

about ...

Resting + 1 Question

“Tell the Israelites, “Above all, ... keep my Sabbaths, the sign between me and you, generation after generation, to keep the knowledge alive that I am the God who makes you holy.”

Ex. 31: 12-13 NKJV

“Above all” ... really does mean ... above all! Our God considers the 3rd. Commandment to be very important ... far more so than many other things.

The Sabbath rest is to be **“the sign”** ... making it clear to all that come our way that “we” are different” (and that includes us as ministers) ... that we serve the real God, the One Who can make us holy.

As I was preparing this message last October I remember sitting at the kitchen table saying to Doris, *“You know, in more than 30 years in the Assembly I’ve never once heard a message preached on this.”*

And observant wife that she is, Doris said, *“And what does that tell you!”* Well, her inference was clear: as ministers ... *we don’t preach about what we ourselves aren’t doing.*

From an article in Chrisma about a year ago:

“In many Pentecostal and charismatic denominations, pastoral burnout has become a virtual norm. We almost make a virtue of burnout.”

“Pentecostals and charismatics have been awesome at renewing the world, but we have forgotten to be renewed ourselves. In short, we have ignored God’s invitation to rest. And until we heed it, we will keep burning out.”

“Sabbath offers God a chance to do something within us before He works through us. It is a dark night of the Spirit. It is going into the dark to find the work of the Spirit before we go out to do the work of the Spirit.”

“Something is lost when busyness is the virtue of maturity. We are lost when we no longer have time to simply walk around the Garden of Eden with God one day a week.”

It ... is ... such ... a ... relief ... to not work on our one day of rest each week ... and we have no interest whatsoever in ever spoiling that. **We NEVER want to go back there again!**

It ... is ... absolutely glorious! God’s ways are always the best! We just wish it’d not taken us so long to understand that in this area.

Pastor Pete & Doris

1 Question: *“Lord Jesus, You know that I want to become more like You. What would You have me do following this retreat regarding Resting?”*