

Lesson 84: Reverence-3

Memory Verse: I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.
I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word. Psalm 119:14-16

F. Reverence for the Name of God

1. What does it say about the name of God in **Psalm 111:7-10**?

The _____ of his hands are _____ and _____; all his _____ are _____. They stand fast for _____ and ever, and are done in _____ and _____. He sent _____ unto his people: he hath commanded his _____ for ever: _____ and _____ is his _____. The _____ of the LORD is the _____ of _____: a good _____ have all they that _____ his commandments: his praise _____ for ever.

The name of God is H_____ and R_____.

Here you see that the holy name of God is bound up with V_____ (really true) and J_____, with His C_____, with T_____ and U_____, R_____ and His C_____, and with W_____ and U_____.

Note: **Reverence** should be shown also for the **name of God**. Never should that name be spoken lightly or thoughtlessly. Even in prayer its frequent or needless repetition should be avoided. "Holy and **reverend** is His name." Psalm 111:9. Angels, as they speak it, veil their faces. With what **reverence** should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon your lips! Ed 243.5

What faint views some have of the holiness of God, and how much they take His holy and reverend name **in vain**, without realizing that it is **God**, the **great** and **terrible** [Adapted to impress, solemn awe and reverence] God, of whom they are speaking. **While praying, many use careless and irreverent expressions**, which grieve the tender Spirit of the Lord and cause their petitions to be shut out of heaven. EW 70.2

I saw that God's holy name should be used with **reverence** and **awe**. The words God Almighty are coupled together and used by some in prayer in a **careless, thoughtless** manner, which is **displeasing** to Him. Such have no realizing sense of God or the truth, or they would not speak so **irreverently** of the great and dreadful [Awe-ful; venerable {to be regarded with awe and treated with reverence}] God, who is soon to judge them in the last day. Said the angel, "Couple them not together; for fearful is His name." Those who realize the **greatness** and **majesty** of God, will take His name on their lips with **holy awe**. He dwelleth in light unapproachable; no man can see Him and live. I saw that these things will have to be **understood** and **corrected** before the church can prosper. EW 122.1

2. One of the first things we acknowledge in the Lord's prayer is the sacred holiness of His Name: **Matthew 6:9**. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our _____ which art in heaven, _____ be thy _____.

Note: To hallow the name of the Lord requires that **the words in which we speak of the Supreme Being be uttered with reverence**. "Holy and **reverend** is His name." Psalm 111:9. We are never in any manner to treat lightly the titles or appellations of the Deity. In **prayer** we enter the audience chamber of the Most High; and we should **come before Him with holy awe**. The angels veil their faces in His

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presence. The cherubim and the bright and holy seraphim approach His throne with **solemn reverence**. **How much more should we**, finite, sinful beings, come in a **reverent manner** before the Lord, our Maker! MB 106.2

3. What does God's Name mean? **Exodus 34:5-8**

And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and _____ the _____ of the LORD. And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, _____ and _____, _____, and abundant in _____ and _____, Keeping mercy for thousands, _____ iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means _____ the _____; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation. And _____ made haste, and _____ his _____ toward the earth, and _____.

God's Name is really His great character of LOVE manifested in M_____, G_____, L_____, G_____, T_____, F_____ and Justice.

Note: To hallow the name of the Lord **means much more than this**. We may, like the Jews in Christ's day, manifest the greatest outward reverence for God, and yet profane His name continually. "The name of the Lord" is "merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ... forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:5-7. Of the **church** of Christ it is written, "This is the **name** wherewith she shall be called, The Lord our Righteousness." Jeremiah 33:16. **This name is put upon every follower of Christ.** It is the heritage of the child of God. The family are called after the Father. The prophet Jeremiah, in the time of Israel's sore distress and tribulation, prayed, "We are called by Thy name; leave us not." Jeremiah 14:9. MB 106.3

This name is hallowed by the angels of heaven, by the inhabitants of unfallen worlds. When you pray, "Hallowed be Thy name," **you ask that it may be hallowed in this world, hallowed in you**. God has acknowledged you before men and angels as His child; **pray that you may do no dishonor** to the "worthy name by which ye are called." James 2:7. God sends you into the world as His representative. **In every act of life you are to make manifest the name of God.** This petition calls upon you to possess His character. You cannot hallow His name, you cannot represent Him to the world, unless in life and character you represent the very life and character of God. This you can do **only** through the acceptance of the **grace** and **righteousness** of Christ. MB 107.1

4. The way we use God's name is so important that one of the 10 commandments warns us about it: **Exodus 20:7**.

Thou shalt _____ take the _____ of the LORD thy God in _____; for the LORD will _____ hold him _____ that taketh his name in vain.

