



LEVITICUS 25:8-22



24.03.2024

SP Lawrence Chua

Liberty, Family and Property

PART 4



LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

The Year of Jubilee

- 8** 'And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

⁹ Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement, you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

¹⁰And you shall **consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants.** It shall be a Jubilee for you; and **each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

¹¹ That **fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you;**
in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own
accord, nor gather the grapes of
your untended vine. **¹²** For it is the Jubilee;
it shall be holy to you; **you shall eat its
produce from the field.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

¹³ 'In this Year of Jubilee, **each of you shall return to his possession.** ¹⁴ And if you sell anything to your neighbour or buy from your neighbour's hand, you shall not oppress one another.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

15 According to the number of years after the Jubilee you shall buy from your neighbour, and according to the number of years of crops he shall sell to you.

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

16 According to the multitude of years you shall increase its price, and according to the fewer number of years you shall diminish its price; for he sells to you according to the number of the years of the crops. **17 Therefore you shall not oppress one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

¹⁸ ‘So you shall **observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them**; and you will dwell in the land in safety. ¹⁹ **Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill, and dwell there in safety.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

²⁰ ‘And if you say, “What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in our produce?” ²¹ Then **I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years.**

LEVITICUS 25:8-22 (NKJV)

²² And you shall sow in the eighth year, and eat old produce until the ninth year; until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest.

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- **7 Jan 2024: Jubilee Series Part 1**
- **28 Jan 2024: Jubilee Series Part 2**
- **18 Feb 2024: Jubilee Series Part 3**

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- **Firstly, the year of Jubilee stretches over the entire year.**

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- **Firstly, the year of Jubilee stretches over the entire year.**
 - **keep the theme fresh throughout the year by visiting it less frequently**

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- Secondly, home speakers to explore the Jubilee theme.

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- Secondly, home speakers to explore the Jubilee theme.
- Thirdly, to accommodate Pastor Benny Ho on 21 January 2024.

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- Secondly, home speakers to explore the Jubilee theme.
- Thirdly, to accommodate Pastor Benny Ho on 21 January 2024.
- Fourthly, other speaking engagements in Church and outside the Church.

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- 18 Feb 2024
- 23 Feb 2024
- 2 Mar 2024: Half-day seminar at Hope Church on Community Pastoring
- 5 Mar 2024: Gave a Devotion at LSBC Staff Retreat, HCMC

Introduction

a) Sense of disjointedness

- 16 Mar 2024: Welcome speech with a message at FAME Club Family Day
- 21 Mar 2024: Ministers Int'l Fellowship Singapore Consultation
- 23 Mar 2024: Worship Service at Good Gifts City Church

Introduction

b) Sermons with distinct lessons

- About our series: each sermon should carry distinct lessons.

c) Summary of lessons learned

Main Points

1. **Liberty:** reaffirming our freedom; releasing and resetting
2. **Property:** returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place
3. **Family:** returning to family; restoring relationships



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Leviticus context of possession and land

LEVITICUS 25:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰And you shall **consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants.** It shall be a Jubilee for you; and **each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **people who had left or lost their possession of land before Jubilee**
- **place of residence and place of livelihood**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **teaching in Leviticus 25:10 is nevertheless relevant to us**
 - **our land, our world, is facing existential crisis**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **Ownership and possession of land at 3 levels:**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **Ownership and possession of land at 3 levels:**
 - **Firstly, micro level as in our place of residence.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **Ownership and possession of land at 3 levels:**
 - **Firstly, micro level as in our place of residence.**
 - **Secondly, macro level as in our country as citizens.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- **Ownership and possession of land at 3 levels:**
 - **Thirdly, global level as in our earth as shared humanity.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- Ownership and possession of land at 3 levels:
 - **Thirdly, global level as in our earth as shared humanity.**
 - **we are in danger to losing our place in relation to the earth**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ God's care for the earth and for mankind

- I am not giving a lecture on ESG (environmental, social and governance).
- God is central.



