

Teaching Your Children to Remember the Sabbath

A few of you this past Tuesday evening got something a little different than you had expected from the Bible study if you attended. I know it wasn't the majority of you...hint. But it was a certain number of you at least because we had scheduled a special parent's Bible study and the first part of the Bible study did deal with that subject along that line as well, but I was all prepared to give you a particular Bible study on a subject that I thought was important that would be very helpful to parents and since I was sick at that time, I wasn't able to do it. It seems like there's some kind of blight going around that strikes very suddenly but thankfully, also God mercifully had it leave rather quickly too. But anyway, that's the type of thing that seems to be affecting a number of people. At least quite a few people have mentioned having something similar. But I was disappointed because I really thought I had something that I thought was worthwhile. My wife and I discussed it a little bit. It had to do with a question that I received after a spokesman club meeting one evening that I thought was really especially appropriate. And something that I think we need to understand. So therefore, I 'm going to give it to you today. Now when I say I was all prepared I don't mean I had everything all outlined and so on. I had the subject, and I was going to work on it that day and instead I worked on being civil to my wife that day. When I get sick, I'm one of those people who wants the whole world to know and sympathize. But anyway, I wasn't really dying. It just seemed that way for a very brief period, I guess. But still in thinking about it, it was such an important subject that I felt it would really be appropriate to go ahead and cover on the Sabbath. Even though a number of you are not parents, either that a number of your children are grown and gone, you may think well I don't really need

the information. But every time that we start to put together a message or whether it's a Sabbath service or a Bible study or whatever I do stop to think well now is this really something that is important to everyone in the congregation? And frankly it should be. Whether it's a matter that we have direct application right at this point or not. We must grasp in our minds the concept that God has called us to a tremendous responsibility in which we will be dealing with all sorts of people of all ages, and we need to therefore have the training now and if we begin to hear a subject that we think well, that doesn't really apply to me all that much. What we are really doing is we are disqualifying ourselves from being able to help someone else in the future. God can't say well, I'll give you the responsibility of helping in this area because we've disqualified ourselves already by thinking that oh that doesn't mean me. I don't have to worry about that. Something that is important for all of us when dealing with our children, young people as part of the Church of God. Mr. Armstrong has certainly placed a lot of emphasis on the young people, rightly so. And after all, how many children does he have in his home? Not many. And yet at the same time probably Mr. Armstrong looks at the Church of God and says, "I probably got over a hundred thousand of them." Sometimes that's the way we seem to be. There's some tremendous lessons that we need to learn in areas that are very important for all of us. In Psalms 78 David was inspired to write concerning the approach that we as adults would take toward the younger. Whether those younger ones were directly within our own homes or whether those young ones were a part of the congregation in some other way but a direct approach that we would take in dealing with them. He says in Psalm 78 and verse 1, "Give ear, oh my people, to my law" and the word there "law" is "torah" means in essence the first five books of the bible. Although certainly goes beyond that. But it doesn't just mean law. It means as well not just a set of statutes

that we sit and read through...that we just know well God says do this and don't do that. It's a matter of examining the whole way of God deals with his people. After all, when you look at the first five books of the Bible what do you find enclosed there? Do you find the law, the commandments? Yes, you do find that. It is there. At the same time, what else do you find? Does that make up the majority of the first five books? Well, no, as a matter of fact it doesn't. What do you find? You find a history, essentially of what happens to a people who do obey God's law and what happens to people who don't obey God's law. You see a history of how God deals with his people. A unique way that he dealt with Adam and Eve because sin had not entered, but when sin entered in the whole relationship between God and mankind changed. And the torah tells us about that change. It tells us about government. It tells us about ancient Israel and how they lived. When they were doing things properly, what God did for them, what God was willing to do, how miraculously God would intervene and at the same time, when they failed to obey, how God would allow punishment and correction come upon them. It tells us the law and it tells us the statutes, the judgments, the expansions that come upon that law. It helps us to understand more fully how that law should be applied. It gives us all of that in the torah. So, when God says, "give ear, o my people" to my torah, he is talking about the law and the way its applied and how God deals with his people, all of that concept. "Incline your ears to the words of my mouth." (2) "I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old." (3) "Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us." What's a dark saying? This is something that in other words, we may have a certain understanding of but others don't. It is something that clearly isn't understood by everyone. Well, we have a certain grasp that they don't have. Now we see that all the time. Right now, we're observing the Sabbath day and there are many people who don't

understand that. Probably most of us if we look at our background, when we heard the term “Sabbath” we didn’t understand what it meant. I’ve mentioned before that I saw the article in *Readers Digest*, feature article by Billy Graham, “What We Need is a Return to the Old-Fashioned Sabbath”. Billy Graham doesn’t even know what the Sabbath is. So, when we read the term “Sabbath” to Billy Graham that is a dark saying. But as David says, we’ve heard it and we’ve known it. We’ve understood it and grasped it and our fathers have told us. He says, (4) “We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the Eternal, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he’s done.” (5) “For he has established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.” (6) “That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children.” (7) “That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.” (8) “And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.” So, you see a direct instruction that is given. To whom is it given? Well, it says in verse 1, my people. All of those who fall into the category of being my people. This responsibility falls upon them to teach, to instruct, to tell their children and the generation after that on a continuing basis, generation after generation, there is a responsibility for instructing: Instructing in God’s law, the covenant that God made, the promises that he gives, the miracles that he performed the power he has. All of that is part of the responsibility that God places upon his people to instruct and work with that next generation as it comes along. Now there are other scriptures, and we will turn to some of those as we go on a little further about teaching our children and instructing them in