Note: This commandment **not only prohibits false oaths and common swearing**, but it forbids us to use the name of God in a light or careless manner, without regard to its awful significance. By the **thoughtless** mention of God in **common** conversation, by **appeals** to Him in **trivial** matters, and by the **frequent** and **thoughtless repetition** of His name, **we dishonor Him**. "Holy and **reverend** is His name." Psalm 111:9. **All should meditate upon His majesty, His purity and holiness**, that the heart may be **impressed** with a sense of His **exalted** character; and **His holy name should be uttered with reverence and solemnity**. PP 306.6

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Those who are brought into covenant

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relation with God are pledged to **speak of Him in the most respectful, reverential manner**. Many refer to God and mention His name in their religious conversation much as they would mention a horse or any other common creature. This dishonors God. By precept and example parents should **educate** their children on this point, lest **by irreverence they grieve away God's Spirit** from their hearts and the hearts of their children. 2SAT 185.2

Ministers, **by carelessly introducing the name of God into their conversation**, may teach lessons of **irreverence**. **By mingling His holy name with common matters**, they show that they are not spiritually-minded; for they **minge the sacred and the common**. They are not living up to their holy profession. While claiming to be worshipers of God, they walk contrary to His law. 2SAT 185.3

Swearing, and all words spoken in the form of an oath, are dishonoring to God. The Lord sees, the Lord hears, and He will not hold the transgressor guiltless. He will not be mocked. Those who take the name of the Lord in vain will find it a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. 2SAT 185.4

In a **special sense** the first four commandments reveal the **duty of man to his Maker**. These four precepts were written on the first table of stone. **Man has a God who is the Author of his being** – a God whom he must **love** and **obey** with **heart, mind, soul, and strength**. 2SAT 185.5

5. Should we ever take the title of God's name, such as holy or reverend and use it as a title for a sinful, mortal human being? **Matthew 23:8-10**

But be _____ ye called _____: for **one** is your _____, even _____; and all ye are _____. And call no _____ your father upon the earth: for **one** is your _____, which is in _____. Neither be ye called _____: for **one** is your _____, even _____.

Psalm 111:9 reminds us that Holy and reverend is _____ name.

Note: It is not men whom we are to exalt and worship; it is God, **the only true and living God**, to whom our **worship** and **reverence** are due. According to the teaching of the Scriptures, it **dishonors** God to address ministers as "reverend." No mortal has any right to attach this to his own name, or to the name of any other human being. **It belongs only to God**, to distinguish Him from every other being. ... "Holy and **reverend** is his name." We **dishonor** God when we use this word where it does not belong. ... The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted. SD 58.5

If Christ were on earth today, surrounded by those who bear the title of "**Reverend**" or "Right Reverend," would He not repeat His saying, "Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ"? Matthew 23:10. The Scripture declares of God, "Holy and **reverend is his name**." To what human being is such a title befitting? How **little** does man reveal of the wisdom and righteousness it indicates! How many of those who assume this title are **misrepresenting** the **name** and **character** of God! Alas, how often have worldly ambition, despotism, and the basest sins been hidden under the brodered garments of a high and holy office! FLB 41.6

G. Reverence the Law of God

6. How did God tell the people to prepare for the occasion of the speaking of His law?

Exodus 19:10,11 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and _____ them to _____ and to _____, and let them _____ their clothes, And be _____ against the _____ day: for the third day the _____ will come _____ in the sight of _____ the people upon mount _____.

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Note: God purposed to make the occasion of speaking His law a scene of awful grandeur, in keeping with its exalted character. **The people were to be impressed that everything connected with the service of God must be regarded with the greatest reverence.** The Lord said to Moses, "Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mount Sinai." During these intervening days all were to occupy the time in **solemn preparation** to appear before God. Their person and their clothing **must be freed from impurity.** And as Moses should point out their sins, they were to **devote themselves to humiliation, fasting, and prayer,** that their **hearts** might be **cleansed from iniquity.** PP 303.5

7. How does the Bible describe the appearance of God on Mt. Sinai? **Exodus 19:16-19**
And it came to pass on the third day in the _____, that there were _____ and _____, and a _____ cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the _____ exceeding _____; so that all the people that was in the camp _____. And Moses _____ forth the people out of the camp to _____ with God; and they _____ at the nether part of the mount. And mount Sinai was altogether on a _____, because the _____ descended upon it in _____: and the smoke thereof _____ as the smoke of a _____, and the whole mount _____ greatly. And when the voice of the _____ sounded _____, and waxed _____ and louder, Moses _____, and God answered him by a _____.

Note: On the morning of the third day, as the eyes of all the people were turned toward the mount, its summit was **covered with a thick cloud**, which **grew more black and dense**, sweeping downward until **the entire mountain was wrapped in darkness and awful mystery.** Then a sound as of a **trumpet** was heard, **summoning the people to meet with God**; and Moses led them forth to the base of the mountain. From the thick darkness flashed **vivid lightnings**, while peals of **thunder echoed and re-echoed** among the surrounding heights. "And Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly." "The glory of the Lord was like devouring fire on the top of the mount" in the sight of the assembled multitude. And "the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder." So terrible were the tokens of Jehovah's presence that **the hosts of Israel shook with fear, and fell upon their faces before the Lord.** Even Moses exclaimed, "I exceedingly **fear** and **quake.**" Heb. 12:21. PP 304.2

The **majestic** presence of God at Sinai, and the **commotions** in the earth occasioned by his presence, the fearful **thunderings** and **lightnings** which accompanied this visitation of God, **so impressed the minds of the people with fear and reverence to his sacred majesty**, that they **instinctively drew back** from the awful presence of God, lest they should not be able to endure his terrible glory. 1SP 237.2

8. What were the first words of God to them? **Exodus 20:1-3**
And God spake _____ these words, saying, I am the _____ thy God, which have _____ thee out of the land of _____, out of the house of _____.
Thou shalt have _____ gods _____ me.

