN A FARMER/WORKER AFFORD NOT TO WORK ONE DAY?

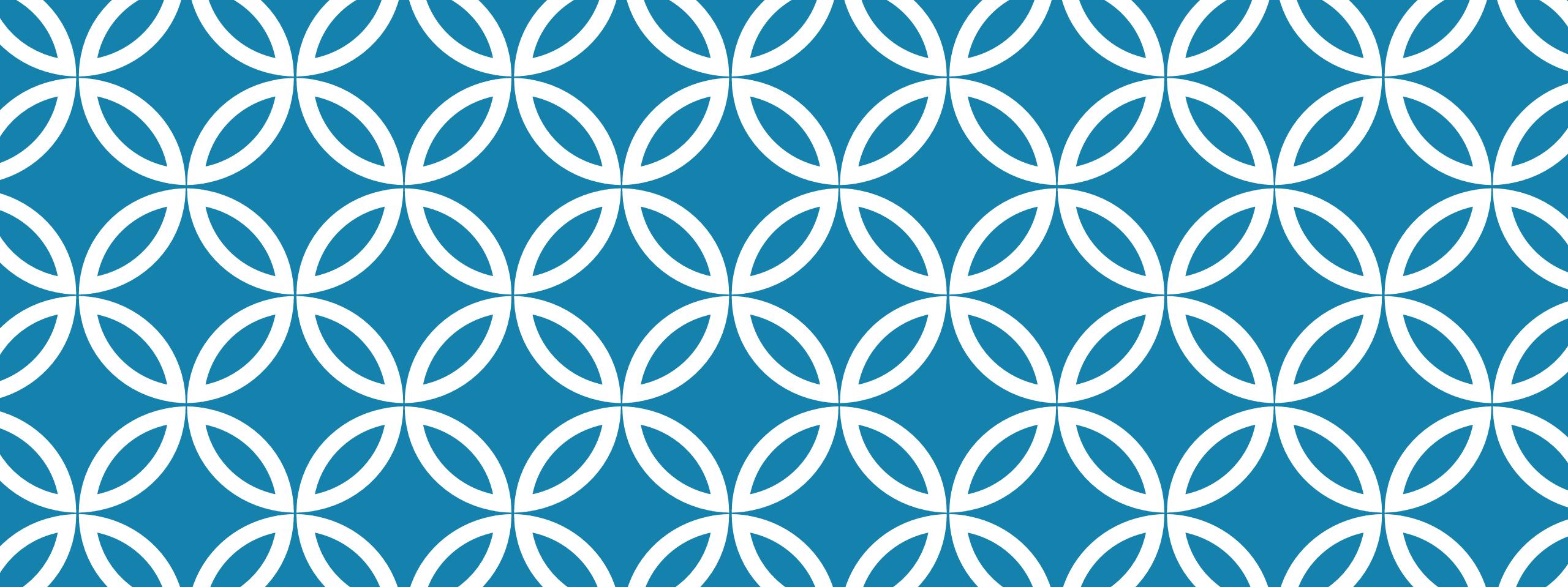
CAN A BELIEVER SACRIFICE ONE DAY OF WAGES?

TO HONOR SABBATH WILL MEAN TRUSTING GOD
TO PROVIDE FOR THE 7th Day!

Sabbath may come at a ‘worldly cost’ but it results in ‘God’s blessing’



HONORING SUNDAY!



JESUS CHRIST: OUR SABBATH REST

JESUS CHRIST... OUR SABBATH REST!

MATHEW 12:8
FOR THE SON OF MAN IS LORD
EVEN OF THE SABBATH DAY.

Sabbath also points to the finished work of Jesus Christ on the Cross. We no longer have to “work” towards salvation. We can enter into rest, worship & serve God

HEBREWS 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. (*did not enter the promised land, except Joshua & Caleb*) ... ³ For we which have believed do enter into rest,

GOSPEL + FAITH = REST

ROUTE TO REST: THE ONLY WAY

HEBREWS 4:9 THERE REMAINETH THEREFORE A REST TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD.¹⁰ FOR HE THAT IS ENTERED INTO HIS REST, HE ALSO HATH CEASED FROM HIS OWN WORKS, AS GOD DID FROM HIS.
11 LET US LABOUR THEREFORE TO ENTER INTO THAT REST, LEST ANY MAN FALL AFTER THE SAME EXAMPLE OF UNBELIEF.

ROUTE TO REST:
**We must believe and receive
the good news of the gospel**

We cannot earn our salvation through our good works. The way of the cross, by faith, is the only way to rest.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

REST OFFERED BY THE GOSPEL

HEBREWS 4:3 FOR WE WHICH HAVE BELIEVED DO ENTER INTO REST, AS HE SAID, AS I HAVE SWORN IN MY WRATH, IF THEY SHALL ENTER INTO MY REST: ALTHOUGH THE WORKS WERE FINISHED FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD.

Rest from striving for salvation

Rest from guilt of sin (Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus)

Eternal rest (Revelation 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them)

NO REST FOR SINNERS Isaiah 57:20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, … ²¹ There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

PRACTICE OF SABBATH

Jews in the OT and NT worshipped on Saturday

Early Christians met on Sunday (Resurrection Day) for worship (Acts 20:7)

We are not bound to Sabbath, nor should we judge those who practice Sabbath

Colossians 2:16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: ¹⁷ Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. **Romans 14:5** One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

APPLYING PRINCIPLE OF SABBATH TODAY

Set aside **one day a week** to rest in the Lord and be spiritually revived
(fast, pray, read the Word, worship, fellowship, witness, serve God)

Why not **set aside one hour a day** to be spiritually revived?

John 12:26 if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. (how can we be profitable vessels and serve if we don't set aside time?)