

ceremonial law? or is it a part of both, and if so, how much goes under each? Here it is important to point out that the sabbath commandment as contained in the books of Exodus and of Deuteronomy has not only elements of moral law, and elements of ceremonial law, but also elements of civil law.

Let's distinguish between these: the moral law is those principles which ~~x~~ are inherent in the nature of the universe, or which are inherent in the world as God has established it. The moral law, the greatest expression of which is the Ten Commandments, represents the fixed principles which are immutable and eternal. Along with the moral law, however, there is civil law. Civil law is ~~applicia~~ ~~not~~ application of the ~~moxi~~ moral law to particular circumstances. Civil law changes not merely from age to age, but also ~~from~~ period to period, and from place to place. Its application depends upon varying circumstances. Thus the sabbath law, as originally given for people in an agricultural community, where their activity was mainly physical, set down severe limits to the amount of physical exercise which might be taken on the sabbath day. This would have no meaning for the man who lives a sedentary life and works with his mind. For him the best rest on the sabbath day would involve a certain amount of exercise. The one who is working on the farm, following the plough hour after hour, day after day, through ~~how~~ the week, is not to walk more than a very short distance on the sabbath. For the one who sits at a desk during the week the best possible relaxation and rest on the sabbath would be a long walk. Thus the civil law represents the application of the moral law to particular circumstances, and is subject to change as the circumstances vary.

There is also a very important element of ceremonial law in the sabbath. The sabbath place at the end of the week in the command to Israel reminds them of God's great creative activity, and of how it comes to an end when on the seventh day! He contemplates what He has done and rejoices in its results. The purpose of ceremony is to draw a truth home to our hearts and