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These words must be **very important** for God to come down on the mountain and speak them **Himself** to the people.

Note: And now the thunders ceased; the trumpet was no longer heard; the earth was still. **There was a period of solemn silence**, and **then the voice of God was heard**. Speaking out of the thick darkness that enshrouded Him, as He stood upon the mount, surrounded by a retinue of angels, **the Lord made known His law**. PP 304.3

Jehovah revealed Himself, not alone in the **awful majesty of the judge and lawgiver**, but as the **compassionate guardian of His people**: "I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." He whom they had already known as their **Guide** and **Deliverer**, who had brought them forth from Egypt, making a way for them through the sea, and overthrowing Pharaoh and his hosts, **who had thus shown Himself to be above all the gods of Egypt** – He it was **who now spoke His law**. PP 305.1

The law was **not** spoken at this time **exclusively** for the benefit of the **Hebrews**. God honored them by making them the **guardians and keepers of His law**, but it was to be held as **a sacred trust for the whole world**. The **precepts** of the Decalogue are **adapted to all mankind**, and they were given for the **instruction and government of all**. Ten precepts, brief, comprehensive, and authoritative, cover the **duty of man to God and to his fellow man**; and **all based upon the great fundamental principle of love**. "Thou shalt **love** the Lord thy God with all thy **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **strength**, and with all thy **mind**; and thy **neighbor** as thyself." Luke 10:27. See also Deut. 6:4, 5; Lev. 19:18. In the Ten Commandments **these principles are carried out in detail, and made applicable to the condition and circumstances of man**. PP 305.2

"Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." PP 305.3

Jehovah, the eternal, self-existent, uncreated One, Himself the **Source and Sustainer** of all, is **alone entitled to supreme reverence and worship**. Man is forbidden to give to any other object the first place in his affections or his service. **Whatever** we **cherish** that tends to **lessen** our love for God or to **interfere** with the service due Him, **of that do we make a god**. PP 305.4

If we make **anything** more important in our life than God, if we allow **that** to rule our **choices** and **actions**, and to occupy our **time** and **thoughts**, we are making **that** our god. It is **necessary** to give God the **first place** in our life.

9. What should be our daily prayer? **Psalms 119:18**

O _____ thou mine _____, that I may behold _____ things out of thy _____.

Note: The psalmist prayed, "Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law," and the Lord regarded his sincere prayer, for the sacred record records **his satisfaction in the truth revealed to him**. He says: "How sweet are Thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" "More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." **How rare is this experience!** PH149, 56.1

We need divine enlightenment daily; we should pray as did David, "Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law" (Psalm 119:18). **God will have a people upon the earth who will vindicate His honor by having respect to all of His commandments**; and His commandments are not grievous, not a yoke of bondage. David prayed in his day, "It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void Thy law" (verse 126). FW 42.4

Not one of us can afford to dishonor God by living in transgression of His law. To neglect the Bible and give ourselves up to the pursuit of worldly treasure is a **loss** which is beyond estimate. Eternity alone will reveal the great sacrifice made by many to secure worldly honor and worldly advantages, at the

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loss of the soul, the loss of eternal riches. They might have had that life which measures with the life of God; for Jesus died to bring the **blessings and treasures** of heaven **within their reach**, that they might not be accounted poor and wretched and miserable in the high estimate of eternity. FW 43.1

If you are in search of truth, obedience will not be difficult. If you really want to know the Master's will, you will thankfully receive it. We are **learners** in the school of Christ. **A genuine love for Jesus will of necessity create a love for the truth.** Treasure up the truth in your heart. Seek knowledge. Make this your daily prayer: "With my whole heart have I sought thee; O let me not wander from thy commandments. Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." **We are not safe only [unless] as we mold our daily life after the divine Pattern.** RH, December 2, 1875 par. 9

I entreat you, my dear friends, to **move guardedly**; for **you are making decisions for eternity.** Walk in the light while you have the light. **Let no one influence you to turn from the truth.** You can never be sanctified through error. Christ prayed to his Father in behalf of his disciples: "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." It is a time and age of the world when **error prevails, and with nearly all is accepted as truth.** Error is no less error because it has been instilled into minds from their very youth. Error is taught in schools, and preached from the pulpit. **Theories are advanced which have no foundation in the word of God.** RH, December 2, 1875 par. 10

10. God gave us His law to bring us joy, not bondage.

David saw it and said in **Psalm 119:14-16**

I have _____ in the _____ of thy testimonies, as much as in all _____.

