HE SHALL COMMAND HIS BLESSING!

Lev 25:20 'And if you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in our produce?"

Lev 25:21 Then I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years.

In the book of Leviticus God told Moses to let the Promised Land rest every seventh year. This was called a sabbatical year. This mirrored the weekly sabbath in which God's people rested from all their labor. These in turn were the mirror of the sabbath rest of God after His days of creation. God did all the work and then rested.

- Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.
- Gen 2:3 Then God <u>blessed</u> the seventh day and <u>sanctified</u> it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

He blessed the seventh day and sanctified it. This was to show that God's blessing and sanctification takes place when we rest in the work of God! God created man in the sixth day. He consecrated the seventh day and proclaimed it a day of rest. God had Adam rest in the seventh day. On the sixth day God gave Adam a job to do but it would not start until He first rested on the seventh day in God's works! Adam rested the first full day after His creation! It was from rest that Adam would work.

As God rested from his work and as man rested from his work, he desired that the land also rest every seventh year. This would take faith in the part of those who farmed to do this. They would have to put their total trust in God in providing for them if they did not sow or reap in the seventh year. In not planting any crops in the seventh year there would actually be no food available for two full years! There would be no food the seventh year and in the eighth year the crops that were planted would not come up until the end of the eighth year. To obey this command of God it would take complete and utter trust upon God. God told His people that if they would trust Him in this that He would command His blessing upon them in the sixth year's harvest and it would be so abundant it would provide enough for three years! It would cover the two years they would have nothing and spill over into the third year and He would give them abundance even in the third year!

I want you to see that God would command His blessing upon His people on the sixth year and not on the seventh when they actually refrained from the planting of their crops. God would bless them in advance for obedience of faith. God would bless them in advance for the faith that He saw in them <u>in the sixth year</u>. Faith is seen not only in actions but also in words. Let's look closely at Lev. 25:20:

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God said that IF you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, SINCE WE SHALL not sow or gather in our produce? This question was not unbelief. They just wanted to know what God would provide for them to eat if they did not sow crops. This actually was a statement of faith when they said they would not sow or gather their own produce. If the people of God would say in faith that THEY WOULD NOT sow then God would command His blessing upon them in the sixth year's harvest and provide a three year harvest in one year! The words of faith out of our mouth release the blessing of God to bring them into manifestation! Our words of faith do not make God do anything! They just release faith in what God has already provided through Jesus! When this happens the blessing is released!

The Sabbath rest was a shadow and type of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ did all the work for God in our behalf by His perfect life and perfect death. God through Christ performed all the work necessary to provide redemption from sin, sickness, poverty, and any and all curses from the enemy. After Jesus died on the cross He ascended and sat down! His work is a finished work! He did the work so we can cease from our labors in trying to deserve or obtain them by our work and production. Many even try to use "faith" to get God to deliver, heal, and prosper them! Faith becomes labor when it is used in trying to get God to move for them! True faith is ceasing from striving and struggling for God's blessings and simply receiving them with thanksgiving. When you think that your own effort, work, merit, or even faith is necessary in getting God to give you what you desire then you cannot rest. Your eyes are on you and your works instead of on Jesus and His finished work that has provided all that you need. God blessed and sanctified the seventh day. God's blessing is found in resting in Jesus and

His finished work for us. Trusting completely in Jesus Christ's merits alone will tap into the blessing of God that will overflow your life. It will come upon you and overtake you. God commands His blessing upon those who speak their faith in His grace. Saying in faith, "I am healed by the finished work of Christ", taps into His blessing of healing. Saying in faith, "I am redeemed from sin and bondage because of Jesus blood shed for me", will tap into His sanctification. Saying in faith, "I am prosperous and all my needs are met by God's riches in Christ", will tap into those very riches! Just saying these words in itself does nothing! It is when we actually believe in these words when we speak that matters and has power. This will come by mediating on what Jesus did for us and provided for us at the cross. Faith will come by the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

In is important to note that when you place your trust in Jesus Christ being your Sabbath then God will command His blessing upon you in advance on the **sixth** day. Six is the number for man and for weakness in the Bible. The sixth day was the last day of the work week when people were the weakest! It was the day that people were the most tired! It is on your sixth day (your lowest and weakest point) that He will pour out His blessing upon you and turn your bondage to freedom. It is on your sixth day (your lowest and weakest point) that he will turn sickness to wholeness. It is on your sixth day (your lowest and weakest point) that He will fill up your lack to the point that it overflows your need.

Complete trust in the work of Christ necessitates also a complete abandonment of all your own merit, ability, or effort to obtain from God.

Lev 25:20 'And if you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in <u>OUR</u> produce?"

God said that He would command His blessing if His people would say in faith that they <u>WOULD NOT</u> sow nor gather in <u>THEIR OWN</u> produce. Your production will never bring the blessing of God. Only God's own production through Jesus Christ will command His blessing and sanctification upon you. God said He would bless the obedience of His people in letting the land rest. This would require an obedience of FAITH. The obedience that releases the blessing of God is the obedience OF FAITH in God's finished work in Jesus Christ.

You do not have to wait until every seventh year or seventh day to receive this blessing. The Sabbath is not a year or day. The Sabbath is the Lord Jesus Christ!

Col 2:16 Therefore let no one sit in judgment on you in matters of food and drink, or with regard to a feast day or a New Moon or a <u>Sabbath</u>.
Col 2:17 Such [things] are only the shadow of things that are to come, and they have only a symbolic value. <u>But the reality (the substance, the solid fact of what is foreshadowed, the body of it) belongs to Christ.</u>

Jesus Christ is the Sabbath of God! He is our rest. You can experience the rest of God right now! You can experience God's blessing right now! God's blessing is found in His Son. God's sanctification is found in His Son. If you will not sow or reap your own production and rest in God's then the blessing of God will be upon you richly! God has commanded His blessing upon you!