

## PROCLAIM JUBILEE

Maria Harris, *PROCLAIM JUBILEE* (Louisville: John Knox Press, 1996),

Harris contends that Sabbath is “a disciplined and regular withdrawal from the systems of productivity whereby the world uses people up to exhaustion. Sabbath was an ethical and moral teachings as well as a liturgical rite, a statement about human beings’ relations with other humans (spouse, children, enslaved and indentured workers, strangers). Sabbath also assumed for other animals and the earth.

Maria Harris, *PROCLAIM JUBILEE* (Louisville: John Knox Press, 1996), 31.

Harris calls the “*remission*” of debts “*forgiveness*” from debts. According to her study, The particular form of forgiveness that Jubilee emphasizes is forgiveness from debts. Therefore, the Jubilee forgiveness starts with the removal of the very specific burden of a monetary debt. The word for this is *Deror* which is the Hebrew word for “liberation,” especially from debt. Other terms share an etymology. Among these are *aphiemi*, meaning to remit, release from debt, send away: it is a Greek term that also shows up at the noun *aphesis* and, in the Septuagint, as *aphienai*. These words are important because they begin as references to remission or release or dismissal – liberation – from long obligations tied to legal requirements, bonds, and debts (especially financial ones). However, they can also refer to forgiveness in the more usual religious, ethical, and moral sense: as the removal and atonement for sin.

Maria Harris, *PROCLAIM JUBILEE* (Louisville: John Knox Press, 1996), 37.