

Understanding debt

Regards croisés sur la dette

Taizé, summer/été 2015

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Agenda of the workshop

1. A political approach of debt

Un regard politique sur la dette

2. A biblical approach of debt

Un regard biblique sur la dette

3. Sharing in small groups

Partage en petits groupes

4. Questions in plenary

Questions en plénière

A political approach of debt

Un regard politique sur la dette





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environmental

*irreversible
non-negotiable*

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social

*reversible
non-negotiable*

+



financial

*reversible
negotiable*

=



A golden rule :

governments must in all circumstances act in a way that reduces the aggregate burden – financial, social and environmental – of future generations



Une règle d'or :

Les gouvernements doivent en toutes circonstances agir de manière à réduire le fardeau – financier, social et environnemental – des générations futures

A biblical approach of debt

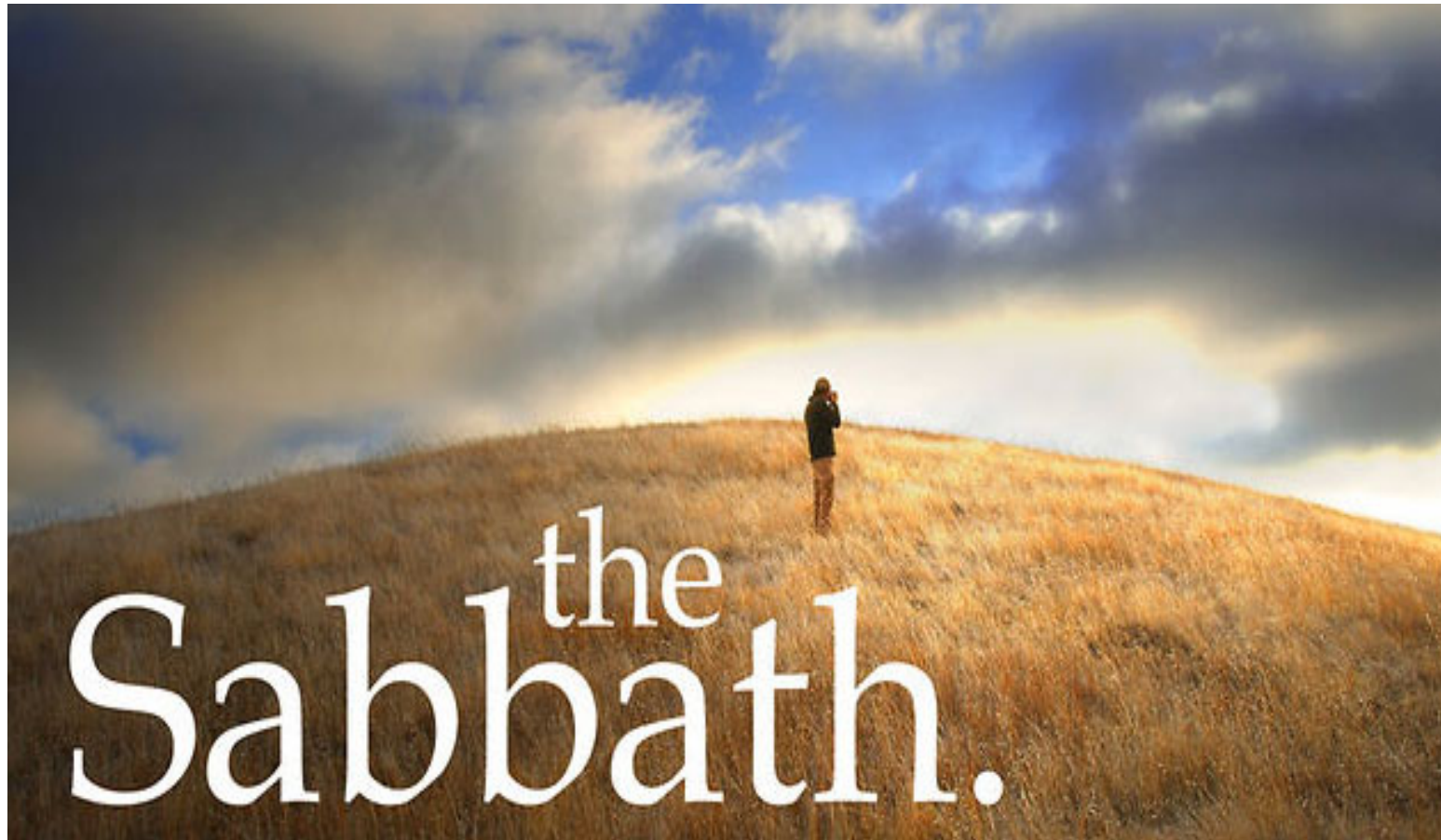
Un regard biblique sur la dette

THE 6 DAYS OF CREATION



By: JACK COLE - 8C - R.E.

Every week...



The Sabbath Day

Exodus 20:8-11

Remember and
keep holy

No work

Because God rested

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Observe and keep holy

No work

You were slaves and
God freed you

Every 7 years...