I will _____ in thy precepts, and have _____ unto thy _____.

I will _____ myself in thy statutes: I will _____ thy word.

Psalm 119:103 How _____ are thy _____ unto my _____! yea, _____ than _____ to my _____!

Note: The **law** of ten commandments is not to be looked upon as much from the prohibitory side as from the **mercy** side. Its prohibitions are the **sure guarantee** of happiness in obedience. As received in Christ, it works in us the purity of character that will **bring joy to us through eternal ages.** To the obedient it is a **wall of protection.** We behold in it the **goodness of God**, who by revealing to men the immutable principles of righteousness, **seeks to shield them from the evils that result from transgression.** 6BC 1085.5

We are not to regard God as waiting to punish the sinner for his sin. The sinner brings punishment upon himself. His own actions start a train of circumstances that bring the sure result. **Every act of transgression reacts upon the sinner, works in him a change of character,** and makes it more easy for him to transgress again. **By choosing to sin, men separate themselves from God, cut themselves off from the channel of blessing, and the sure result is ruin and death.** 6BC 1085.6

The law is an expression of **God's idea.** When we receive it in Christ, it **becomes our idea.** It lifts us **above** the power of natural desires and tendencies, **above** temptations that lead to sin. 6BC 1085.7

11. How valuable is God's Law to us? **Psalm 119:72**

The law of thy mouth is _____ unto me than thousands of _____ and _____.

Psalm 119:127 Therefore I _____ thy commandments above _____; yea, above _____ gold.

Psalm 19:7,10 The law of the LORD is _____, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is _____, making _____ the simple. ... More to be _____ are they than _____, yea, than _____ fine gold: _____ also than honey and the honeycomb.

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Note: Have courage to do right. **The Lord's promise is more valuable than gold and silver to all who are doers of his word.** Let all regard it as a **great honor** to be acknowledged by God as his children. If children, then we are heirs, heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ, to the **heavenly inheritance**. Then should not all believers be **witnesses**? Should not the language of their hearts be, "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day." **To the soul who loves God the law is not a burden.** He **delights** in the law of God after the inner man, and his prayer is, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." **The word of God is the voice of the Father to the heart of the child, and the child expresses his love by saying, "I delight to do thy will, O my God."** RH, May 9, 1899 par. 20

12. There are many things that are presented to you as a way to live, but only **one** way is **sure** and leads to eternal life. **Psalm 111:7-10**

The works of his hands are verity and judgment; _____ his _____ are _____. They stand _____ for _____ and ever, and are done in _____ and uprightness. He sent _____ unto his people: he hath commanded his _____ for ever: holy and reverend is his name. The _____ of the _____ is the beginning of _____: a good _____ have all they that _____ his commandments: his praise _____ for ever.

1 Kings 11:38 And it shall be, if thou wilt _____ unto _____ that I command thee, and wilt _____ in my _____, and _____ that is _____ in my _____, to _____ my statutes and my _____, as David my servant did; that **I will** be _____ thee, and build thee a _____ house, as I built for _____, and will give _____ unto thee.

2 Peter 1:19 We have also a _____ word of prophecy; whereunto ye do _____ that ye _____, as unto a _____ that shineth in a _____ place, until the day _____, and the day star _____ in your _____.

2 Peter 1:10-12 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give _____ to make your calling and election _____: for if ye _____ these things, ye shall _____ fall. For so an _____ shall be ministered unto you _____ into the _____ kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Wherefore I will not be _____ to put you always in _____ of these things, though ye _____ them, and be _____ in the present _____.

? What is **sure?**

All His _____ are **sure**. They stand for _____ and _____.

God promises a **sure** house to those who

hearken unto all that He _____,

and **walk** in His _____,

and **do** what is _____ in His sight,

and **keep** His _____ and His _____

The Word of _____ is **sure** and we should take _____ or pay attention to it.

The promise is that if we **do** these things we shall never fall. What are these things?

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Look in **2 Peter 1:5-9** And beside this, giving all _____, add to your _____ virtue; and to _____ knowledge; And to _____ temperance; and to _____ patience; and to patience _____; And to godliness _____; and to brotherly kindness _____. For if _____ things be _____ you, and _____, they make _____ that ye shall neither be _____ nor _____ in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that _____ these things is _____, and cannot _____ afar off, and hath forgotten that he was _____ from his old sins.

So to make our C_____ and E_____ **sure**, we must *do these things*.

? Another question: How can you do them? Always remember these two principles:

1) Jesus said in **John 15:5** "For _____ me ye can **do** _____."

2) But **Philippians 4:13** tells us: "I can **do** _____ things _____ Christ which _____ me.

? What else does it tell us in **2 Peter 1:10-12**?

That this will give us an E_____ in the E_____ kingdom – Heaven! We should always **remember** this so that we will be E_____ in the present T_____.

