

Look Forward To The Lord's Day

When you think about it, it really can be a long way from one Sunday to the next. As busy as we are, a week seems to go by rather quickly -- but spiritually there are so many temptations, difficulties and discouragements in a week's time, we ought to be glad there are not more than six days between Sundays! And considering the toll that each week takes on us spiritually, we ought to look forward to the Lord's day. Sunday is a true "oasis" in the often dry desert of our weekly routine. What we do on this day are much more than duties and responsibilities. They are privileges and blessings.

A part of what we ought to look forward to is the "mutual" aspect of what happens on the first day of the week. When Paul wrote to his brethren in Rome, expecting to visit them soon, he said, *"For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me"* (Romans 1:11-12). As an apostle, Paul obviously had some encouragement he could give the church in Rome. But he also looked forward to being encouraged by them. It was mutual and so it ought to be with us. Such encouragement is not limited to Sunday, of course, but when we are together on the Lord's day, we should encourage our brethren and be encouraged by them. This mutual encouragement is not only essential, but it is something we ought to look forward to very much. In order to help us look forward to this much-needed day of refreshment, each day this week, consider the following thoughts:

- **Monday:** Look forward to observing the Lord's Supper and communing with the Lord (Acts 20:6-12; 1 Corinthians 10:16).
- **Tuesday:** Look forward to giving cheerfully of our means (1 Corinthians 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7).
- **Wednesday:** Look forward to singing, praying, and studying the Bible together (Acts 2:41-47).
- **Thursday:** Look forward to being with the Lord's people (1 Thessalonians 2:17-20).
- **Friday:** Look forward to worshiping the Lord with gladness and singleness of heart (Psalm 122:1-9; Acts 2:).

Sunday should not be the only day when Christians meet together. In Acts 2:46, they met together every day. Nevertheless, God did intend the first day to have a meaning not found in any other day. It is, among other things, the one day each week when we observe the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7). Sunday is the day, more than any other, when we receive inner strength and refreshment to go onward. In a sense, our inclination about

the Lord's day -- along with the feeling we have when we anticipate it -- says a great deal about us spiritually. If we do not find ourselves looking forward to the best day of the week, then perhaps we need to examine and test ourselves to see if we are in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5).

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