the responsibilities God places there. But did you ever stop to read in the bible, where is it that it tells you at what age you start teaching them? How old do they have to be before you start into this process of teaching them? Does God say, well don't worry about it until age 12. Well, there's certain religions that think that age 12 is correct and believe it is in the Jewish religion. At 12 you have a bar mitzvah for a boy or a bat mitzvah for a girl and at that point they are considered technically, although their parents certainly don't consider them that way. They are considered a part of the adult community, taking on adult responsibility. Now is that the way God says things should be? Don't do anything. Don't worry about teaching or instructing until age 12. Well, I don't find that anywhere in the Bible. It doesn't say that. You're teaching your children and if you're waiting to age 12, I think most of us realize you have waited too long. It's too late to start at age 12, realistically. Now of course if you come into God's church and you have a 12-year-old when you come in, that's probably a good time to start. But assuming that we didn't do it that way, that isn't when we begin to teach them. Is it when they go to school? Well, no, I don't find that. When is it that we start to teach them about God's way? Well, the way God describes it is we start before they're born. We start long before that child ever comes on the scene in the first place by learning and living by God's standards and God's laws ourselves. By making sure our values are right. No, the implications are the instruction that God seems to give. God doesn't say that obviously you can't set some limit and say you cannot ever be married until you are a baptized member of the Church of God. It doesn't say that. But he certainly does imply that you need to have your priorities straight. But there are priorities in life. And he says when it even comes to selecting a mate that you select one who has already dedicated themselves to living in this same way. And if a person isn't ready to make that kind of dedication to God's way, then

how can you have the confidence that you're ready to make the dedication of marriage? So, it's a vital and important thing that we start that education long before a child comes on the scene in the first place. And that educating process is going on from the instant that child is born. There's an educating process that's going on from that time forward. Now if we just took the subject of teaching your children, we would have a subject far too vast to cover in this particular sermon. I mean I couldn't even cover that one in three parts. That's too much. But we can boil down to one particular subject in which we need to instruct our children and to understand more clearly ourselves and that is teaching our children about the Sabbath. That's one unique aspect in identifying characteristic of God's people. We're told in Exodus 31:13...is that right? I think that's the correct one...that the Sabbath is a sign between him, between God and his people. It is a special mark of distinguishing God's people from those who are not God's people. Now there are many other characteristics which come in and set us apart as well. But one of the most unique of all, you can use that term "most unique" is the Sabbath and the true keeping of the Sabbath day. As I mentioned to you before even one individual who was part of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission made a comment to a member that of all the churches that claim to keep the Sabbath, this is the only church that won't bend on it. Seventh Day Adventists will bend. I know. I've seen them bend and make excuses and say well, it's ok in this case over and over again. So, this is a unique characteristic of the Church of God and the keeping of God's Sabbath in the way that it should be, and our young people are to be instructed in that way. So, let's cover a few basic points about teaching children about the Sabbath and how it should be kept. I think that ties in very well considering the special music that we just had from some of our fine young people. One of the first principles that we should recognize in the keeping of the

Sabbath is to teach our children to plan ahead for the Sabbath day and I think in many cases that doesn't occur. It's basically a matter that parents are preparing and getting things ready but the children just kind of live their lives and they know, well its sundown I can't do this and the tv goes off and we can't do a number of other things but, as far as any planning or preparation looking forward to the Sabbath, there really is a lot that goes on. In Exodus chapter 20...Exodus chapter 20, we see the command that God gives concerning the Sabbath. Now notice how he phrases it here. Exodus chapter 20, beginning in verse 8, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Now obviously that tells us they already knew about the Sabbath day, or they couldn't remember it because it isn't the first time they came across it. But, leaving that aside, God says as a part of his eternal law, remember the Sabbath day. Now many times we have read that, and we think that the command means that we are to remember the Sabbath when Friday comes.

Remember not to work and do the things you shouldn't do on the Sabbath. But that isn't really what its telling us. Are we only to not have other Gods before the true God one day a week? We only have to be concerned about that on Thursday's, for example. Well, no, that's a seven day a week thing. Well, how about graven images? Can we have graven images on Sunday afternoon from 3 to 5? Well, no, as a matter of fact, we can't ever have them. And on and on you can go through all of these laws and you can see that none of those laws are limited only to a small segment of time. They are laws which apply all of the time. And the Sabbath law applies seven days a week. He says, "remember the Sabbath day." Are you to remember it on Tuesday? Yes, you certainly are. Now remembering the Sabbath command on Tuesday, how will that affect you? What will that do for you? Well, he says in the next verse, (9) "Six days shall you labor, and do all your work." (10) "But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God: in it you

shall not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger that is within your 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.” So, he tells us now there’s something special about this seventh day and you need to remember on Tuesday that you are given six days to labor and do all your work. On that seventh day, that isn’t yours to use that way. That’s holy time. That’s special. Therefore, I have to remember that on Tuesday that if I have certain work that needs to be done before the Sabbath comes, I must schedule it in and plan for it and make sure that I’m done when the Sabbath begins. So of course, I have to remember it on Tuesday and Wednesday and Monday and Sunday afternoon from 3-5. I have to remember the Sabbath all the time. The Jewish commentary brings out the concept of a woman preparing even special meals on the Sabbath. That if she finds something especially nice in the market that she might buy it any day of the week but buying it, remembering the Sabbath. So, this is special. This is good. I’ll set this back and give it to my family on the Sabbath. So, it’s a constant remembering that goes on. Now that’s not just for us. We’ve talked about the principle of having your home, your yard, your car all prepared when the Sabbath comes and that’s right. That’s all a part of remembering the Sabbath day. But you see God wouldn’t have to say remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy if he didn’t want us to remember it all the time. He could have just said you can’t work on the seventh day. But he wants us to remember constantly. All along to be preparing for the Sabbath. Now we’ve joked a bit or perhaps laughed a little bit about the approach that some of the Jews take as far as say the days of unleavened bread. You’ve heard the example where the Jewish family, many Jewish families at least will hide some particular bit of

