Redeeming the Weekends

Isaiah 58

What are my weekends for?

Redeeming the Weekends (Is58)

1. Pretending → **Protecting** (v3-9a)
2. Pride → **Providence** (v9b-12)
3. Pleasure → **Praise** (v13-14)

Declare to my people their **rebellion**
and to the descendants of Jacob their **sins**.

Isaiah 58:1 (NIV)

1. Pretending → Protecting

- Don't: Pursue **Appearance** of Humility (v2-5)
- Do: **Protect** the Oppressed (v6-7)
- Promise: **Answer** our Cry and **Protect** Us (v8-9)

day after day they **seek me out**;
they **seem eager** to know my ways, […]

They ask me for **just decisions**
and seem eager for God to **come near** them.

Isaiah 58:2 (NIV)

only a day for people
to **humble themselves**?

Is it only for **bowing one's head** like a reed
and for lying in **sackcloth and ashes**?

Isaiah 58:5 (NIV)

You do **as you please**
and **exploit** all your workers.

4 Your fasting ends in **quarreling and strife**,
and in **striking each other** with wicked fists.

Isaiah 58:3-4 (NIV)

1. Pretending → Protecting

- Don't: Pursue Appearance of Humility (v2-5)
- Do: **Protect the Oppressed** (v6-7)
- Promise: Answer our Cry and Protect Us (v8-9)

To loose the **chains of injustice**
and untie the **cords of the yoke**,

to set the **oppressed** free
and break every **yoke**?

Isaiah 58:6 (NIV)

To **share your food** with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with **shelter**

when you see the naked, to **clothe them**,
and not to turn away
from your own **flesh and blood**?

Isaiah 58:7 (NIV)

1. Pretending → Protecting

- Don't: Pursue Appearance of Humility (v2-5)
- Do: Protect the Oppressed (v6-7)
- Promise: **Answer our Cry and Protect Us** (v8-9)

then your righteousness will **go before** you,
and the glory of the Lord
will be your **rear guard**.

9 Then you will **call**, and the Lord will **answer**;
you will **cry for help**, and he will say: **Here am I**

Isaiah 58:8-9 (NIV)

Do I care more about **appearing** humble than **protecting** the oppressed?

Redeeming the Weekends (Is58)

1. Pretending → Protecting (v3-9a)
2. **Pride → Providence** (v9b-12)
3. Pleasure → Praise (v13-14)

2. Pride → Providence

- Don't: Presume **Superiority** (v9b)
- Do: **Provide** for the Needy (v10a)
- Promise: **Satisfy** Needs + **Restore** (v10b-12)

If you do away with the **yoke of oppression**, with the **pointing finger** and **malicious talk**,

Isaiah 58:9 (NIV)

if you **spend yourselves**
in behalf of the hungry
and **satisfy the needs** of the oppressed,

Isaiah 58:10 (NIV)

satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will **strengthen** your frame.

You will be like a **well-watered garden**,
like a **spring** whose waters never fail.

Isaiah 58:11 (NIV)

qinghill, Parit, Malaysia

Your people will **rebuild** the ancient ruins
and will **raise up** the age-old foundations;

you will be called **Repairer** of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Isaiah 58:12 (NIV)

Do I care more about **justifying** myself than **providing** for the needy?

Redeeming the Weekends (Is58)

1. Pretending → Protecting (v3-9a)
2. Pride → Providence (v9b-12)
3. **Pleasure → Praise** (v13-14)

3. Pleasure → Praise

- Don't: Do as We **Please** on Sabbath (v13)
- Do: Consider Its **Joy** and **Gravity** (v13b)
- Promise: Be Our **Joy** and **Triumph** (v14)

If you keep your **feet**
from breaking the **Sabbath**
and from doing **as you please** on my holy day,

and if you **honor** it
by not going your **own way**
and not doing **as you please**
or speaking **idle** words,

Isaiah 58:13b (NIV)

if you call the Sabbath a **delight**
and the Lord's holy day **honorable**,

Isaiah 58:13 (NIV)

Then you will **find your joy** in the Lord,

and I will cause you to **ride in triumph** on the heights of the land

Isaiah 58:14 (NIV)

Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the **desires** of your heart.

5 **Commit** your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.

Psalm 37:4-5 (ESV)

Do I care more about my own plans than declaring God's glory?