Note: There is no real standard of righteousness apart from God's law. By **obedience** to this law the intellect is strengthened, and the **conscience is enlightened and made sensitive**. The youth need to **gain a clear understanding of God's law**. They are not left to follow blindly the guidance of men. The **great prophetic waymarks** which God himself has set up show the **path of obedience to be the only path that can be followed with certainty**. YI, September 22, 1903 par. 8

Those who **love** and **obey** the law of God **will meet with trials and temptations**; but if they **hope** and **pray**, and **trust his word**, they will be able to say, with Paul, "I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God**, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." YI, September 22, 1903 par. 9

My dear young friends, ? Have you **wholly** given yourselves up to God, to do **his** will?

? Are you **transformed** by the grace of Christ?

Some **claim** to be one with Christ, while their special work is to make void the law of God.

? Will you accept their assertions? ? **How will you distinguish God's true servants** from the false prophets that Christ said would arise to deceive many?

There is only one test of character, – God's holy law. YI, September 22, 1903 par. 10

We are living in a momentous period of this earth's history. **The final conflict is just before us**. We see the world corrupted under the inhabitants thereof. Satanic agencies have made the earth a stage for horrors that no language can describe. War and bloodshed are carried on by nations claiming to be Christian. **A disregard for God's law has brought the sure result**. YI, September 22, 1903 par. 11

13. What do we need to have in order to stand for the right? **Ephesians 6:10-11**

Finally, my brethren, be _____ in the Lord, and in the _____ of his _____. Put on the whole _____ of God, that ye may be _____ to _____ against the _____ of the devil.

? Why do we need this armor? Is our battle against mere men? **Ephesians 6:12-13**

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For we _____ not against _____ and _____, but against _____, against _____, against the rulers of the _____ of this world, against _____ wickedness in _____ places. Wherefore _____ unto you the _____ of God, that ye may be _____ to _____ in the evil day, and having done _____, to _____.

Note: There will be a **sharp conflict** between those who are **loyal to God** and those who **cast scorn upon his law**. The church has joined hands with the world. **Reverence for God's law has been subverted**. The religious leaders have **taught for doctrine the commandments of men**. As it was in the days of Noah, so it is in this age. **But shall the prevalence of disloyalty and transgression cause those who have revered God's law to have less respect for it, or to unite with the powers of earth in attempting to make it void?** YI, September 22, 1903 par. 13

The test comes to every one. There are only two sides.

? Dear young reader, **on which side are you standing?** YI, September 22, 1903 par. 14

13. How did Enoch show his reverence for God's law? **Genesis 5:21-24**

And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: And Enoch _____ with _____ after he begat Methuselah _____ years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch _____ with _____: and he was not; for _____ [to heaven].

Hebrews 11:5 By _____ Enoch was _____ that he should _____ see _____; and was _____ found, because _____ had _____ him: for _____ his translation he had this _____, that he _____ God.

Note: **Enoch walked with God three hundred years** previous to his translation, and the state of the world was not more favorable for the perfection of Christian character then, than it is today. How did Enoch walk with God? **He educated his mind and heart to ever feel the presence of God, and when in perplexity his prayers would ascend to God to keep him, to teach him his will.** "What shall I do to honor thee, my God?" was his prayer. **His will was merged in the will of God, and his feet were constantly directed in the path of God's commandments.** Enoch was a **representative** of those who shall be on the earth when Christ shall come, who will be **translated** to Heaven and **never taste of death**. It is fitting that we pray, as did David, "**Open** thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." ST, Dec. 29, 1887 par. 11

Many close their eyes, lest they shall see the truth. **They do not want to see the defects in their life and character**, and it disturbs them if you mention to them anything about God's law. **They have discarded God's standard and have chosen a standard of their own.** Their hearts are not inclined to keep the way of the Lord, for **it runs in an opposite direction from the path they had marked out.** But we want to **warn you:** Be not deceived by the first great adversary of God's law. When the Judgment is set and the books opened, **your life and mine will be measured by the law of the Most High.** Those who have **washed their robes of character** and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, **will be found keeping the commandments of God;** and when every man is judged according to the things written in the books, **they will receive** the commendation of Heaven and an **eternal inheritance.** ST, December 29, 1887 par. 12

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H. Reverence the Sabbath

14. How does the 4th Commandment begin? **Exodus 20:8**

R_____ the _____ day, to _____ it holy.

Note: "Remember" is placed at the very first of the Fourth Commandment. Parents, you need to remember the Sabbath day yourselves to keep it holy. And if you do this, you are giving the proper instruction to your children; they will reverence God's holy day. ... Christian education is needed in your homes. All through the week keep the Lord's holy Sabbath in view, for that day is to be devoted to the service of God. It is a day when the hands are to rest from worldly employment, when the soul's needs are to receive especial attention. CG 527.3

When the Sabbath is thus remembered, **the temporal will not be allowed to encroach upon the spiritual**. No duty pertaining to the six working days will be left for the Sabbath. During the week our energies will not be so exhausted in temporal labor that on the day when the Lord rested and was refreshed, we shall be **too weary to engage in His service**. CG 528.1

15. The 4th commandment tells us why we should remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. **Exodus 20:11**

For in _____ days the LORD _____ heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and _____ the _____ day: wherefore the LORD _____ the sabbath day, and _____ it.

