

Campaign... doesn't do rest.

We are not designed to campaign indefinitely.

Gen 2:1-3

From the very beginning patterns, patterns, patterns.

We all know what happens with the patterns God creates, they fall into sin.

Asher is a pattern man.

How different am I from Asher? How different are we from Asher?

A pattern woven into the fabric of creation, a pattern that is a part of the life of God in whose image we've been created.

We not only don't obey, we fight against.

v.1 God works and God gets something done and God rests... we always work toward an end, in order to get something accomplished, and once we've made headway or completed our task it is time to rest.

“... but my work never ends.”

At a seminar with Andrew and people were...

Video store, restocking shelves. “If we were going to keep running our business this way, nothing was ever going to get done.”

So you're right, we will never be able to say, as God does, it is completed. Or will we, and can we?

I think we have a very different idea of completion than God does...

Complete= stillness, static, perfection, not “good” but unmoveable

This is a philosophical idea, not necessarily a Scriptural one.

When God said it was complete- it was completed because it was good, not because it was immovable, or static. In fact it's quite the opposite. In fact it's not even really all that complete in the sense that it's done... Done doing anything and everything it's capable of doing.

But man if I haven't done anything and everything I could possibly do then I haven't completed anything, have I.

Also the world doesn't freeze every sixth day.

God meant something different from having every video on the video shelf bac in it's home forever!

He seems to have meant something more like, "It's now a good time to stop, to say job well done. To reflect on that weeks progress and to rest."

Text is so matter of fact about the work and the rest. No sense of urgency in the work, and no sense of exhaustion in the rest.

So many do a reasonable job of keeping something that is like a "Sabbath."

How many of us have run ourselves ragged only to come home and collapse on the couch.

Or for those that work in the home? How many begin their day at 6am in fifth gear to end at 11pm in fifth gear only to collapse. Maybe you get sick, your body forces you to stop. Maybe you run away into a shopping mall, or television, or a night out on the town. Maybe you work hard so you can "play" harder.

And then we wonder why we, like my son Asher, get into funks when we ignore the pattern.

Work=work but not burning the candle at both ends

Rest=rest but not collapsing in exhaustion.

Ben...

Ben brought me to Jesus

Education reform in New Orleans... Pepperdine, Harvard,

Hard worker, overachiever, workaholic

What he did in four months... he takes a day off. But ignores the meaning.

How do we avoid paying the Sabbath a cheap token of penance? How do we work this pattern of creation into being a pattern of our lives?

God blesses three things, 2 have to do with the work living creatures, mankind, 1 is the Sabbath.

Something happens when God blesses a thing. He makes it holy. To be holy=set apart.

When I first started talking I was talking about separation. And here we have another separation, a setting apart.

In the pattern of work and rest both are a blessing (blesses work-animals, man) blesses rest.

Now if we look at rest as a blessing because it's a break from work that's one thing, but if we look at work as a blessing then we've really painted a whole different kind of picture of life. It might be hard to fit into that old pattern of work until you collapse.

Work=blessing. God's blessing for you. Whatever kind of work you do... regardless it's God's blessing to you. How many of us are working under a curse?

If we understand the Sabbath then we might understand the work. If we understand the work we might better understand the Sabbath.

Eugene Peterson; no one way to do Sabbath. Don't cheapen what God made holy.

- 1) Day 2) Get rid of all the noise (external and internal) for me surfing 3) Detach- interesting how God has enough confidence to take a day off but I don't- turn off the phone (the world somehow still holds together even when I detach) 4) turn it over to God (we don't do any of this to run away we do it to turn over to God what he always had in his hands-we are not needed we are blessed!

I don't do this well. I can't, won't, don't rest.

2 things- I need approval, and I don't trust

I need approval- I seek it from anyone and everyone that's around. And you know what sometimes I get it, and then you know what I do, I don't approve of myself (I've got the whole game rigged). And if someone, one person maybe, doesn't approve then my world starts to crumble.

2 problems with this- approval in this world more often than not means doing something spectacular followed by something even more spectacular and on and on and on. Also, I'm already approved. I run around grasping and clutching for everyone's approval- anyone's approval- with a stamp of approval tattooed on my forehead by God Himself. God approved of us in blood. When I practice that Sabbath rest I get a taste of that approval, and it's sweet.

I don't trust- I don't trust people and, ultimately, I don't trust God. Now this is not easy for me to confess to you because as you know I need all of your approval and this trust thing kinda makes me look like a jerk. If I don't trust people to do their job and I don't trust that God is holding it all together then who is left? What an awful picture of life. Nothing like life that was created in Gen.

When I don't trust I devalue. I give them less value in my life and frankly that is just ugly and its sinful.

This Sabbath thing is not so simple as just taking a day off. We fight these patterns. There is a war waging within us, keeping us from living the way we were created to live.

All of this is good news

Good news when we recognize the things in ourselves that keep us from turning to God

Good News when we turn to Scripture and it so clearly draws us into relationship with Him

Good News that God does not desire our burning the candle at both ends.

Good News that God blesses work and rest.

Good news that all of this can be said heard understood and lived under the covering of the grace of Jesus Christ.

Jesus came and he lived the pattern for us and equipped us through the HS