leaven somewhere and then father leads the children on a search through the house trying to find all of the leaven and they usually set it up, so that the youngest child usually finds this hidden piece of leaven. And we can kind of laugh about that and say that's a kind of a phony thing to do and so on. But in reality, it's a very important thing. Those children are learning a vital lesson very early in their lives. That's important. They're learning the lesson of getting out the leaven. Well in the same way when we're dealing with the Sabbath day there are lessons to be learned when preparing for the Sabbath. Your children need to have a part in the Sabbath preparation. They need to be assigned a part of Sabbath preparation. Now obviously if they're a very small child there's not going to be a whole lot they can do but they can do some things. In other cases, they may be able to do a quite a bit more. I know my father was very happy when I became old enough to mow the yard. That was a real joy and that may be something that you might enjoy having an older son or daughter to be able to do and you might assign it to them. Alright, Sabbath is coming. You know it's coming. It is your responsibility to have the yard all trimmed and neat and prepared so that it's at its best on the Sabbath day. You may choose to do it that way. But your children need to have a specific part in the Sabbath preparation so that they can remember the Sabbath day. They're being taught about it all through the week. You know Sam Levinson and his comments about the way that his family kept the Sabbath. They were basically, a poor family. But even at that it was a custom that on Friday afternoon as the Sabbath was approaching, just before the Sabbath would come that his mother would give him a small amount of money to go down to the synagogue and put it in the poor fund for those people who were needy. He said he didn't know anybody who was needier than they were, but it made them feel good to do this. And he mentioned it one particular Sabbath day, not Sabbath, but Friday, he

came into his mother and said, you know I need the money so I can go down there before Sabbath and she said, “no, you can’t go. You have not been the proper kind of boy this week. You haven’t lived the right way. You’ve been trouble all week long and you have not earned the privilege of being able to give to someone else.” And that’s an important principle too, kind of a side point that being able to give and share with others is a privilege and not something you just have a right to. But he was being taught that principle. But you see there was still the principle of the Sabbath and its special and we do special things as we prepare for the Sabbath day. That was something that he as one of the younger children had to do. Well, you may apply that in many ways in your home. Certainly, many families, rightly, schedule a very nice meal on Friday evening. Now this time of the year, this is one of the bad things about daylight savings time. Who wants to eat at 9 o’clock? That’s a little late. So, it makes it a little more awkward this time of year but, generally speaking trying to have a nice meal on a Friday evening is something that most people enjoy doing. But there are many things along with that that your children could do to help prepare in that way. If they’re too young to be involved in literally preparing some of the food at all, they don’t have to be all that old to know how to do some things. You know you don’t have to be extremely accurate to tear lettuce for a salad. It isn’t a dangerous occupation or anything like that. There are many things that they can do and should be doing. And that doesn’t mean just the girls either. It certainly fine for the boys to be involved in some of those things. But as they get a little older and they’re able to handle a little bit more they even make special dishes, certain things they can contribute as far as preparing for the Sabbath in a special way. See it makes it special to them. They’ve done something special. They have remembered it ahead of time and they’ve prepared something that they can contribute to this family meal on Friday

evening. It may be a matter of helping set the table...simple things like that. Doing something special. You know, many children, even young children love to draw and color. They may not be very good at it, although I've seen many six-year-olds who are a lot better than I am at it. They may do very well at it. You can always have them do a simple thing like make little place cards at the table. Who's going to sit where and some little special decoration and make them look colorful in that way, the centerpiece for the table, any number of different things that they may be able to do to contribute to the Friday evening meal. It helps them remember the Sabbath. Its something special. Its good. They have their own clothing that as they get a little older, especially needs to be ready for the Sabbath day. Fathers, I assume, many times that you are teaching your sons how to polish their shoes. Well, that's a good thing to learn. Especially how to polish shoes without polishing your hands at the same time. That's a real trick in some cases and that is something that you need to teach them. But when do they need to be at their peak? When they go running off to school wearing their tennis shoes on Monday morning. Well, no. Things need to be at their peak when Sabbath comes. You're preparing for the Sabbath. So, when items of clothing and that type of thing, you can help them prepare for the Sabbath. You may even help them choose what they're going to wear on the Sabbath day. Many parents have talked about the need to teach their children how to clean up their rooms and what perfect time to make sure their room is at its peak when Friday evening comes, when Sabbath comes so it's neat and clean and prepared. That's proper because after all the rest of the house is supposed to be. Mom is running around the house vacuuming and cleaning and dusting and doing all the things that she needs to do so house is at its peak on Sabbath evening, when the Sabbath begins. So, it's certainly appropriate for the children to be making sure their areas are cleaned and neat and prepared. I

know one reason my wife really looks forward to the Sabbath is because I always try on Friday afternoons to at least take my papers from my desk and hide them somewhere. So, the office at least looks a little bit neater on the Sabbath day. And that is an important thing and children need to learn that. It may be some particular thing in the yard that you have them doing. If nothing else, just picking up and making sure there's no trash blowing around in the yard, any number of different things like that. You can also help them when learning to prepare for the Sabbath to plan ahead of time by teaching them the principle of giving. We're told in Acts chapter 20...Acts chapter 20, Paul is speaking to a group of elders at Ephesus, and this is the very last thing he says to this group of elders. Now he's been warning them. He's told them that there will be those who will come in among them, of that very group of elders he said they'll be some that will come in that are out to get for themselves, that are going to harm the Church of God. And he certainly wants to avoid that, so he teaches them an important principle. It's the very last thing he says to them. In verse 35 of Acts 20, "I have showed you all things, how that so laboring you ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, it is more blessed to give than to receive." Now probably all of us have heard that throughout our lives but here is an opportunity to put this principle into action. How do you know it's more blessed to give than receive? Well, you can accept it as a matter of faith. Jesus Christ said it according to the apostle Paul here. We don't have a written record of it but according to Paul, he said it is better to give than receive. Okay, I can accept that as a matter of faith and say yes, I'm sure it's that way. But if I never give then I really haven't learned that have I? The way for me to learn it is to give. Give to someone else and I begin to realize what a blessing that comes from giving. When do we teach our children that? Isn't the Sabbath a perfect time for them to be planning ahead of time and

