

THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH – GOD’S HOLY DAY!

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1. What three things did God do on the 7th day of the Creation Week?
“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.” (Genesis 2:1-3.)
NB: - I.] God rested from all his creative work upon the seventh-day;
II.] God then blessed the seventh day; and,
III.] God sanctified or set it apart for holy use, because of his resting from all his work on that day.
2. According to Jesus Christ, who was the Sabbath day made or created for?
“And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.” (Mark 2:27.)
3. Did the Lord include the keeping holy of the seventh-day Sabbath in his Moral Law of Ten Commandments?
“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” (Exodus 20:8-11.)
4. Was the observance of this Fourth Commandment to result in the refreshment of both mankind and the beasts of burden?
“Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.” (Exodus 23:12.)
5. How did the Lord link together his Command to keep holy his Sabbath day with having reverence for his worship?
“Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I [am] the LORD.” (Leviticus 19:30.)
“Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I [am] the LORD.” (Leviticus 26:2.)

➤ The Seventh-day Saturday Sabbath was set aside each week as a day in which the human creation would have time and opportunity to remember the Creator, and become refreshed and renewed for his service. If the Sabbath had been loved and honoured by the human creation, no one would have forgotten the existence and claims of God. There would be no scoffers, atheists, or evolutionists. God asked us to remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy, and to never forget it. This is the Creator’s request. **“He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.” (Matthew 11:15.)**

IT IS GOD’S SABBATH DAY: -

6. We notice in the last two passages above that the Lord calls the seventh-day Sabbath “my sabbaths”. Does this term occur frequently in the Scriptures?
YES! It is a term that occurs 15 times in the King James Version.
“Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep” (Exodus 31:13).
“Keep my sabbaths” (Leviticus 19:3).
“For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths” (Isaiah 56:4).
“Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths” (Ezekiel 20:12)
“My sabbaths they greatly polluted” (Ezekiel 20:13).
“But polluted my sabbaths” (Ezekiel 20:16).
“And hallow my sabbaths” (Ezekiel 20:20).
“They polluted my sabbaths” (Ezekiel 20:21).

"And had polluted my sabbaths" (Ezekiel 20:24).

"And hast profaned my sabbaths" (Ezekiel 22:8).

"And have hid their eyes from my sabbaths" (Ezekiel 22:26).

"And have profaned my sabbaths" (Ezekiel 23:38).

"And they shall hallow my sabbaths" (Ezekiel 44:24).

7. What term does the inspired writer Nehemiah use to describe the seventh-day Sabbath in relation to whom it belongs to, as God himself proclaimed it at Mount Sinai?

"Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant." (Nehemiah 9:13 & 14.)

NB: - Nehemiah uses the term "thy holy sabbath" referring to God.

8. What distinctive terms does the gospel prophet Isaiah use concerning whose day the seventh-day Sabbath day belongs to?

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, [from] doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking [thine own] words." (Isaiah 58:13.)

NB: - Isaiah uses the terms "my holy day"; and "the holy of the LORD" referring to the Sabbath day.

9. What is the inheritance promised by the Lord to those people who do honour God's holy Sabbath day as described in the above passage?

"Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it]." (Isaiah 58:14.)

10. Is the seventh-day Sabbath ever once called "the Jewish Sabbath" in the Scriptures?

NO! This is because God claims this day of the week as belonging to him; it is **his holy day**.

11. What did the apostle Paul claim has been committed to the Jewish people?

"What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit [is there] of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God." (Romans 3:1 & 2.)

NB: - The oracles of God.

12. Did this fact make the oracles of God Jewish?

NO! Paul teaches us that they were **God's oracles** that had been **entrusted** to the Jewish people.

13. What else did the apostle Paul teach applied specifically to the people of Israel?

"For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom [pertaineth] the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service [of God], and the promises; Whose [are] the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ [came], who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen." (Romans 9:3-5.)

NB: - The adoption;
The glory;
The covenants – plural (that is, both the Old and New Covenants);
The giving of the law;
The service of God;
The promises; and,
Christ was to come through the Jews according to the flesh.

