

AN INTIMATE PLACE IN TIME

How The Sabbath is a Slice of Eternity Enfolded in Time

Thesis: The Sabbath is God's weekly reminder to us that our salvation is 100% the gift of His grace, totally His accomplishment and not ours, to be received into our lives by faith alone. Good works (right living) contribute absolutely nothing to our salvation, while revealing it. We are saved by His creative *work*; our part is to *rest* by trusting in His forgiving love. The Sabbath guards us against legalism and self-dependence. It is a taste of the life we will enjoy with God in eternity future.

Receiving the Gift of Creation By Faith

Genesis 1:26-27—26Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..." **27**So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 2:18—The LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone..."

Genesis 2:1-3—1Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. **2**And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **3**Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

A Memorial of Creation and of Redemption

Exodus 20:8-11—8Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9**Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **10**but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work... **11**For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Deuteronomy 5:12-15—12Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. **13**Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **14**but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work... **15**And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

The Creation Salvation Parallel

Genesis 1:1-3—1In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2**The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. **3**Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

John 1:1-5, NRSV—1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... **4**in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. **5**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

2 Corinthians 4:6, NIV—For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Psalms 51:10-12—10Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. **11**Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. **12**Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.

NOTE: Adam and Eve were created on the sixth day, after ALL the work of Creation was "finished." They did not participate in the work of Creation, nor did they witness it with their eyes. They awoke to receive it as a free gift from their Maker by faith alone. Then they rested on the seventh day as their first full day of life.

NOTE: See Hebrews 11:1, 3.

NOTE: Gal. 5:1; Rom. 6:14-16 on the spiritual slavery.

NOTE: See also 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 2:8-10;

John 17:4—I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

John 19:30—So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Luke 23:54-56; 24:1—**54**That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. **55**And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. **56**Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

1Now on the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain *other women* with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

2But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. **3**Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

We Rest By Faith in His Finished Work of Salvation

Hebrews 4:1, 9, 10, NIV—**1**Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it... **9**There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; **10**for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his.

Matthew 11:28-30—**28**Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **29**Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30**For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.

The Sabbath Connected to The New Covenant

Isaiah 56:1-7—**1**Thus says the LORD: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, for My salvation *is* about to come, and My righteousness to be revealed. **2**Blessed *is* the man *who* does this, and the son of man *who* lays hold on it; who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.” **3**Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD Speak, saying, “The LORD has utterly separated me from His people”; nor let the eunuch say, “Here I am, a dry tree.” **4**For thus says the LORD: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what pleases Me, and hold fast My covenant, **5**even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. **6**Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—**7**even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *will be* accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

Acts 13:13-44—**13**Paul and his party... **14**went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down... **42**So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath... **44**On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.

Isaiah 66:23—And it shall come to pass *that* from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me,” says the LORD.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9