saying what can they do to make the Sabbath special for someone else? Now again I think sometimes some parents in a desire to make the Sabbath appealing to their children concentrate so much on giving the children things to make them happy on the Sabbath that they forget this basic principle that giving is the thing that makes you happiest of all. Therefore, to give your children the opportunity to give on the Sabbath is important so they can learn that blessing as well. They can plan ahead of time. What can they do? If they're a small child especially, maybe just something of preparing something for when dad gets home from work. He's going to be tired and maybe hot and a lot of things to do...something special to make it a little easier for him. Or maybe do something ahead of time that he thought he was going to have to do, come home and finds it done. What a real blessing! He's happy about it and the children have been able to give something. It may be something special in that evening. Any number of different things that it might be to make the Sabbath special. A number of you and I'm glad that there are a number of you do it, have your children learning musical instruments. Well maybe your child can even prepare some little special thing for the family on the Sabbath. Doesn't have to be something great but just something a little special, different that you all can really enjoy on the Sabbath day. There are many different areas like that where those opportunities can come in, but you need to be teaching your children to give and preparing them ahead of time so that they can give something special on the Sabbath day. I remember one particular young lady. She's finishing up her second year of Ambassador College right now. I remember back in one church area, that she's a very creative young person and was many times coming up with different things to give to people at church...not expensive things. I remember one particular Sabbath. I believe it was the last Sabbath before the feast. She made up probably about 150 maybe 200 little circles of

construction paper with a little bit of tape on the back and on the front, she had written things like, "I've got feast fever. Watch out. Its catching" and people would come in and would stick these on and everybody was walking around with these things on. Now obviously its not an ornament you're going to take home or you're going to wear it in you know in January sometime or something like that. It's a very temporary, small, little thing and it took construction paper, scissors and a magic marker. It wasn't expensive but it was some little thing that someone thought of ahead of time and it added to everyone's Sabbath and helped them all to be excited about looking forward to the feast. There are many different things that can be done. Now, obviously with a church of 400 it makes it a little bit more complicated if we tried to do it for everyone and what's more you can imagine if we had eight people who all decided at the same time had buttons to wear it would get a little bit confusing for us. I'm not saying we have to do it for everyone. I'm just saying that was preparation in advance and that made everyone's Sabbath a delight and we really appreciated it. And many times, it may be good just to think of someone in the congregation that maybe they have been going through a trial or maybe just someone is kind of quiet and hasn't had the opportunity to get out and around that much. What could your son and your daughter do for them to make the Sabbath special? I guarantee you in many cases some of our older people they don't want all kinds of expensive things for someone to do for them. They're not interested in that. Just a little time and a little expression and concern for them can go a long way and it is very, very special. So that's a good thing to do. That's right. Your children need to be taught to prepare for the Sabbath just as you have to prepare for the Sabbath. That's part of training them about the Sabbath. If you only teach them the Sabbath's coming...shut up and be quiet. You haven't really taught them about the Sabbath because the

first part of God's Sabbath command is remember the Sabbath, prepare for it. Alright a second area we need to be concerned about in teaching them about the Sabbath day is to teach them the difference between the holy and the profane. Now we talk about profane or profanity today it has a different meaning than what we find in the King James Version of the Bible. Profane in there just simply means "common, everyday, normal". Its what goes on throughout a normal day.

Which in some cases is pretty profane? But it's simply saying there is a difference between what is holy and what isn't holy. Oh, but we say, "they don't have God's spirit. They can't understand something like that. They don't have God's spirit." Well, when did God establish the Sabbath?

Well as I read Genesis chapter 2 verse 1 through 3. How many people then had God's spirit? Not a one. Adam and Eve were they only ones there and they did have access to God's spirit, but they hadn't partaken of it. When God gave the command in Exodus 20, now it actually goes back before that, it goes back to at least to chapter 16 where he made it clear. But in chapter 20 when he gave the ten commandments to Israel, how many converted Israelites were there? How many had the spirit of God? Well probably Moses and probably at that time that was all. Maybe Joshua. And you have your doubts about Aaron because he had some very significant problems immediately after that but probably Moses was the only one. But the command was given to all of them. Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy as opposed to profane. They didn't have God's spirit, but God expected them to understand the difference between holy and profane. Its certainly not too much to expect our children to learn the difference between holy time and profane or common time. That's a right principle for them to learn. In Ezekiel chapter 22...Ezekiel 22...he says here, I just really want to read one verse. Well, no I guess I want to read several. Let's go to verse 7 of Ezekiel 22, he says here, "In you have they set light by father

and mother:”, he’s describing the conditions of the land. They set light by father and mother. They laughed at them. They make jokes about the old man and the old lady. “In the midst of you they have they dealt by oppression with the stranger.” Is that true today? All you have to do is read a little bit about the way that people today treat illegal aliens. You’ll find that in many cases. Well, there’s an example recently up in Chicago where some illegal aliens were working in a restaurant and the manager came along and said Well, I’m gonna have to cut back on your pay. They weren’t getting minimum wages anyway, but we have to cut back on your pay. Well okay, a week went by. No paycheck. Two weeks went by, no paycheck. Three weeks went by, no paycheck. Then the manager said, well I guess I’ll get it to you. They have a choice. They can either quit working or go somewhere else and hope they’ll pay them or keep working there and hope that he’ll pay them. But there’s no guarantee. Who do you turn to? Turn to the government and say this man is cheating me which he is. The government will say he that’s fine. You quit cheating them and you by the way you’re an illegal immigrant and we’re shipping you out of the country. You’re stuck with no choice. They’re being abused. That’s the way God says, you’re oppressing. Dealing by oppression with a stranger. “In you have they vexed the fatherless and the widow.” Is that true? Certainly, is when you look around this society. (8) “You have despised my holy things and have profaned my sabbaths.” (9) “In you are men that carry tales to shed blood; and in you they eat upon the mountains.” In other words, talking about a false religious approach where they offer where they offer up their sacrifices on the mountaintops. In the midst of you they commit lewdness. Our lewdness today is not even hidden. Its public. (10) “In you have they discovered their fathers’ nakedness.” And again, there’s a tendency today to tear down anyone who has ever been looked upon as a hero or someone to be respected...find some way to tear