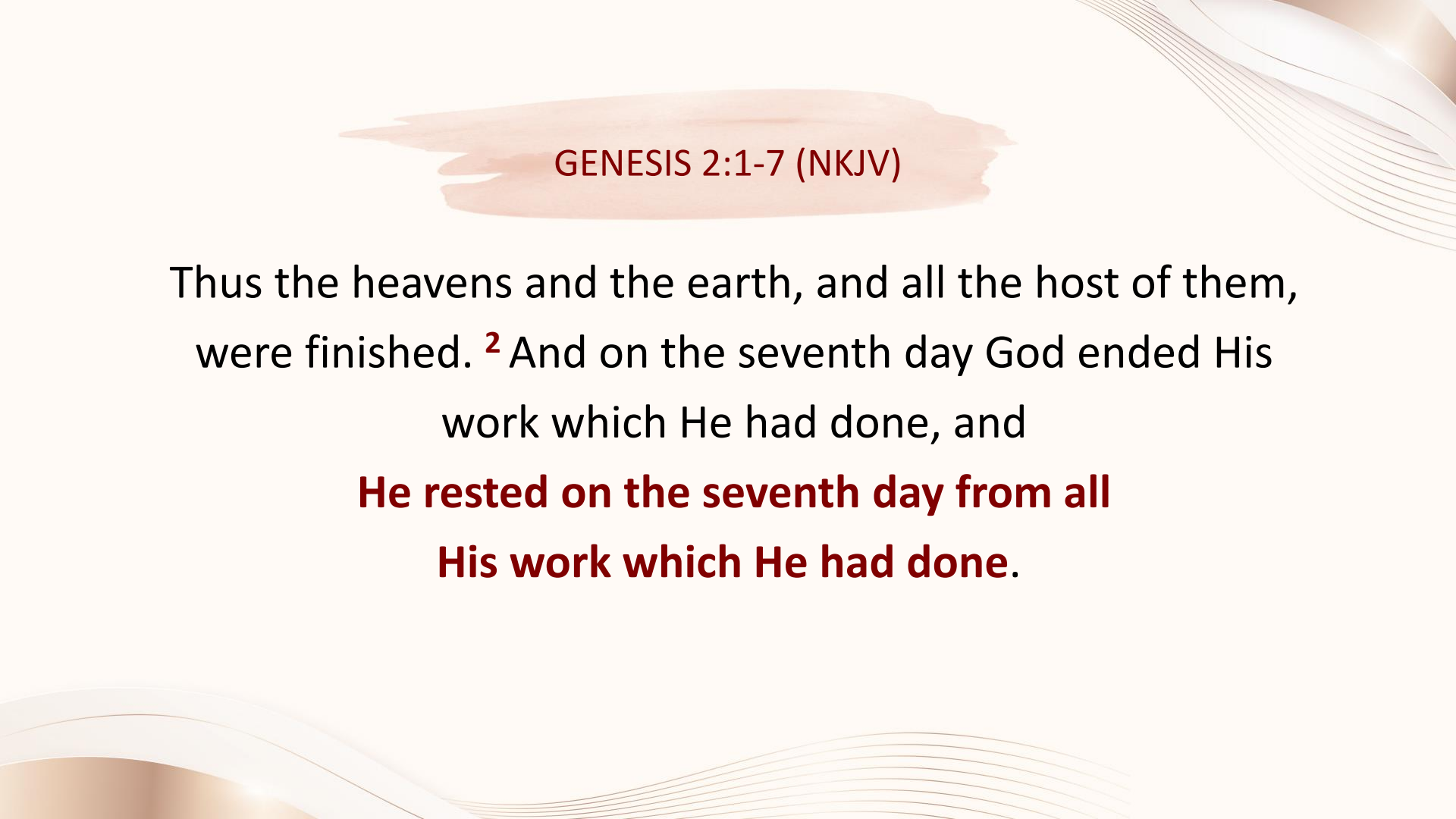
returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
 - **God rested from all His work which God had created and made.**



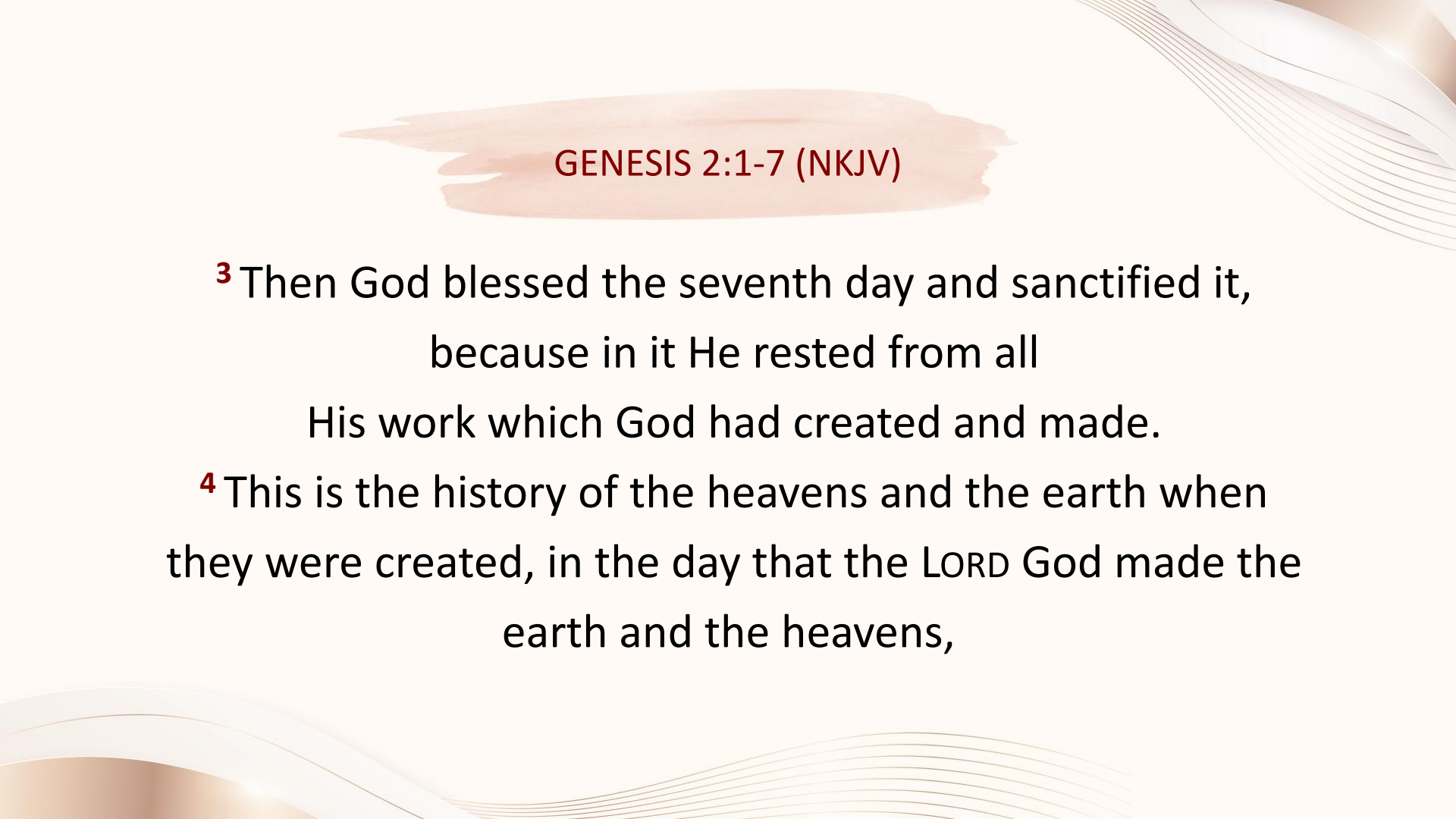
returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
 - **God rested from all His work which God had created and made.**
 - **God continued to work to beautify the earth and to sustain the earth with rain and sunshine.**

