

Made to Grow:
Sabbath's Provision in Creation
Genesis 1-3

How do we stop the compulsory tyranny of modern life's busyness and carve margin for what matters most in life?

God's original life-vision for his people as creation-heirs gave them a choice between two mutually exclusive ways of life:

- I. We can live life as a gift to be gratefully accepted and carefully cultivated: Alignment with the Word dependent on God's grace – what God wants (Genesis 1-2).
 - a. Six days of creation: God's work provides the goods necessary for life.
 - b. Seventh day: God's rest provides the context to prioritize the right use of his goods.AP: The gifts of creation, life, human consciousness and relationships, work, God.

- II. We can live life as an entitlement to be forcefully grasped and selfishly exploited: Power defiance to fulfill my self-serving desires – what I want (Genesis 3).
 - a. Entitlement: when we choose our will over God's.
 - b. Enslavement: the result of our corrupted priorities.AP: The abuse of creation, life, human consciousness and relationships, work, God.

**Sabbath is God's provision of sanctified time
to make sure we use the good he provides the right way.
It is a tragedy when you spend your whole life climbing the ladder to reach the top
only to discover you placed it against the wrong wall.**

- 1. Gratitude and contentment are good markers that reveal how you see God's provisions in your life. When we realize life is a gift to be cherished and not an entitlement to be grasped, our heart is finally able to rest in God's grace. How restless are you today? Start thanking God for your blessings and see what happens to your heart.
- 2. Are you building margin in your daily schedule to reflect on the right use of God's goods? If you are maxed out, perhaps it is time to declutter your schedule and say no to the things that matter less to say yes to the things that matter most.
- 3. What areas of your life under the tyranny of your personal wants are keeping you from being obedient to God's will? The enemy loves to give cheap substitutes to replace God's will in our lives.