them down. “In you have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution.” (11) “Ones committed abomination with his neighbor’s wife; and another has lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in you has humbled his sister, his father’s daughter.” We’re talking about all kinds of abuse that occurs within a family, within the structure of the family itself, all kinds of sexual abuse going on. (12) “In you have they taken gifts to shed blood; you have taken usury and increase, you have greedily gained of your neighbors by extortion, and have forgotten me, says the Lord God.” Then he begins to condemn the prophets and priests. In verse 26 he says, “Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned my holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.” Now God said here are the priests and they do not teach the people the difference between holy and profane, clean and unclean. And what is the result? God says, “I’m going to demand your lives because you have failed to teach the people the difference.” Now does, do you think that God is going to destroy the priests who failed to teach the people and allow the parents who fail to teach the children to occupy positions of responsibility? Is God going to make of you a king and a priest if you don’t teach your own children the difference between holy and profane? In chapter 44 of Ezekiel, again its talking about the priests as you will note just glancing at verse 15. But notice verse 23, its still talking about the priests and again remember who are the kings and priests in the kingdom of God. That’s what we’re seeing described here. (23) “And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.” And many other characteristics that lists there. Notice in the end of verse 24, “and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all my

assemblies; and they shall hallow” which means keep holy, “my sabbaths.” So that’s what the priests are going to do. You and I are being trained to be kings and priest right now. So, we must make sure that we are teaching our children the right standards of the difference between holy and profane; that the Sabbath from the time of sundown Friday to sundown Saturday is not just normal time. It can’t be used like normal time. This is holy. It’s special. It’s God’s time and the most important way that we teach that is by our example. Now certainly there is instruction but there’s also is example. Our example of Sabbath keeping shows whether we keep the Sabbath as holy or profane. It’s so easy for us especially when we have a morning service. It’s so easy for us to go home and sleep away the rest of the day. Well, I’m tired after services. Go home and have some lunch and just think I need a nap and we nap away the rest of the day. Now sabbath nap is fine. There’s no problem with that. But it ought to be a nap, not a good night’s sleep and there are many people who do that. Eat their lunch, they sleep basically until they can’t sleep anymore and then get up and go all Saturday night...go to bed real late Saturday night. Oh, this is great. That is not keeping the Sabbath holy. Your children are not going to see the proper lesson of the difference between holy and profane. If the only difference between this day is that mom and dad sleep all day. That’s what holy means. You get to sleep a lot. That’s not what holy means. God shows us that our children should see such a clear difference in the way that we keep the Sabbath that they are prompted to ask why do we do things this way. Now there are a couple of examples I won’t turn to in Exodus 12 and 13 that talk about especially the Passover and the days of unleavened bread. Let’s say that when your son sees this, and he asks you why we are doing it this way then you can explain this to him. This is the way. This is how we do it. Notice in Deuteronomy 6...Deuteronomy 6 and verse 16 he says, “You shall not tempt the Lord your God,

as you tempted him in Massa.” There was a time when they were at the wells, and the water was bitter, and they didn’t have what they wanted. Don’t tempt him like that. (17) “You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies, and his statutes, which he’s commanded you.” (18) “And you shall do that which is right and good in the sight of the Eternal: that it may be well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land which the Lord swore unto your fathers.” (19) “To cast out all your enemies from before you, as the Lord has spoken.” (20) “And when your son asks you in time to come, saying, what mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord our God has commanded you?” (21) “Then shall you say unto your son, we were Pharaoh’s bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.” (22) “And the lord showed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes.” (23) “And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers.” (24) “And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.” (25) “And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the Lord our God. As he’s commanded us.” So, it’s not just a matter of on those holy days. It says that you are living in such a way that your children see your keeping these commandments. Why do we go to church on Saturday and the neighbors don’t? Why don’t we do some things on Saturday that they do? You said you explain to them and it’s a positive explanation. We don’t start by explaining, well I know those things are fun, but you just can’t do them. God won’t let you do them on the Sabbath day. And that’s the way many people approach it. The Sabbath is a “NO” day. No, you can’t do that. Dad, can I? No! Mom how about if I? No! That’s all they hear all of

the time. That's not what God says. He says you teach them the principle that you keep these for your good always. And you show them, yes, we used to do things that way. We used to do some of those same things but we're really grateful God has shown us now a way that's a lot better and you point out the good things of the Sabbath day. And you help them understand what blessings that we have that others don't have because they don't know about keeping the Sabbath day. It's a positive approach that you take when dealing with them. You teach them in those ways. He shows us in several scriptures and again, for lack of time, I'm not going to go through them. But we are responsible for teaching those standards of right and wrong. Now we need to expand that. Let's just look in one particular area. This is something that was brought to my attention even this past week. So, I think there's a few things we need to examine in that way when we talk about our example of setting a difference between holy and profane. And that is our conduct at services. The things that we do and don't do at services. We, certainly as adults should recognize. This is not a social event. For many people going to church is a social event. I hope none of us here. For many people that's what it is. It's a social event. This can never be viewed as a social event. We are not coming to church for a social thing. So, we're teaching our children that this is different. This is special. We're teaching them to be quiet. Now you're can't just teach them that here. Again, in *The Plain Truth*, even not the most recent issue but the one before that. I believe it was the one before that. It may even be even the one before that was talking about teaching your children to be quiet at home; that you give them a specific area where they are to be when dealing basically with a small child. I would assume your 18-year-old you wouldn't do that with. Although some of them could use it. But with a small child you set them in an area maybe with a blanket or whatever. Maybe it's even a blanket that you're going to bring to services. That's

alright. You sit them there. It's not a matter that they have to lie there and sleep. Well, that's what a lot of people do. That's the approach to children at Sabbath services. Bring them in and get them to sleep. Well, they're very small. That's fine. But why should they be taught the principle that when you come to services, that's time to sleep? Isn't it a time to listen? And when you go home and you're with the family and you're all tired, isn't that the time to sleep? We're not teaching them to sleep. We're teaching them to be able to sit quietly. And they don't have to necessarily sit and pay raft attention with a small child. We don't expect that, but they should be able to do quiet. So, you're teaching them how to stay in a small area and play quietly or whatever they're doing, quietly. You're also teaching them to be attentive. Now again I've been amazed even seeing some of our older teens and it's a small number. I don't mean to imply by any means it's a large number. But I've seen some of the older ones, especially the fellas seem to be the worst ones at it, who don't know how to be attentive in services. When I see some young fellow, you know, especially when there in some area with seats like we had there in Pasadena, especially up in the bleachers, where they kind of lean back and just lay their heads back and I know there's no attentiveness, whatsoever? And that's ridiculous. There's no reason in the world they shouldn't be able to be attentive in services, but they were never taught. We have to recognize that a small child especially, is going to get bored at times. Now if you're a small child...think like a small child for a second. We all know it isn't really that hard. We don't want them to know it isn't that hard, but it isn't really that hard. You think like a small child for a second. If you're bored in services, what can you do? Well, you can't say, "Hey mom I want to go outside and play." That won't work unless you say, "I need to go to the bathroom." Ah-ha! What parent would say, "No, you can't go"? But you see we have to recognize it can be an