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GENESIS 2:1-7 (NKJV)

Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them,
were finished. 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.**



GENESIS 2:1-7 (NKJV)

³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it,
because in it He rested from all
His work which God had created and made.

⁴ This is the history of the heavens and the earth when
they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the
earth and the heavens,

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GENESIS 2:1-7 (NKJV)

⁵ before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground;

GENESIS 2:1-7 (NKJV)

⁶ but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground. ⁷ And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
 - **God is still at work today.**
 - **He holds all creation together.**

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COLOSSIANS 1:15-17 (NLT)

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.
He existed before anything was created and **is supreme
over all creation,**

COLOSSIANS 1:15-17 (NLT)

¹⁶ for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see - such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. **Everything was created through him and for him.**

COLOSSIANS 1:15-17 (NLT)

¹⁷ **He existed before anything else, and He holds all creation together.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ God's care for the earth and for mankind
- Man must do the work of caring for God's creation.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
- **Man must do the work of caring for God's creation.**
- **perfect order**

GENESIS 1:26-28 (NKJV)

Then God said, “Let Us **make man** in Our image, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, **over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.**”



GENESIS 1:26-28 (NKJV)

²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
- **Dominion means take charge, be responsible for.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
 - **Dominion means take charge, be responsible for.**
 - **work to be done by man**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
 - **Dominion means take charge, be responsible for.**
 - **work to be done by man**
 - **Things were created by God for man's enjoyment and use.**

GENESIS 1:29-31 (NKJV)

And God said, “See, **I have given you** every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you **it shall be for food.**



GENESIS 1:29-31 (NKJV)

³⁰ Also, **to every beast** of the earth, to **every bird** of the air, and to **everything that creeps** on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every **green herb for food**"; and it was so. ³¹ Then **God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
- **ecology of man and the earth was in perfect order**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **God's care for the earth and for mankind**
- **ecology of man and the earth was in perfect order**
- **Man has a rightful place in God's earth.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**
- **His work common grace for the benefit of mankind and the earth.**

MATTHEW 5:44-45 (NKJV)

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,



MATTHEW 5:44-45 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ that you may be sons of **your Father in heaven**; for **He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**





returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**

- **be more aware**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**

- **be more aware**
- **more appreciative of God's common grace**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**

