

Sabbath Worship in the Millennium

HERE IS SOMETHING that is not widely known. One of the things the New Testament makes clear is that right now, in the Church Age, people do not have to keep the Sabbath day holy. If you want to honor a day as being holy then you are free to do that, but if you don't then you are free to do that as well. We have the freedom to do as we please:

Romans 14:5: "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

6 He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks."

This is why it is no longer a sin to work on Saturday, or to mow your lawn on Saturday, or to buy and sell things on Saturday. In the Old Testament these actions were crimes punishable by death, but that is no longer the case. We now have freedom in this issue.

However, in the Millennial Kingdom things will be different. It appears that on the Sabbath, everyone will gather together to worship God. We find this interesting fact at the very end of Isaiah:

Isaiah 66:23: "And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord.

24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

The passage is pretty clear. From one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, "all flesh" will come and worship before God. Just to be clear, the Sabbath is a reference to *Saturday*, not Sunday. In the Church Age we are free to worship on any day that we please, but in the Millennial Kingdom the day of worship will apparently be Saturday.

Verse 24 is also quite startling. *All flesh* will gather together to worship God – and all flesh will also look upon the tormented souls in Hell, who are tormented day and night forever and ever. In other words, people will worship God and witness His holy judgment. Don't take my word for it – it's right there in the passage! You can read it for yourself.

It's certainly something to think about. We tend to forget that each dispensation has its own set of rules, and that some rules differ from dispensation to dispensation. This is yet another example of that. Before the Church Age men were required to keep the Sabbath holy. During the Church Age men were free to keep any day holy or to keep no day holy. During the Millennial Kingdom men will keep the Sabbath day as a day of worship. There are some rules that never change, but there are other rules that *do* change, and we need to be mindful of that.