excuse. How long does a child sit in a classroom at school without having to get up and go to the bathroom? Well probably a lot longer than services are. And if we take care of those things before services, they ought to be able to make it all the wait through. If you're letting your children get up and run back and forth to the bathroom, one of two things: you're either neglecting your responsibility before services or the chances are real good the child's putting one over on you. They shouldn't need to do that. Now I know there are times when there are special needs. Okay, fine. We haven't put a deacon at the door and say nobody goes to the restroom from 10-12. We haven't stopped anybody. You don't even have to sign to go. You don't have to raise your hand and say can I go. You have to do that in school. We don't even require that. But at the same time, it's awfully easy to abuse and we need to recognize. Are we letting children bring things to services that really are not appropriate at services? If they're old enough to sit in school and learn, why aren't they old enough to sit in church and learn? Oh, I don't have that spirit. So. What does that change? I mean I understand the deep spiritual significance of some things. There isn't an awful lot I can but if we make excuses for them, they won't, and they'll continue to use those excuses. I see at times, and again I don't know that I've seen it here, probably because I just haven't looked close enough, but, closely enough, but I've seen many cases where young people, teenagers would bring books, magazines, hot rod magazines, comic books...all kinds of things to Sabbath services. Why? A child that is old enough to be in school ought to be able to learn something from services. Why should they have to have all of these other things and the same would apply to some of the toys that are necessary to bring along...all of those things. I don't mind a child bringing along a toy and getting together with his friends before or after or something like that but when a child is old enough to be in school. They are old enough to sit in

services quietly. You want to bring along for a small child a little coloring book, that's fine but you can't bring crayons. They can either use their imagination or colored pencils, but we don't want the crayons here. They can bring their coloring book or something like that for a small child, fine. We understand that. We're not trying to be hard line on some things, but we've got to face reality. If you're not, if you're just allowing them to do whatever they want to do. We were talking with some individuals. We were talking about coming to church means bringing half the toy box with you and there's no need for that kind of thing at Sabbath services. If we permit it, we are not teaching our children the difference between holy and profane. We are failing in that responsibility before God. Same is true when we're talking about bringing food to services. I think what happens is we have a little baby. Now obviously a baby is going to need a bottle or something like that or maybe a very young one is teething. You might bring something for them to gum while they're teething or that type of thing. Well sure, we understand that. But for most children there's no need to bring food to services. There's no need to bring candy and candy bars and that type of thing. I don't know if there's anyone here who likes to give out candy to children, but I really don't advise it for two reasons...three reasons. One because, allowing children to take candy from someone is establishing a pattern that could be very dangerous for that child when they get out in the world. So, I don't advocate it on that basis. The second reason is because parents really ought to control their child's diet. And somebody else giving them child candy may not be something their parent really doesn't want them to have. And a third reason is because you give candy or cookies or some refined carbohydrate like that, it enters the system very quickly. The blood sugar level rises, and that child has a lot of energy and then you say, "sit down and be quiet." You're asking almost an impossibility. So why give them all these things to

get them all jacked up and ready to go and then say, “okay, it’s time for services. Sit there.”

Ah-right. You know you’re asking for trouble. So, we shouldn’t be doing that kind of thing. Now if you have a blood sugar problem that is so severe that you must have food during services...fine. I’m not going to give account for that. You will so in the end before God then that’s up to you. But I don’t know of anybody that really is that severe. The same certainly applies when we’re dealing with gum. Now sometimes I look out in Sabbath services, and I see (chewing gum sound), and I wonder why. What is the necessity of chewing gum during services? I don’t see the need for it. Now if you have a genuine need, you know, if you’re chewing the nicotine gum ‘cause you’re trying to give up cigarettes, well I might let you get away with that. But I’ll assume that’s not what you are doing. Why? The reason is because we don’t recognize the time as holy. We’re not setting it aside as being special. Its just kind of a time we come together and we’re with our friends and yeah, we ought to be comfortable. So, guys loosen up the tie and kind of sit back, lay on the seats and keep calm and that’s not the way its supposed to be. These are God’s Sabbath services, and we need to be setting an example when dealing with our children in that way. That’s why we talked about not letting your children just run wild before and after services. We’re teaching them the difference between holy and profane. Okay a third principle that we need to get across...oh boy. A third principle we need to get across is found in Isaiah 58...Isaiah 58 and verse 13, it says, “If you turn away your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight”. Let me just stop right there. Ill come back to the scripture in a moment. I’m going to stop right there. It says we are to call the sabbath a delight. It is impossible for us to call the sabbath a delight unless we plan ahead of time to make it a delight. And when you’re dealing with children, especially you have to consider

that. They can't call it a delight unless we adults, especially make it a delightful time. That takes planning. It may mean that there are special things that your children can do or enjoy on the sabbath day. For example, you may have some special toys or games that are quieter. There's nothing wrong with a child playing a game for a little while, a small child playing a game a little while on the Sabbath day. It's said for a young person to go out throw a ball, a softball back and forth for twenty minutes or so or something like that on the Sabbath. There's no big problem. Or shoot a few baskets. That's fine. Now sometimes it gets into basketball games lasting three hours and that is profane on the Sabbath. It ought to be obvious to anyone. But at the same time, to have a little recreation, that's fine. There may be some special toys or games you have for your children. But they ought to be special. They lend toward quietness and their special. Your child knows when the Sabbath comes, I can get this out. When Sabbath is over it gets put back up again. You don't use it any other time during the week. It's special. It's unique. It's the Sabbath and that's a right principle to follow. There may be special clothes which again they wear only on the Sabbath day, especially a young child. You know these are your good Sabbath shoes. You don't wear them otherwise. You just use those for the Sabbath. So, we need to teach them that. But even where music is concerned that we don't listen to the same type of thing necessarily that we might at other times. But it's a little more restful, more peaceful. It's not something we sit and concentrate upon. Okay a fourth area. Ill try to move through all my points quickly. A fourth area..the Sabbath should be family time. And again, if we just go home and eat and nap, that's not really family time. It is proper to have family time. That's not central purpose of the Sabbath but it is proper on the Sabbath to be family time. We're told in Deuteronomy 6 verse 7, that when we are teaching our children about God's ways, we're to talk of them when we sit in the house,