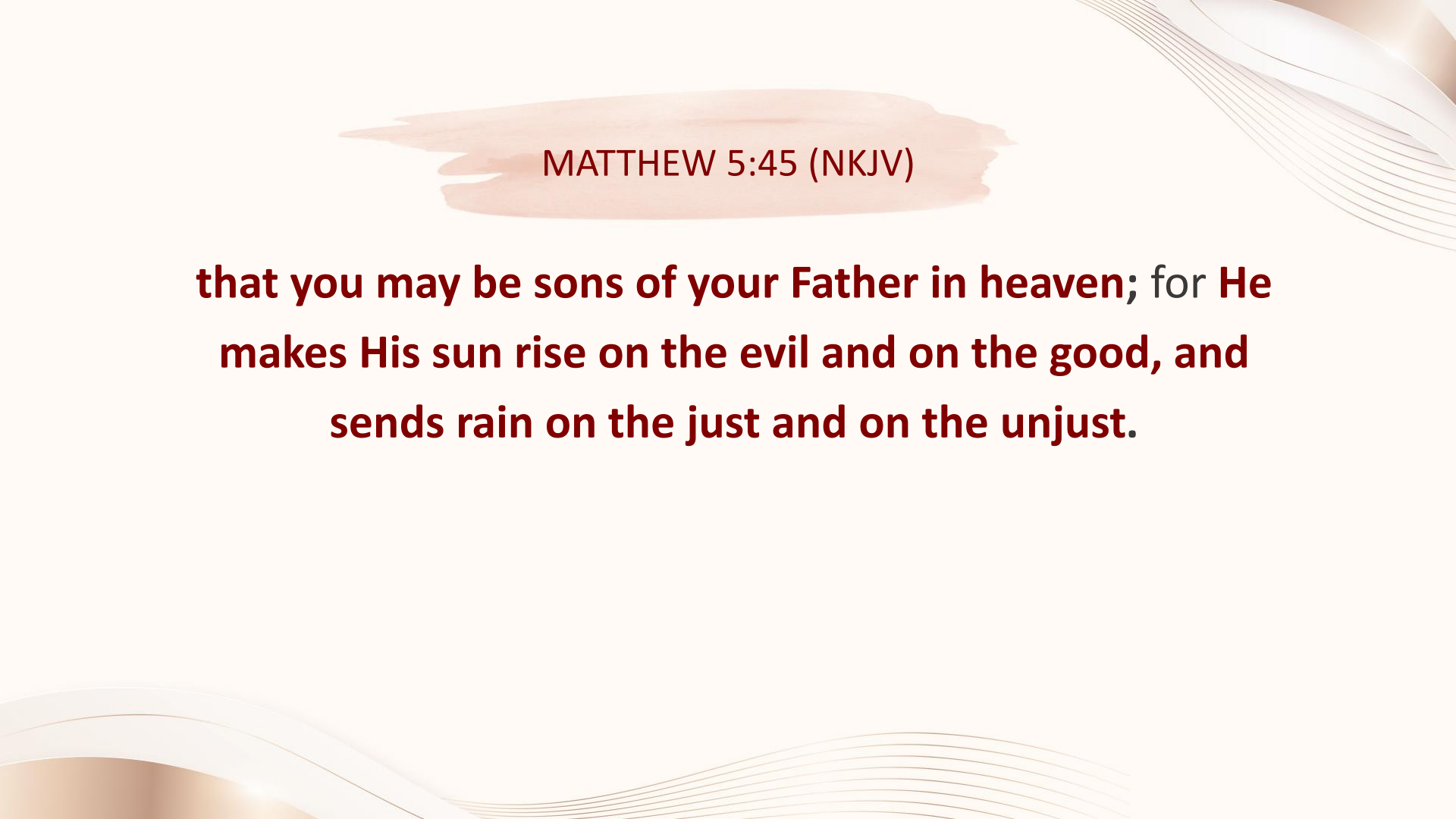
- **be more aware**
- **more appreciative of God's common grace**
- **be God centric in our thinking and world view**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

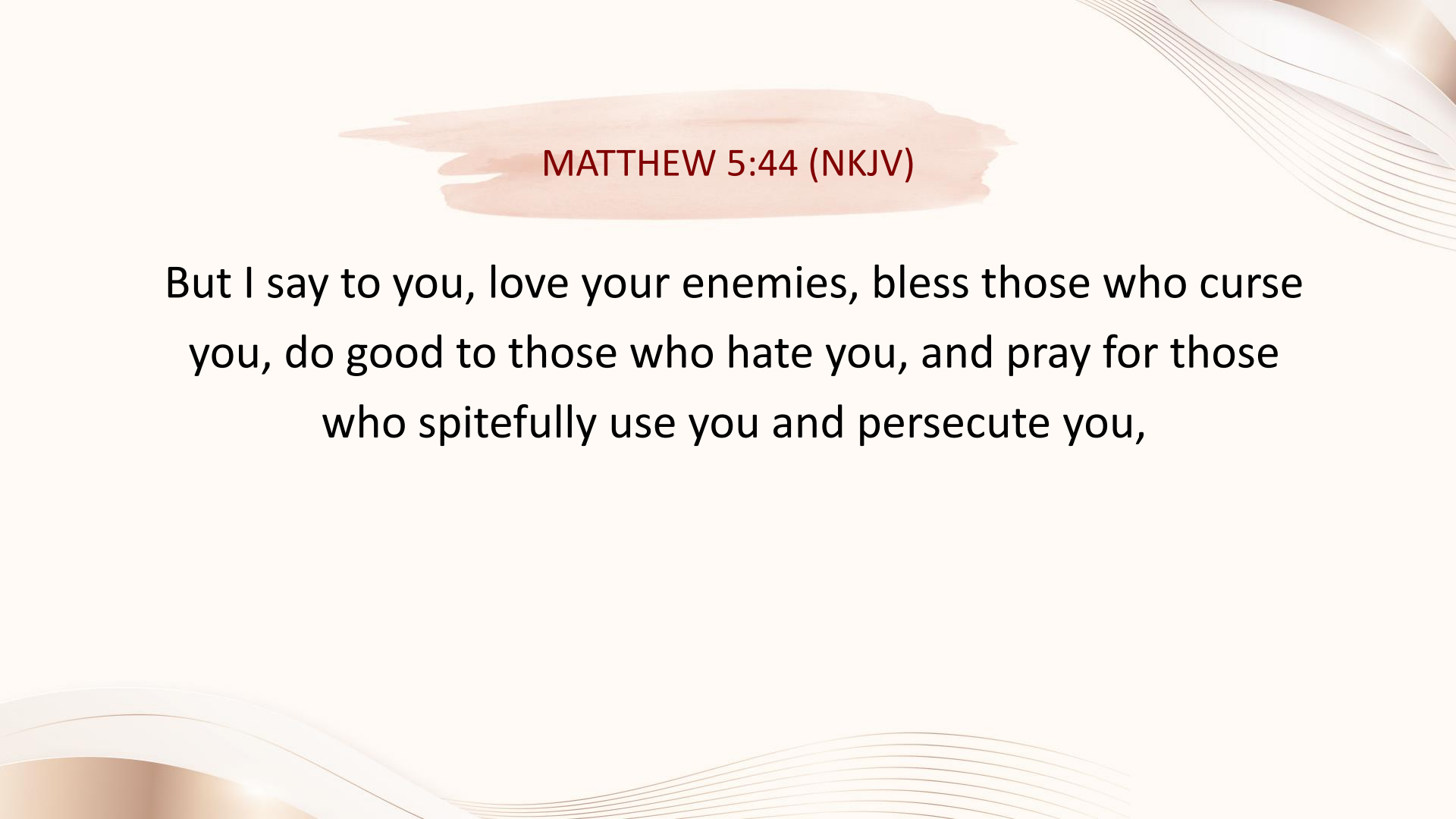
❖ **How has God fared in His continuing work of sustaining the earth**

