



Everyday FAITH Family Page

Fear, Love & Trust

Law/Gospel

At the dedication of the temple, Solomon prayed that the people would be true to God and obey His Word, for they often failed to listen to God’s Word and instead sinfully grumbled against God and worshiped idols. I, too, often fail to hold God’s Word sacred and gladly hear and learn it. **Jesus, the Word made flesh, taught and lived God’s Word perfectly on my behalf and then went to the cross to suffer and die in payment for my sins. He is the new temple where forgiveness is found.**

Take-Home Point

God commands that I learn His Word.

Bible Words

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! Psalm 95:6

From the Catechism The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Solomon Builds and Dedicates the Temple

1 Kings 6–8

As a spiritual and political leader for the people of Israel, King Solomon oversaw the construction and dedication of the Lord’s temple. Investing many resources and hours of labor, David’s son modeled God-pleasing reverence for the Lord God. At the temple dedication, Solomon exhorted the people to keep God’s commandments.

These efforts suggest that Solomon and his people had great fervor and dedication to the Lord. And yet, not so many years later, Solomon let his pagan wives lead him to worship other gods, even those who demanded child sacrifice. And the Israelites, far from making every effort to preach, learn, and support the Word of God, usually put God second at best, or worse, disregarded Him altogether.

We struggle to keep this commandment too. We fail to teach the Bible to our children. We give countless hours to career, friends, and recreation, but fail to take time for Bible study. We participate in worship sporadically, busy with other prioritized tasks. We reflect this same lack of priority in our stewardship of God’s gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We feebly support the preaching of the Gospel but invest eagerly in personal pleasures.

Like the Israelites, our efforts pale in comparison to our Lord’s redemptive work for us. Jesus did not merely preach the Word; He kept it and fulfilled it for us. More than a perfect High Priest, Christ sacrificed Himself for our sins. He shed His blood to wash sinners clean of sin and to present the Church holy and righteous before God.

Prayer

Lord, give us hunger and thirst for Your Word and Sacraments. Satisfy us with Your holy food and keep us in the one true faith. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

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