Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on The Cosmic Conflict. Today’s topic: THE FOUNDATION OF GOD’S GOVERNMENT.

Key verse: Revelation 12:17

1. Justice and mercy
   a) Revelation 11:15,19, Exodus 25:9,16-22, 31:18 What is the significance of the Ten Commandments being placed in the Ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy Place of the Sanctuary, covered by the Mercy Seat?
   b) According to the psalmists, what are the foundation of God’s throne? Psalm 97:1-2, Psalm 89:14
   c) What messages from the LORD about justice and mercy are recorded in the Scriptures? Exodus 34:5-7, Jeremiah 9:23-24, Micah 6:8, etc.
   d) Why is justice important to God as well as mercy?

2. God’s law will not be altered or abolished
   a) Some Christians teach that God’s Ten Commandment Law has been done away with, nailed to the cross. (citing Colossians 2:13-14) What do the Scripture teach about the immutability and perpetuity of God’s Law? Will God’s Law be altered or abolished? Psalm 111:7-8, 119:142, Matthew 5:17-18, etc.
   b) How would you respond to someone who says, “We don’t need to keep the Ten Commandments anymore because we are no longer under the law but under grace” (Romans 6:14)?

3. The Sabbath Commandment
   a) Exodus 20:8-11 – the commandment
   b) Genesis 2:1-3 – the origin of the Sabbath
   c) Luke 4:16 – the example of Jesus
   d) Isaiah 66:22-23 – Sabbath in the new earth
   e) How would you respond to someone who says, “Keeping the Sabbath is legalistic”?

4. Attempts to change the Sabbath
   a) Revelation 12:17 Why is keeping the commandments of God an identifying characteristic of the “saints” described in the Book of Revelation?
   b) Why does Satan hate the Sabbath, want people to forget it, and make war against those who remember the Sabbath to keep it holy?
   c) What “times and laws” did the Little Horn power of Daniel 7:25 seek to change?
   d) Revelation 14:6-7 – Where do you see an urgent call to remember the Sabbath to keep it holy in the message of the First Angel of Revelation 14?
   e) What are the identifying characteristics of those who refuse to worship the Beast power described in the book of Revelation? Revelation 14:12
   f) When did you come to appreciate the Sabbath as a gift from your Creator and Redeemer?