- **be like God**
- **more generous and gracious**

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MATTHEW 5:45 (NKJV)

that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

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MATTHEW 5:44 (NKJV)

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Drawing comfort from God's creation care**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Drawing comfort from God's creation care

- The spiritual take-away you must not miss is God cares for you deeply!



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ Drawing comfort from God's creation care
- put in a comforting way in Matthew 10:29
 - God values for us.

MATTHEW 10:29-31 (NKJV)

Are not two **sparrows** sold for a copper coin? And **not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will.**

³⁰ But the **very hairs of your head are all numbered.** ³¹ Do not fear therefore; **you are of more value than many sparrows.**

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1 PETER 5:7 (AMPC)

Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for

**He cares for you affectionately and
cares about you watchfully**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Deep connection between earth and mankind**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Deep connection between earth and mankind

- Leviticus 25:10 teaching is related to God's care for the earth and mankind.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Deep connection between earth and mankind

- Leviticus 25:10 teaching is related to God's care for the earth and mankind.
- very clear in Deuteronomy 11:11-12

DEUTERONOMY 11:11-12 (NKJV)

but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven, ¹² **a**

land for which the LORD

your God cares; the **eyes of the LORD your God are always on it,** from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **Deep connection between earth and mankind**
- God applied the Sabbath law to both the land and to man



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Deep connection between earth and mankind**

- God applied the Sabbath law to both the land and to man
- Jubilee-sabbath: give rest to the earth and to mankind



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Deep connection between earth and mankind**

- God applied the Sabbath law to both the land and to man
- Jubilee-sabbath: give rest to the earth and to mankind
- The link between land and man is that the land is needed to feed man.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**

- greatest threat to mankind's existence today, are caused by human activity rather than nature acting alone



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**
 - climate change
 - loss of biodiversity
 - **desertification, also known as land degradation**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**
- **intensive agriculture and overgrazing of livestock**
- **real estate development and climate change**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**
- One of the biggest challenges: people need to eat.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself**
- One of the biggest challenges: people need to eat.
- **world does not have a good track record for sustainable agriculture practice**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ The world is quietly losing the land it needs to feed itself
- carbon dioxide equivalent released from soil disturbance



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **Humans have lost their place in, and their link to, the land**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **Humans have lost their place in, and their link to, the land**
 - One reason the problem of land degradation has been largely ignored might be that humans have lost their link to the land.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ Humans have lost their place in, and their link to, the land
- “The truth is, soil is literally at the root of many pressing national security challenges we face.”



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Existential crisis confronting our children

“School Strike for Climate”





returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Existential crisis confronting our children**

- **God was aware of such issues 4,000 years ago and set down the Levitical code and Jubilee principles to address these issues in a preventive way.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Existential crisis confronting our children**

- if man follow God's principles of managing the land, the crisis we face today would not have arisen in the first place