This is saying that because God _____ all things in 6 days and rested the 7th, He _____ it and made it **holy**. So He did it to **remind** us every week that **He** is God, the Creator.

Note: In Eden, God set up the **memorial** of His work of creation, in placing His **blessing** upon the **seventh** day. The Sabbath was **committed to Adam**, the father and representative of the whole human family. Its observance was to be an **act of grateful acknowledgment**, on the part of all who should dwell upon the earth, **that God was their Creator and their rightful Sovereign**; that they were the **work of His hands** and the **subjects of His authority**. Thus the institution was wholly **commemorative**, and given to **all mankind**. There was nothing in it shadowy or of restricted application to any people. PP 48.1

God saw that a Sabbath was **essential** for man, even in Paradise. He needed to lay aside his own interests and pursuits for one day of the seven, that he might more fully contemplate the works of God and meditate upon His power and goodness. He needed a Sabbath to **remind** him more vividly of God and to **awaken gratitude** because **all** that he enjoyed and possessed **came from the beneficent hand of the Creator**. PP 48.2

16. When did God establish the 7th day Sabbath? **Genesis 2:2,3**

And on the _____ day God _____ his work which he had made; and he _____ on the _____ day from all his _____ which he had _____. And God _____ the _____ day, and _____ it: _____ that in it he had _____ from all his _____ which God created and made.

Note: **When** the foundations of the earth were laid, **when** the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy, **then** was laid the foundation of the Sabbath. Job 38:6, 7; Genesis 2:1-3.

Well may this institution demand our reverence; it was **ordained by no human authority** and rests upon **no human traditions**; it was **established by the Ancient of Days and commanded by His eternal word**. GC 454.3

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After resting upon the seventh day, God **sanctified** it, or set it apart, as a day of rest for man. Following the example of the Creator, man was to rest upon this sacred day, that as he should look upon the heavens and the earth, he might **reflect** upon God's great work of creation; and that as he should **behold the evidences of God's wisdom and goodness**, his heart might be filled with **love** and **reverence** for his Maker. PP 47.3

17. Why is the Sabbath so important?

1) The Sabbath was made to remind us that God is our C_____ and that God M_____ the H_____ and the E_____ and the sea and everything in them in _____ days. Exodus 20:_____

2) Because God is the Creator of all things, He is W_____ and deserves our Worship. **Revelation 4:11**

"Thou art _____, O Lord, to _____ glory and honor and power: for Thou hast _____ all things."

3) God's power to C_____ sets Him apart from all false g_____. **Psalm 96:4,5**

For the _____ is _____, and greatly to be _____: he is to be _____ above all gods. For all the _____ of the nations are _____: but the _____ made the _____.

Isaiah 40:25,26 To _____ then will ye _____ me, or shall I be _____? saith the _____ One. Lift up your eyes on high, and _____ who hath _____ these things, that bringeth out their _____ by _____: he calleth them all by _____ by the _____ of his might, for that he is _____ in power; not one _____.

4) There is no other god that can claim the power to create. **Isaiah 45:18**

For thus saith the _____ that _____ the heavens; God himself that _____ the earth and _____ it; he hath _____ it, he created it not in _____, he formed it to be _____: I am the _____; and there is _____ else.

5) Not only did He make all things, He made U__, we are His P_____ and we worship Him because He is **our Maker**. We come before Him with T_____ and acknowledge that He is G_____ and M_____ and His T_____ never changes.

Psalm 100:3-5 Know ye that the _____ he is God: it is _____ that hath made _____, and not _____ ourselves; we are his _____, and the _____ of his pasture. Enter into his gates with _____, and into his courts with _____: be thankful unto him, and bless his _____. For the LORD is _____; his _____ is everlasting; and his _____ endureth to _____ generations.

Note: The duty to worship God is **based** upon the fact that **He is the Creator** and that to Him all other beings **owe their existence**. And wherever, in the Bible, **His claim to reverence and worship**, above the gods of the heathen, is presented, there is cited the **evidence of His creative power**. GC 436.2

"The importance of the Sabbath as the memorial of creation is that it keeps ever present the **true reason why worship is due to God**" – because He is the Creator, and we are His creatures. "The Sabbath therefore lies at the **very foundation of divine worship**, for it teaches this great truth in the most impressive manner, and no other institution does this. The true ground of divine worship, not of that on the seventh day merely, but of all worship, is found in the **distinction between the Creator and His**

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creatures. This great fact can never become obsolete, and must never be forgotten."--J. N. Andrews, *History of the Sabbath*, chapter 27. It was to keep this truth ever before the minds of men, that God instituted the Sabbath in Eden; and so long as the fact that He is our Creator continues to be a reason why we should worship Him, so long the Sabbath will continue as its sign and memorial. Had the Sabbath been universally kept, man's thoughts and affections would have been led to the Creator as the object of **reverence** and worship, and there would **never** have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel. **The keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of loyalty to the true God**, "Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." [Rev. 14:7] It follows that the message which commands men to worship God and **keep His commandments** will especially call upon them to keep the **fourth** commandment. GC 437.2

