

Chapter 31

- 31:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
31:2 See, I have called by name
Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah:
31:3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge,
and in all manner of workmanship,
31:4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,
31:5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.
31:6 And I, behold, I have given with him
Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan:
and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted
I have put wisdom,
that they may make all that I have commanded thee;
31:7 The tabernacle of the congregation, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is thereupon,
and all the furniture of the tabernacle,
31:8 And the table and his furniture, and the pure candlestick with all his furniture, and the altar of incense,
31:9 And the altar of burnt offering with all his furniture, and the laver and his foot,
31:10 And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to
minister in the priest's office,
31:11 And the anointing oil, and sweet incense for the holy place:
according to all that I have commanded thee shall they do.
- 31:12 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying,
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.
31:14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you:
every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death:
for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.
31:15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD:
whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.
question: *Why?*
answer: *This would have been a person's way of saying that he was equal to God, and that he could decide the number of days that work should be done before a rest period was to be set in the order of service to the LORD. This man would be saying that, he had the right to rise to the level of God, and that he has the innate wisdom that allows him to work in a way that is exalting of himself, and not, of God. Only God can establish the rules of the Sabbath . . . and only God can rewrite the rules of the Sabbath. And it is my hunch that, God will only rewrite the rules of the Sabbath when it becomes necessary for mankind to have a way to perform a new thing; a thing into which it has been placed by the continual unfolding of God. For instance; a rewrite might be in order at that point in history at which mankind is being pushed to grow to such a state that, in the LORD, this level of regulation will be something that it can, then, handle.*
It is a definite fact that, we need to have periodic rest from the things of the world. It is also a definite fact that, we need regulated communion with the LORD. The Sabbath leads us in the proper performance of both of those activities. For that reason, the Sabbath was rigidly enforced, in that day--with continuing rigidity across history, until we had the spirit to continue in these activities, in doing them as a habit of worship that comes from within our self's dedication to the principles of the LORD.
- 31:16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath,

to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

31:17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever:

for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth,
and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

31:18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai,
two tables of testimony, tables of stone,
written with the finger of God.