



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

Vacation

The other day my wife asked me: "If you could go anywhere in the world for a vacation and money was not a factor, where would you go?" Giving myself more time to think, I responded, "You tell me your answer first." She began with Scotland, Alaska, New England, Frankenmuth Michigan, Disney World, and her list continued on and on. It was then my turn. The only thing I could think of was Star Wars at Disney. I am not much of a vacation person. In my whole life, I only took a few weeklong vacations.

Anyone who knows me, knows that I am a workaholic. I consistently have to be doing something. No not with just one job but with many. Rarely do I watch TV or go out, and only go to bed when I cannot stand on my feet any more from doing housework. For several years, I worked for five different employers at the same time with an 80-hour work week. Then for 15 years, I cut it down to four employers at 60-65 hours a week. But all that time, I was also teaching or doing sound work at church. About seven years ago, the Lord forced me to slow down by giving a heart problem, I stopped my volunteer work, but continued with my four employers for five more years. When I turned 64, I began to get burned out. So, I cut down to just one stressful employer at 40 hours a week. But I have become president of two nonprofit groups and am talking care of my wife and my 90-year-old Mother-in-law.

Maybe, there could be hope for me. Right now, I am currently doing little work because I am on vacation at the Outer Banks NC with my grandkids. Well, things did not go as planned. I did not get to the beach. We stayed in a house on a big golf course. However, none of us got to golf because of the weather. With Covid ending, people were finally getting out, causing the traffic everywhere to be bumper to bumper. With the shortage of those willing to work, every eating place was closed between 3 and 5 PM. Then my granddaughter broke her finger so badly that the local hospital was not equipped to properly treat it. It took us 12 hours to get home. I need a vacation to rest from my vacation.

Well, God forced me to rest again, for a few days. Less than a month after vacation, my pacemaker had to be replaced. I wore the battery out three years sooner then it was to last. Will I ever slow down?

On the seventh day of creation, God made it a day of rest. Exodus 23:12. Not because He needed it but because we needed it Mark 2:27. It is even a part of the Ten Commandments Exodus 20:5-9. The discussion here is not going to be which day is the Sabbath. nor what you can and cannot do on that day. The application is for a day of worship, rest, and fellowship. God also gave us a third of each day, the night to rest, sleep, and recharge. PS 4:8

I know of three persons who never go on vacation nor sleep. That is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (PS 121:3,4). They go where we go. Rom 8:38,39 They protect us, meet our needs (Phil 4:9) and provide us with love, joy, peace and happiness. (Gal 5:22,23) However, we as Christians are often too busy to worship, fellowship and enjoy the blessings from them. The 90 minutes once a week is not enough. We all need a daily walk and talk with the Lord. Maybe we should even consider taking a vacation with just the Lord. Check this out: "[How to Take a Vacation with Jesus.](#)"¹



God is waiting for you to come.

Charles Stambaugh

"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Is 40:41

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28



God works 24/7 for you.

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