NB: - The above blessings from the Lord, which he committed to the Jewish people, would legitimately be included under the term "the oracles of God". None of these blessings pertained specifically to the heathen, Gentile nations who were lost in their ignorant, idolatrous worship of their senseless gods.

14. Should it come as any surprise therefore that Jesus made the following statement concerning the Jewish people and the way of salvation?

"Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews." (John 4:22.)

➤ God was fulfilling his covenant promise to Abraham and his descendants, to be their God and they to be his people. As such, God made known to them, entrusting them with the knowledge of his way of salvation and his Laws, and if they had

been faithful to this trust, they would have been able to enlighten the heathen, Gentile nations concerning the ways of the Living and True God. That is the reason why God commanded the children of Israel to keep holy **his Sabbath day**, because they were the only nation upon earth who professed to worship the only True God.

WE ARE TO WORSHIP THE CREATOR GOD OF THE BIBLE: -

15. What is the major distinguishing characteristic that identifies the God of the Christian Bible being the One and Only True God from all other so-called gods?
"But the LORD [is] the true God, he [is] the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, [even] they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion." (Jeremiah 10:10-12.)

"[Which] when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard [of], they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, and saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein." (Acts 14:14 & 15.)
16. Why is the God of the Christian Bible the **only Lord** according to the inspired writer Nehemiah?
"Thou, [even] thou, [art] LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all [things] that [are] therein, the seas, and all that [is] therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee." (Nehemiah 9:6.)
17. How did king Hezekiah recognize this foundational truth when praying to the Lord?
"And Hezekiah prayed unto the LORD, saying, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest [between] the cherubims, thou [art] the God, [even] thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth." (Isaiah 37:15 & 16.)
18. What is the reason the Psalmist uses to exhort his readers to worship and kneel before God?
"For the LORD [is] a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand [are] the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills [is] his also. The sea [is] his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry [land]. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker." (Psalms 95:3-6.)
19. Whom did the apostle Paul point the Athenians to as being worthy of their worship and why?
"For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things." (Acts 17:23-25.)
20. What reason do the 24 elders in heaven ascribe to the Lord as being worthy to receive worship and glory?
"The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." (Revelation 4:10 & 11.)
21. Who does the angel who proclaims "the everlasting gospel" to the world, exhort us to worship and why?
"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." (Revelation 14:6 & 7.)

➤ The God of the Bible is identified as being the Only Living and True God because he is the Creator of heaven and earth. This is the reason why he is to be worshipped.

THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH IS A SIGN OF THE CREATOR GOD: -

22. What things reveal God's Divinity and Eternal Power according to the apostle Paul?
"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." (Romans 1:20.)
NB: - The things that God has created reveal his Divinity and Eternal Power.
23. Of what is the seventh-day Sabbath a sign? For how long is it to remain such a sign?

“And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it [is] a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that [ye] may know that I [am] the LORD that doth sanctify you. Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it [is] holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth [any] work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh [is] the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth [any] work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, [for] a perpetual covenant. It [is] a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.” (Exodus 31:12-17.)

NB: - I.] The seventh-day Sabbath is a sign that the Lord is the Maker of the heavens and the earth;
II.] It is an everlasting sign testifying to this fact.

24. If the Lord changed or abolished the seventh-day Sabbath, what would he be doing?
He would be changing or abolishing the very sign that identifies him as being the Living, True, Creator God; and thus he would be undermining his claim to being worthy of worship.
25. According to the apostle Paul what still remains for the people of God?
“There remaineth therefore a rest¹ to the people of God.” (Hebrews 4:9.)
VERSE 9 literally reads, *“There remains a Sabbath observance to the people of God.”*
26. What fact as recorded by the gospel prophet Isaiah helps establish the truth that the seventh-day Sabbath is indeed an everlasting sign of the Creator God?
“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, [that] from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.” (Isaiah 66:22 & 23.)

¹ The Greek word that is translated as “a rest” in VS. 9, is “sabbatismos” – See Strong’s Concordance; Greek No. 4520. It is defined as “Sabbath rest, Sabbath observance” – A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, by Walter Bauer, page 739.