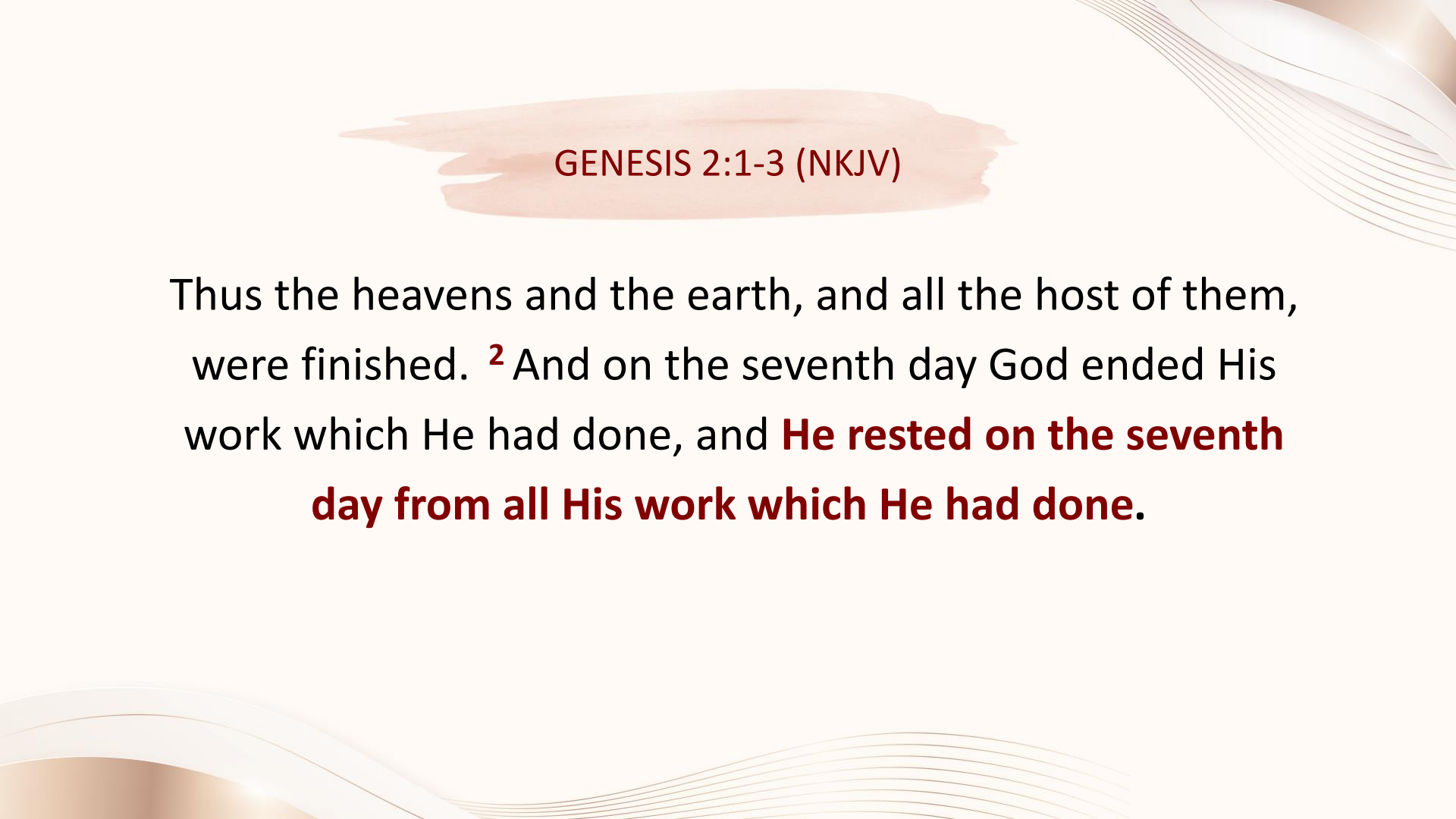


returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Jubilee rest for the land: Law of Sabbaths

LEVITICUS 25:11-12 (NKJV)

¹¹ That **fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you;**
in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own
accord, nor gather the grapes of
your untended vine. ¹² For it is the Jubilee;
it shall be holy to you; **you shall eat its
produce from the field.**

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GENESIS 2:1-3 (NKJV)

Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 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.**

GENESIS 2:1-3 (NKJV)

³ Then **God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work** which God had created and made.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Jubilee rest for the land: Law of Sabbaths**

- describes God's rest
- The word sabbath is not used here and nothing is said about man's rest.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