when we walk in the way, when we lie down, and we rise up. You'll find in a couple places but Deuteronomy 6 verse 7 is one place you'll find it. That's the way we should be talking about God's way. Now that's appropriate on the Sabbath day. What are you doing when you're sitting in your house? Well, when you're sitting with your children around, there are really only a couple things that you could be doing because generally speaking during the rest of the week you don't just all go and sit down in the living room and say, "Well let's chat for a while". It doesn't happen, does it? Not that there is anything wrong with it. It just really doesn't happen. Probably in many homes, the only time you ever sit together is to watch tv. Which is probably one of the worse things we can do together. But when sabbath is there, you are not watching tv, you talk. So, what are you doing when you are sitting in your home on the Sabbath? You're probably having a meal together. Which is good. That's right. That's proper. It's a joyful and happy time or you may very well be sitting and having bible study where you're talking about different things along that line... If you have special projects. If you did not read Mr. Faulkner's article in the, not the most recent issue of the *Worldwide News*, but the one before that he talks about a letter he received from a young man at Ambassador College who was talking about how creative his father was in planning Sabbath projects. There was some excellent ideas about maps and charts and so on that he had all the children in the family doing every Sabbath day. Some excellent ideas there that involve doing bible study, doing things together along that line. That's right. That's a right principle. So, sitting in your house, be having a bible study or eating a meal or something along that line. He said you're to talk about God's laws, God sabbath, the difference between holy and profane when you walk in the way. So, in other words, while you're traveling, while you're walking about, you may take the family on a walk on the Sabbath day. You may

drive out to a nice quiet place for a park or something like that and may talk a walk with the family or just walk around your neighborhood or whatever. That's fine. Or driving back and forth to services or to someone else's house. That's fine. You're in the way. And that's a time to be talking about God's way. When you lie down...well, you're getting ready to go to bed, that's a proper time to be talking about God's way. You be thinking about it. That's a good time. Many families find family prayer is appropriate. So, getting ready to go to bed. That's a right principle. Certainly, right when you start the day as well but it's an excellent time. If you can't pray together as a family on the Sabbath, when are you ever going to do it? That's when you rise up. When your first get up in the morning, when you are looking forward in participating and being with God's people on Sabbath morning. That's right. That's a good principle to follow to be talking about God's way...to be living that way. That's what God intends us to do. A fifth area of responsibility, and this is probably one of the easiest ones, and it's appropriate as well, to teach your children that the Sabbath is a rest day. It doesn't mean that rest is the only thing you do, but it is a day when you cease from all your labors from the things that you would normally do. We're told in Mark 2 verse 27 and 28 that the Sabbath was made for man. It was intended as a gift for man. That's something which man needs to help be rested and rejuvenated, and we're even told in the Old Testament as well; that even our servants learn the lesson of the Sabbath day and that when our servants don't labor on the Sabbath, we're reminded of the fact that we were bonded in Egypt and how God released us from that cruel servitude. So, there are many lessons that come from the physical rest of the Sabbath. God himself rested on the Sabbath day. Not because was tired but because it was appropriate that he set that example for us. A sixth area of responsibility on the Sabbath is to remember the spiritual lessons of the Sabbath. To get involved

in the spiritual areas. It's a good thing to do. Especially if you're traveling home from services or maybe after you get there to talk about the sermon and the sermonette that you heard that day. It's important for you to do it, not just, you know, I hope it isn't boy what a dull one today. Boy he really got wound up today. He must've got up on the wrong side of the bed. That isn't what I'm talking about. I'm talking about the subject matter of the sermon and sermonette. It's good to talk about those things. You would be amazed sometimes what your children have learned in Sabbath services. Sometimes what they've learned is really right at the core of the whole matter and sometimes they have completely mislearned something. They thought they heard the minister say one thing and you know that isn't what was said. What a perfect time to help the child understand what was said and how to get it the right way. See that's a right principle. That's a good thing to do. There is a spiritual side to the Sabbath. Now we're still here in Isaiah 58. Let's go a little further here. (13) "If you turn away your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Eternal, honorable; and shall honor him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words." In Isaiah 58 verse 14 now. Okay some of you are turned to different scriptures and that's alright. It says if you do all those things "Then shall you delight yourself in the Eternal; and I will cause you to ride upon the high places of the earth, and" as another translation says, "cause you to enjoy the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of the Eternal has spoken it." God has promised it. But you notice there is an interesting thing it tells you in verse 13 and 14. It says, "If you do these things then you will delight yourself in the Eternal." Have you been rather concerned that its easy for you to get your delight, your joy and pleasure from things in the world? I know I look at myself from time to time and say, "boy, I wonder if I'm not beginning to

derive to much pleasure from the things of the world instead of God's things." If I'm not one of those who could easily be pulled away by, as we've read that scripture often in the book of Luke, the cares and the riches and the pleasures. It could happen to any of us. God says you want some insurance. You want to make sure that doesn't happen to you? That you're not deriving your joy and pleasure from Satan's world? Keep the Sabbath. Call the Sabbath a delight and the result of that is that you will begin to receive your joy and your delight from God. You will appreciate God's way more when you keep the Sabbath more fully. I read an interesting comment last night which said the Sabbath is a delight because it leads you to God. Not a burden because it leads you away from your everyday life. That's the approach we should have. The Sabbath is a delight because it leads us to God. That's what its designed to do. And yet so many people view it as a burden because it takes them away from their life in the world. Which is where they were deriving their pleasure and joy. If we keep the Sabbath, God gives us a guarantee, an insurance factor to make sure we don't get pulled off in that wrong direction. And finally, one more point. It will take me just a few moments to cover it. In teaching your children about the Sabbath emphasize the positive. Emphasize the positive...not what they can't do. And unfortunately, I've heard many people take that approach. Well, you know our kids just have it so rough. They can't go out and play basketball on Friday night and they can't go to dances with their friends, and they can't do this, and they can't do that and its all this negative. That isn't God's way. God is never a negative God. If we're going to teach God's way, we're going to teach it in a positive viewpoint. In Isaiah 56...Isaiah 56 verse 2, "Blessed is the man that does this, and the son of man that takes hold of it; that keeps the sabbath from polluting it and keeps his hand from doing any evil." Then he goes on and says, (3) "Neither let the son of the stranger, that has joined