18. What did Jesus say about what the Sabbath was made for? **Mark 2:27**

And he said unto them, The _____ was made for _____, and not _____ for the _____:

Note: God is merciful. His requirements are reasonable, in accordance with the goodness and benevolence of His character. The **object of the Sabbath** was that all mankind might be **benefited**. Man was not made to fit the Sabbath; for the Sabbath was made after the creation of man, **to meet his necessities**. After God had made the world in six days, He rested and sanctified and blessed the day upon which He rested from all His work which He had created and made. **He set apart that special day** for man to rest from his labor, that, as he should look upon the earth beneath and the heavens above, he might **reflect that God made all these in six days and rested upon the seventh**; and that, as he should behold the **tangible proofs of God's infinite wisdom**, his heart might be filled with **love** and **reverence for his Maker**. 2T 582.3

❁ The O _____ of the Sabbath was to B _____ man.

❁ It was set aside as a S _____ day in which he could think about God who M _____ all things in _____ days and rested on the _____.

❁ He could L _____ at the things God had created and see real P _____ of God's infinite W _____.

❁ As he saw these things and thought of God, his H _____ would fill with L _____ and R _____ for God, His Maker.

? If **you** spent every Sabbath in this way, would **you** ever believe in evolution? YES NO

? Would **you** ever think that there is no God? YES NO

? Would **you** ever think that God does not love **you** or care for **you**? YES NO

19. How can nature help us on the Sabbath?

Psalms 119:64 The _____, O LORD, is full of thy _____: teach me thy _____.

Psalms 119:73 Thy hands have _____ me and _____ me: give me _____, that I may learn thy _____.

Psalms 119:90,91 Thy _____ is unto all generations: thou hast _____ the _____, and it abideth. They _____ this day according to _____ ordinances: for all are thy _____.

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Psalm 19:1-3,7 The _____ declare the _____ of God; and the _____ sheweth his _____. Day unto day uttereth _____, and night unto night sheweth _____. There is _____ speech nor language, where their _____ is not heard. ... The _____ of the LORD is _____, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is _____, making _____ the simple.

Psalm 8:3,4 When I consider thy _____, the work of thy _____, the _____ and the _____, which thou hast ordained; What is _____, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou _____ him?

Isaiah 40:6-8 The voice said, Cry. And he said, _____ shall I cry? All flesh is _____, and all the _____ thereof is as the _____ of the field: The grass _____, the flower _____: because the spirit of the LORD _____ upon it: surely the _____ is _____. The grass _____, the flower _____: but the _____ of our _____ shall _____ for ever.

Isaiah 40:25,26 To _____ then will ye liken me, or shall I be _____? saith the Holy One. Lift up your _____ on high, and _____ who hath _____ these things, that bringeth out their _____ by number: he calleth them all by _____ by the greatness of his _____, for that he is strong in _____; not _____ faileth.

Job 12:7-10 But ask now the _____, and they shall _____ thee; and the _____ of the air, and they shall _____ thee: Or speak to the _____, and it shall _____ thee: and the _____ of the sea shall _____ unto thee. Who _____ not in _____ these that the _____ of the LORD hath _____ this? In _____ hand is the _____ of every _____ thing, and the _____ of _____ mankind.

Let's look at this. ? What can we learn from nature?

- ✿ The earth is full of God's M_____. He teaches me His S_____.
- ✿ God's hands made _____. I get U_____ from Him to learn His C_____.
- ✿ We see God's F_____ in the E_____ that C_____ unto this day in obedience to God's O_____.
- ✿ We can look up into the heavens and learn of the G_____ of God.
- ✿ They speak to us in every L_____ of the world. They teach us that God's L_____ is P_____ and S_____ and makes us W_____.
- ✿ When we C_____ the heavens, we learn how great G_____ is and how little M_____ is and yet God loves him so much that He V_____ him.

Note: God designs that the Sabbath shall direct the minds of men to the contemplation of His created works. Nature speaks to their senses, **declaring that there is a living God**, the **Creator**, the **Supreme Ruler of all**. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge." Psalm 19:1, 2. The **beauty** that clothes the earth is **token** of God's **love**. We may **behold it** in the everlasting hills, in the lofty trees, in the opening buds and the delicate flowers. **All speak to us of God**. The **Sabbath**, ever **pointing to Him who made them all**, bids men **open** the great book of nature and **trace** therein the

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wisdom, the power, and the love of the Creator. PP 48.3

During a portion of the day, **all should have an opportunity to be out of doors**. How can children receive a **more correct knowledge of God**, and their minds be better impressed, than in spending a portion of their time out of doors, **not in play, but in company with their parents**? Let their young minds be **associated with God in the beautiful scenery of nature**, let their attention be called to the **tokens of His love** to man in His created works, and they will be attracted and interested. They will not be in danger of associating the character of God with everything that is stern and severe; but as they view the **beautiful** things which He has created for the happiness of man, they will be **led to regard Him as a tender, loving Father**. They will see that His **prohibitions and injunctions** are not made merely to show His power and authority, but that He has the **happiness** of His children in view. **As the character of God puts on the aspect of love, benevolence, beauty, and attraction, they are drawn to love Him**. You can direct their minds to the lovely birds making the air musical with their happy songs, to the spires of grass, and the gloriously tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air. **All these proclaim the love and skill of the heavenly Artist, and show forth the glory of God**. 2T 583.2

20. What does God say the Sabbath is a sign of? **Exodus 31:13**

Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my _____ ye shall _____: for it is a _____ between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may _____ that I am the _____ that doth _____ you.