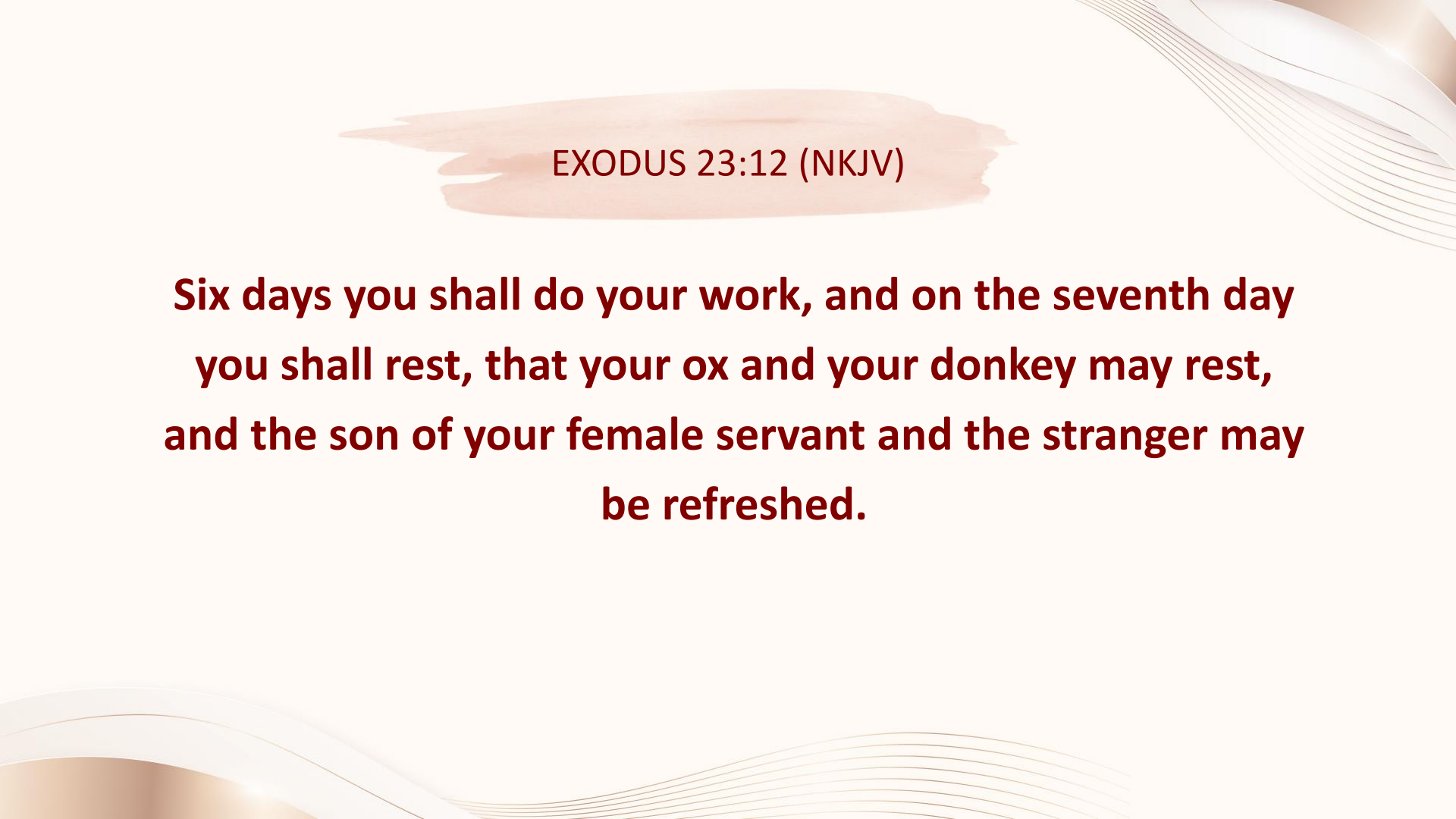
❖ **Jubilee rest for the land: Law of Sabbaths**

- describes God's rest
- The word sabbath is not used here and nothing is said about man's rest.
- Exodus 23 – God laid down the law of two types of Sabbaths.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Sabbath day

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EXODUS 23:12 (NKJV)

**Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day
you shall rest, that your ox and your donkey may rest,
and the son of your female servant and the stranger may
be refreshed.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath day**

- God cares for the family of the female slaves



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath day**

- God cares for the family of the female slaves
- benefit ox and donkeys



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath day**

- God cares for the family of the female slaves
- benefit ox and donkeys
- God cares for strangers in the land



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath day**

- **weekly sabbath day is still applicable to us**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath day**

- **weekly sabbath day is still applicable to us**
- **Jesus has taught us that the spirit of sabbath is more important.**

MATTHEW 12:1-8 (NKJV)

At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. And His disciples were hungry, and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat.

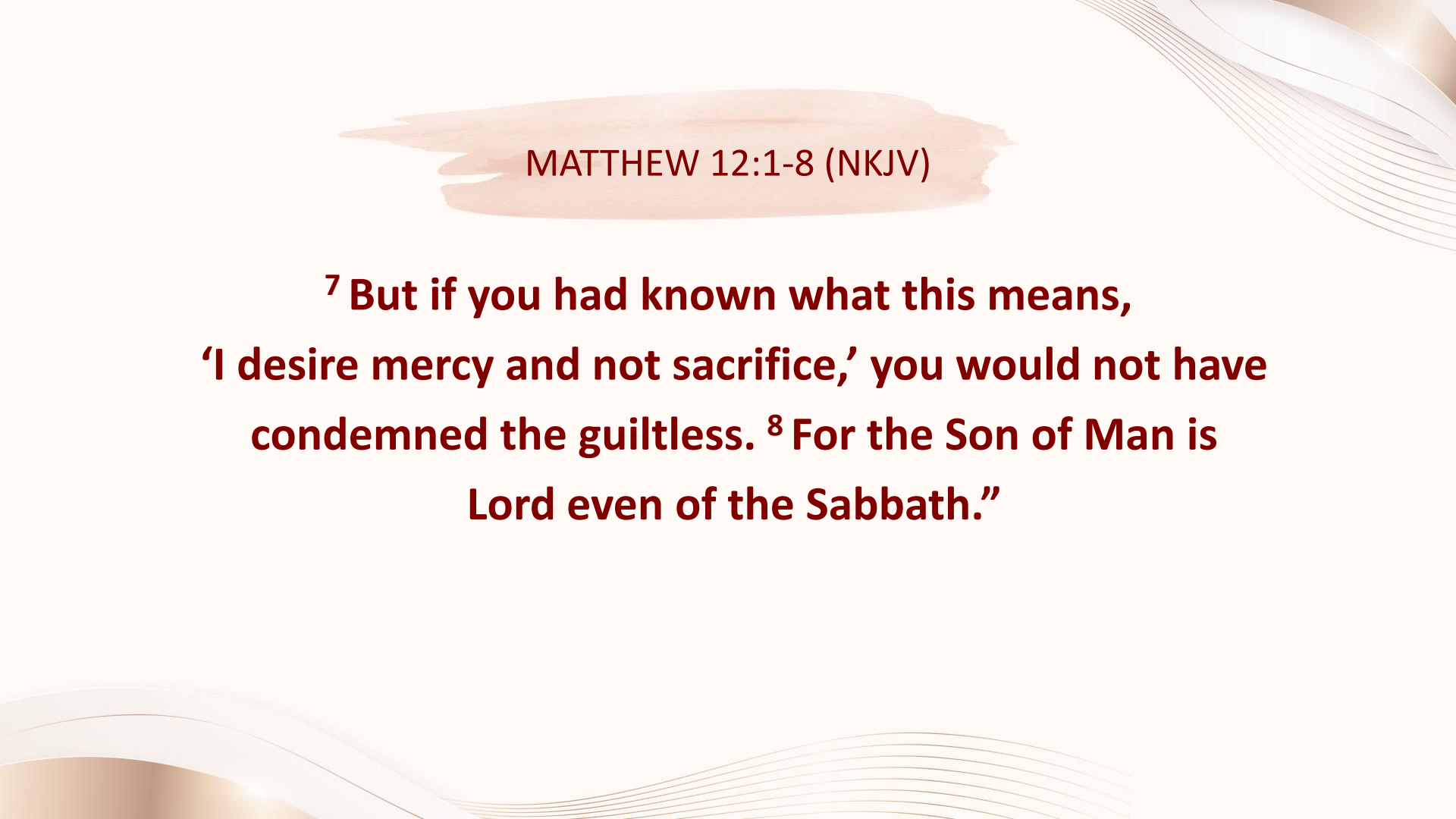
² And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, “Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!”

