



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Leviticus 25	Title:	Do you trust me?
Author	Ps Steve Tan		
Summary of Chapter	In this chapter, the Lord gives the Israelites 2 commands. The first one is to observe the Sabbath Year, which ordains the land to have a year of sabbath rest in the seventh year. There shall be no sowing, pruning, and reaping. The second command is to observe the Year of Jubilee, one in every fifty years, which is a time of liberation and restoration, when debts are cancelled, all leased or mortgaged lands were to be returned to their original owners, and all slaves and bonded laborers were to be freed.		

Key Verse(s) NIV	How does it speak to me?
<i>²¹ I will send you such a blessing in the sixth year that the land will yield enough for three years. ²² While you plant during the eighth year, you will eat from the old crop and will continue to eat from it until the harvest of the ninth year comes in. ²³ The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.</i>	<p>Essentially, when God decrees the Sabbath Year, He is asking the Israelites this question every seven years, "Do you trust me? Do you trust that the harvest in the sixth year will be extraordinary and bountiful, enough for 3 years?" The way to prove this trust, is not to sow, prune and reap for an entire year, while letting the land rests.</p> <p>This would require faith. If we are the Israelites, we would probably be worried. Without work, how will we maintain and not affect our lifestyle? Perhaps we should start investing or saving up now for the seventh year?</p> <p>God wants us to know that He has got our backs. We should stop worrying, but rest and trust in His provision. However, taking a rest is difficult. We live in a culture that values work and activity and undervalues taking time to be renewed and refreshed.</p> <p>During this unprecedented time, many of us may be worrying about our daily lives. Some may have lost their jobs or businesses. Others may be troubled by the fluctuations of the stock market, or the depreciation of our assets. Let's remember that it is God alone, who will deliver provision and blessing. Let's trust and find rest in Him.</p> <p>Jeremiah 17:7-8 says, "⁷ Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. ⁸ They will be like a tree planted by the water... It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."</p> <p>The Lord also reminds us in Leviticus 25:23 that the land belongs to Him, and we are just sojourners on earth. Let's not become too settled and sold ourselves to slavery to this world. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let us not get so busy making a living, that we forget to make a life - a life that glorifies and rest in God.</p>

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	When is the last time you had a sabbatical break? Since overseas holidays is not possible this December, consider taking a 1-week sabbatical to rest in God's presence.
Youth:	Will you rest in the Lord during Sabbath this week, by unplugging from technology and social media?
Child:	Do you trust in Jesus? Cut out a paper cross and use it as a bookmark to remind yourself to put your trust in Jesus every time you see it. You may find the instructions at: https://www.cutoutfoldup.com/118-cut-out-a-cross-with-one-straight-cut.php

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear Heavenly Father, thank You that even during these troubled times, we can trust You in Your provision, and we can find rest in You. Help us to cast all our worries away, because blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. I pray that You will bless all who are in need today, and Your shalom peace will be with them and give them rest.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.