A message on the Sabbath and its application today.

Genesis 2: 1-3; Romans 14:5

1. THE SABBATH IS FOR \_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

That God sanctified and blessed the seventh day means that it is a special day, set apart from the other six days. Since He sanctified and blessed this day, it belongs to \_\_\_, not to us.

2. SABBATH REST AND WORSHIP ARE BOTH TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ GOD AND TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MAN.

Worship is not for **our** benefit, but to honor God as the Almighty Creator and Redeemer, who alone is worthy of praise and glory. But the \_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of worship is that we are blessed by blessing God.

Must Christians keep the sabbath?

There are three main views. Some say that Christians must strictly observe Saturday as sabbath as ordained by God at creation and in the Mosaic law.

A second view transfers sabbath observance to Sunday, making it a Christian sabbath.

The third view is that the sabbath was a part of the law of Israel; since we are not under the law, it is not applicable to the church at all.

There are principles in the sabbath, both as established at creation and under the Mosaic law, which apply to the Christian observance (or celebration) of the Lord’s Day.

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF SABBATH STEMMING FROM BOTH CREATION AND THE LAW IS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ FOR TODAY.

As Christians, we are not under the law, but under \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 6:14; Col. 2:16-17). It as entails two things.

In the first place, we are not under the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ law nor under the laws which applied to Israel as a theocratic nation.

Second, not to be under the law means that we are not under the principle of law as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of relating to God.

When it comes to the sabbath, then, we are not under the rigorous Jewish regulations for that day. But there is a \_\_\_\_\_\_ aspect to the sabbath, that of the proper worship of God and stewardship of our lives, which requires that we set aside a day each week for rest from our normal work so that we can worship God.

2. THE DAY OF SABBATH REST AND WORSHIP FOR THE CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, THE LORD’S DAY.

The main reason it’s important to observe Sunday as the Lord’s Day is that our Lord arose from the dead on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the week (Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1). That fact alone is enough reason to gather in celebration on Sunday.

By worshiping on the Lord’s Day we affirm His resurrection along with the saints down through history. It is important to set aside Sunday as the Lord’s Day, a day when the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (not the letter) of the sabbath can be observed.

How should we keep the sabbath?

1. DON’T OBSERVE IT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Legalism doesn’t produce godliness (Col. 2:16-23).

2. OBSERVE IT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BEFORE GOD.

View the Lord’s Day as a gift from God, not as a duty to be fulfilled.

***The biblical balance is: Don’t put yourself under manmade laws or rules that have the appearance of wisdom, “but are of no value against fleshly indulgence” (Col. 2:20-23). On the other hand, do discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness (1 Tim. 4:7).***