MATTHEW 12:1-8 (NKJV)

³ But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: ⁴ how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests?

MATTHEW 12:1-8 (NKJV)

⁵ Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? ⁶ Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple.

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MATTHEW 12:1-8 (NKJV)

**⁷ But if you had known what this means,
'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have
condemned the guiltless. ⁸ For the Son of Man is
Lord even of the Sabbath."**

MATTHEW 12:10-13 (NKJV)

... behold, there was a man who had a withered hand.
And they asked Him, saying, **“Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”** -that they might accuse Him. ¹¹ Then He said to them, “What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out?

MATTHEW 12:10-13 (NKJV)

¹² Of how much more value than is a man than a sheep?

Therefore, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” ¹³

Then He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Sabbath day

- **It is** lawful to do good for others on the Sabbath.
- **Practice flexibility** too in observing Sabbath on Sunday.
- **other centric** and not self-centred



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Sabbath year

EXODUS 23:10-11 (NKJV)

“Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its produce, ¹¹ but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow, that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave, the beasts of the field may eat. In like manner you shall do with your vineyard and your olive grove.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- His care and compassion for poor people and for beasts of the fields.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- His care and compassion for poor people and for beasts of the fields.
- His care for the land.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Sabbath year

- His care and compassion for poor people and for beasts of the fields.
- His care for the land.
- ecological disaster unfolding before us is caused by man and not by God



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Sabbath year

- excessive-consumption depleted the earth of natural produce: nutrient of the earth, fish in the oceans, habitats in the forest and animals in the wild



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- natural rejuvenation & consumption restraint
- goal is sustainability
- God of relevance



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- **futuristic God**
- **Always ahead of our time!**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- **Rest for the land is for two reasons:**
 - **Firstly, land to be rejuvenated.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- **Rest for the land is for two reasons:**
 - **Firstly, land to be rejuvenated.**
 - **Secondly, reduce human consumption.**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- human beings have overworked the land causing a severe depletion of soil nutrient and ultimately causing death to the land



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ **Sabbath year**

- **human beings have overworked the land causing a severe depletion of soil nutrient and ultimately causing death to the land**
- **over farming in every sector of industry**



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

❖ Jubilee extended rest for the land

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LEVITICUS 23:8, 10-12 (NKJV)

⁸ ‘And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.

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LEVITICUS 23:8, 10-12 (NKJV)

10 And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim
liberty throughout all the land
to all its inhabitants ...

LEVITICUS 23:8, 10-12 (NKJV)

¹¹That **fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you;**
in it **you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of its own**
accord, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine. ¹²

For it is the Jubilee;
it shall be holy to you; you shall eat its
produce from the field.



returning to possession; reclaiming your rightful place

- ❖ **Jubilee extended rest for the land**
 - **Jubilee rest for the land**
 - **two years in every 50 years**
 - **a prolonged rest for the land**

Conclusion

- **The spiritual take-away you must not miss is
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- **put in a comforting way in
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- **God values us**

MATTHEW 10:29-31 (NKJV)

Are not two **sparrows** sold for a copper coin? And **not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will.**

³⁰ But the **very hairs of your head are all numbered.** ³¹ Do not fear therefore; **you are of more value than many sparrows.**

The background features a light cream color with decorative wavy lines in a pale gold or beige tone, primarily along the top and bottom edges. A soft, horizontal brushstroke in a muted reddish-pink hue is positioned behind the title text.

1 PETER 5:7 (AMPC)

Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for

**He cares for you affectionately and
cares about you watchfully**