The Sabbatical year

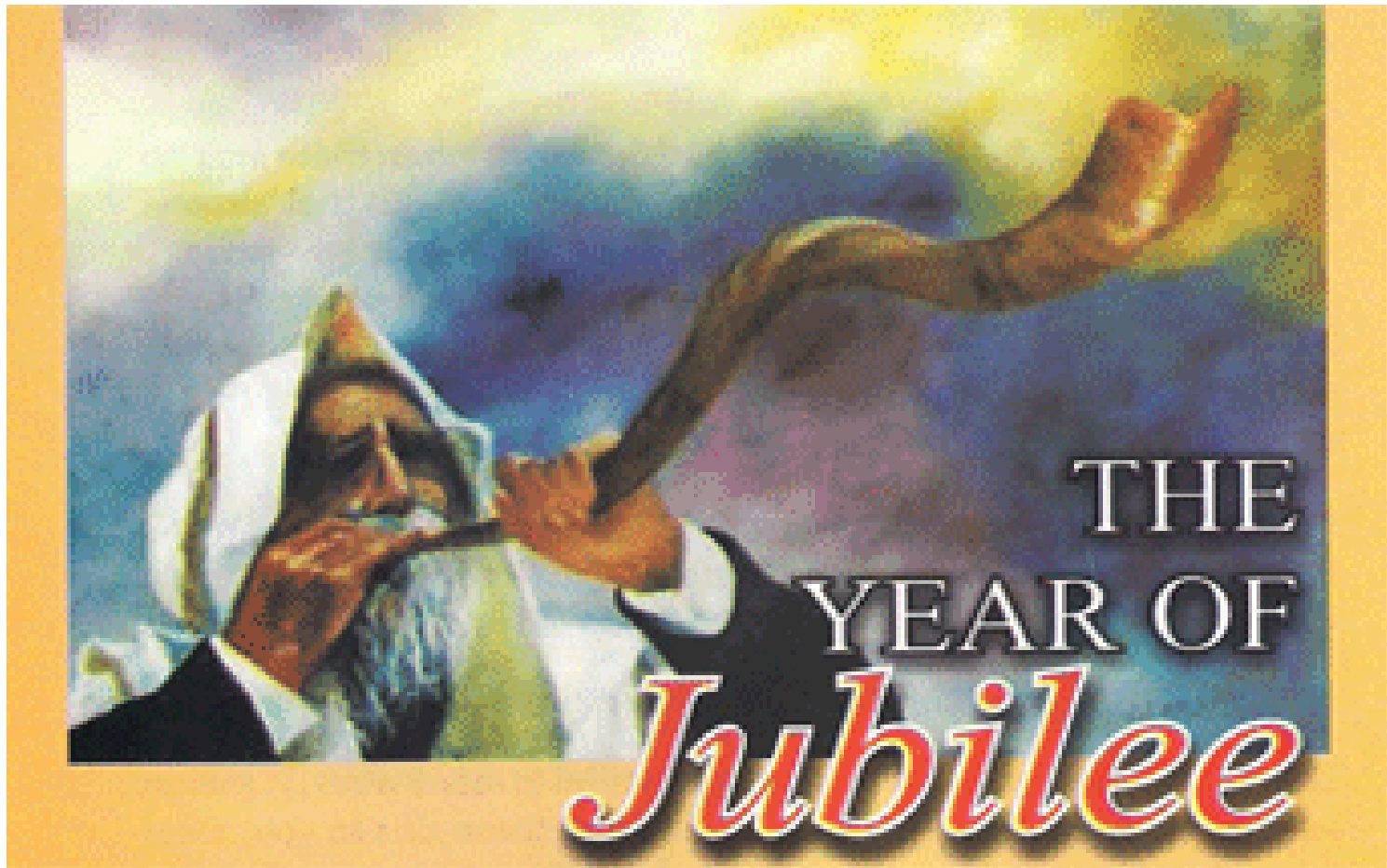
Land rests, everyone eats (*Leviticus 25:1-7*)

Poor eat, wild animals eat (*Exodus 23:10-11*)

Remission of debts (*Deuteronomy 15:1-2*)

- no poor (v. 5)
- practical difficulties (v. 9)
- Free (Hebrew) slaves on seventh year (v. 12-18)

Every $7 \times 7 + 1 = 50$ years



The Jubilee Year

Leviticus 25

Begins on Yom Kippur [Day of Pardon] (v. 9)

Liberty for all (v. 10)

No work in fields; eat what land produces (v. 11-12)

What will we eat? God will provide (v. 19-21)

Land redeemed or returned to original owner :
land belongs to God (v. 23)

Be kind to and support poor relatives (v. 35-43)

Even immigrants redeemed or set free (v. 47-55)

In the Gospel

Luke 4, v.18-19

(quoting Isaiah 61)

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Questions for small groups

Questions pour les petits groupes

*Pick any one and share in your group
Remember : debt has (at least) 3 dimensions*

1. Is a world without debt possible? Is it desirable?
Why or why not?

Un monde sans dette (financière, sociale, environnementale) est-il possible? Est-il désirable? Pourquoi ou pourquoi pas?

2. How should our societies deal with debt ?

Comment nos sociétés devraient-elles gérer leurs dettes?

3. How can I personally - individually or collectively - help reducing debt ?

Comment puis-je personnellement - individuellement ou collectivement - aider à réduire la dette?

*Choisissez une question pour partager en groupe
N'oubliez pas que la dette a (au moins) 3 dimensions*

Time for questions/remarks in plenary

Questions/remarques en plénière