himself to the Lord, speak, saying the Lord has utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, behold, I am a dry tree.” (4) “For thus says the Lord unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant.” (5) “Even unto them will I give in my house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters; I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.” (6) “Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Eternal, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keeps the sabbath from polluting it, and takes hold of my covenant.” (7) “Even them will I bring to my holy mountain,” that’s God’s government, “and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon my altar; for my house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.” God promises a blessing to all those who will follow him and serve him. God’s way is positive. Man’s way is negative. You remember the scripture back in Amos 8 and verse 5, it says when will the Sabbath be passed so we can go out and sell and buy and do the things that we want to do, and God condemns that attitude. That’s wrong. We should never have that approach and we must be very careful that we don’t allow even a little bit of that to come into our lives. We’ve talked about that before. For example, a few months back, a couple months back we had a formal dance on a Saturday evening. That’s fine. You know, it’s after Sabbath and that’s alright but what’s the topic of conversation? What’s the thought? What’s on everybody’s mind on the Sabbath day? Is it, “wow, boy! What are you going to wear tonight? I gotta go get my hair all done and get all fixed up so I’m ready for the dance tonight.” Well then, are you really keeping the Sabbath? Are you not having a bit of the same attitude? When will the Sabbath be over so we can go out and dance and kick up our heels and have a good time? A lot of times we don’t schedule anything on

Saturday evening for that very reason. I know the fact that Mr. Harold Jackson he said he personally doesn't perform weddings on Saturday evenings. Not that there is anything specifically wrong with it. You can have weddings on the Sabbath as far as that's concerned. But it's awfully hard for everybody to really have their mind on the Sabbath if they're doing all these other things. So, we need to recognize. We can't let that wrong attitude come in. Now some ask, well now. I'm just so afraid I'm being too restrictive on my children. But if I'm so restrictive I'll turn them off of God's way. I'll turn them off of the church if I don't let them do a few things. There are two things that are going to turn your children off. One is hypocrisy. If they see that you say one thing you say you believe one standard and you live another especially as they get into their teenage years because they become extremely sensitive to hypocrisy. They know that you're hearing one thing but you're doing something else or you're saying you believe one way but you're doing something else or you're allowing them to do something else... hypocrisy will turn them off. And that's why many times I've seen young people who were brought up in the Church of God who have left, gone their own way and their basic approach to the church even to this day is well yeah it's probably the right way but I don't see why I really need to do anything about it right now because they didn't have to do anything about it before. So, it's different now that will turn them off to the church. And the second thing that will turn them off is if all they get negatives. If there's no positive, then sure you'll turn them off. If the only way that you approach the Sabbath is negative you can't, you can't, you can't, yes you will turn them off. But if you began to teach them why the Sabbath is a blessing and you make it a delight and a joy, they won't be turned off by that. It's proper to emphasize the positive. In 1 Peter 2... 1 Peter chapter 2, he says in verse 9. I know he's writing to converted people, but it applies by extensions to

these young people as well. 1 Peter two and verse 9, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you are special people that you should show forth the praises of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." We're special and we need to view it that way. You need to be teaching your children to know we're a special people. God has called us just as surely as God called ancient Israel out of Egypt. We are a called-out people. We are not like everyone else. No, we don't want to create the impression we're better than everybody else. That's why God called us. No, we teach them that God's going to call them too, but we teach them we're called out. We're special. We're unique. In 1 Corinthians 7 and verse 14, talking about relationship within a home where even one person is a converted member. "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified, set apart before God into a special category by the wife. The unbelieving wife is sanctified by the believing husband. Elsewhere your children unclean but now are they holy." The children a part of the Church of God are holy. We didn't make them holy. God made them holy and remember one of the greatest condemnations God gives is for people failing to set a difference between the holy and the profane. If we allow our children to be like the profane, we're not setting a differences between them. God condemns that. No, our children are different, and they should be taught that they're different and that being different is not bad. It's a blessing. It's a special blessing that God has bestowed upon them, and we should approach it from that positive viewpoint. A couple of scriptures in Deuteronomy and we'll finish up here. Deuteronomy chapter 10, Deuteronomy 10, let's pick it up in verse 12, "And now Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but the fear of the Lord your God and to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." (13) "To keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command

you this day for your good?” (14) Behold the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the Lord’s your God, the earth also, and all that therein is.” (15) “Only the eternal had a delight in your fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them, even you above all people, as it is this day.” That’s why we’re here, because God chose us above all people. In Deuteronomy Chapter 7, Deuteronomy 7 verse 6, “For you are an holy people unto the Lord your God: the Eternal your God has chosen you to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.” Yes, God does expect more of us. We need to teach our children that they fit into that category as we are a holy people, they also are holy and set apart in a special category. We need to teach that aspect of the Sabbath, teach it positively. The Sabbath is good. It’s a source of delight and joy, not a burden to born. That’s the value that we need to teach our children about Sabbath keeping. Obviously, we need to understand that ourselves to. But we need to teach them. We don’t have to worry about them being turned off about God’s truth. They’re going to learn what a tremendous blessing the Sabbath is, and they would never want to turn from that. It’s a joy. It’s a blessing to them when we’re teaching them setting the example they need to see. Those of you that didn’t come to Bible study got it anyway, one way or another. That’s all right. I think the subject is worthwhile for all of us to focus upon something we need to understand and think more deeply about.