Note: From the pillar of cloud Christ declared concerning the Sabbath: "Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you." Exodus 31:13. **The Sabbath given to the world as the sign of God as the Creator is also the sign of Him as the Sanctifier.** The power that created all things is the power that re-creates the soul in His own likeness. To those who keep holy the Sabbath day it is the **sign** of sanctification. **True sanctification is harmony with God, oneness with Him in character.** It is received through obedience to those principles that are the transcript of His character. **And the Sabbath is the sign of obedience.** He who **from the heart** obeys the fourth commandment will obey the whole law. **He is sanctified through obedience.** 6T 350.1

21. What is the sign that God has given us? **Ezekiel 20:12**

Moreover also I _____ them my _____, to be a _____ between _____ and _____, that they might _____ that I am the _____ that _____ them.

Note: The Israelites placed over their doors a **signature of blood, to show that they were God's property.** So the children of God in this age will bear **the signature God has appointed.** They will place themselves in **harmony with God's holy law.** A **mark** is placed upon every one of God's people just as verily as a mark was placed over the doors of the Hebrew dwellings, to preserve the people from the general ruin. God declares, "I gave them my Sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them." When men say that the law of God is abrogated by the testimony of the Fathers, they are **teaching for doctrine the commandments of men.** Their word is not founded upon the teaching of the apostles and prophets. Jesus Christ is not the chief cornerstone of their structure. John says, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." Those who **permit themselves to be deceived** will, with the deceiver, feel the wrath of the Lamb. RH, February 6, 1900 par. 13

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With God's word before us, with the lesson of instruction we may there learn, there is no need for us to be deceived. We are living in a momentous period of this earth's history. The great conflict is just before us. We see the world corrupted under the inhabitants thereof. The man of sin has worked with a marvelous perseverance to exalt the spurious sabbath, and the disloyal Protestant world has wondered after the beast, and has called obedience to the Sabbath instituted by Jehovah disloyalty to the laws of the nations. Kingdoms have confederated to sustain a false sabbath institution, which has not a word of authority in the oracles of God. RH, February 6, 1900 par. 14

22. According to **Ezekiel 20:19,20** we see that the Sabbath is a sign that He is our God. I am the _____ your God; _____ in my _____, and _____ my judgments, and _____ them; And _____ my sabbaths; and they shall be a _____ between _____ and _____, that ye may _____ that I am the LORD _____ God.

Note: To us as to Israel the Sabbath is given "for a perpetual covenant." To those who reverence His holy day the Sabbath is a sign that God recognizes them as His chosen people. It is a pledge that He will fulfill to them His covenant. Every soul who **accepts the sign of God's government** places himself under the divine, everlasting covenant. **He fastens himself to the golden chain of obedience, every link of which is a promise.** 6T 350.2

The fourth commandment alone of all the ten contains the **seal** of the great Lawgiver, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Those who **obey** this commandment **take upon themselves His name**, and all the **blessings** it involves are theirs. 6T 350.3

The fourth commandment, which Rome has endeavored to set aside, is the **only** precept of the decalogue that **points to God as the Creator** of the heavens and the earth, and thus distinguishes the **true** God from all **false** gods. The Sabbath was instituted **to commemorate the work of creation**, and thus to direct the minds of men to the true and living God. The fact of his creative power is cited throughout the Scriptures as **proof** that the God of Israel is superior to heathen deities. **Had the Sabbath always been kept, man's thoughts and affections would have been led to his Maker as the object of reverence and worship, and there would never have been an idolater, an atheist, or an infidel.** 4SP 281.1

That institution which points to God as the Creator is a **sign of his rightful authority** over the beings he has made. 4SP 281.2

23. Where is the seal of God found? **Isaiah 8:16**

B_____ up the testimony, _____ the _____ among my _____.

Note: The Lord commands by the same prophet [Isaiah]: "Bind up the testimony, **seal** the law among My disciples." Isaiah 8:16. **The seal of God's law is found in the fourth commandment.** This only, of all the ten, brings to view both the **name** and the **title** of the Lawgiver. **It declares Him to be the Creator** of the heavens and the earth, and thus shows **His claim to reverence and worship** above all others. Aside from this precept, there is nothing in the Decalogue to show by whose **authority** the law is given. When the Sabbath was changed by the papal power, the seal was taken from the law. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to **restore** it by **exalting** the Sabbath of the fourth commandment to its **rightful position** as the **Creator's memorial and the sign of His authority.** GC 452.1

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