

THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH

(from the ASV - American Standard Version - 1901, used by EGW)

ORIGIN OF THE SABBATH

Genesis 2:1 And the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. **2** And on the *seventh day* God finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the *seventh day* from all his work which he had made. **3** And God blessed the *seventh day*, and hallowed it; because that in it he rested from all his work which God had created and made.

COMMANDED TO HALLOW THE SABBATH

Exodus 20:8 Remember the *sabbath day*, to keep it holy. **9** Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; **10** but the *seventh day* is a *sabbath* unto *Jehovah* thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: **11** for in six days *Jehovah* made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the *seventh day*: wherefore *Jehovah* blessed the *sabbath day*, and hallowed it.

Exodus 31:14 Ye shall keep the *sabbath* therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that profaneth it shall surely be put to death; for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. surely be put to death.

DELIGHT IN THE SABBATH

Isaiah 56:1 Thus saith *Jehovah*, Keep ye justice, and do righteousness; for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. **2** Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that holdeth it fast; that keepeth the *sabbath* from profaning it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil. **3** Neither let the foreigner, that hath joined himself to *Jehovah*, speak, saying, *Jehovah* will surely separate me from his people; neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree. **4** For thus saith *Jehovah* of the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and hold fast my covenant: **5** Unto them will I give in my house and within my walls a memorial and a name better than of sons and of daughters; I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off. **6** Also the foreigners that join themselves to *Jehovah*, to minister unto him, and to love the name of *Jehovah*, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the *sabbath* from profaning it, and holdeth fast my covenant; **7** even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. **8** The Lord *Jehovah*, who gathereth the outcasts of Israel, saith, Yet will I gather others to him, besides his own that are gathered.

Isaiah 58:13 If thou turn away thy foot from the *sabbath*, from doing thy pleasure on my holy *day*; and call the *sabbath* a delight, and the holy of *Jehovah* honorable; and shalt honor it, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: **14** then shalt thou delight thyself in *Jehovah*; and I will make thee to ride upon the high places of the earth; and I will feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of *Jehovah* hath spoken it.

JESUS ON THE SABBATH

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the *sabbath day*, and stood up to read.

Mark 2:27 And he said unto them, The *sabbath* was made for man, and not man for the *sabbath*:

Mark 2:28; Luke 6:5; Matthew 12:8 ... the Son of man is Lord even of the *sabbath day*.

Matthew 12:10 and behold, a man having a withered hand. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the *sabbath day*? that they might accuse him. **11** And he said unto them, What man shall there be of you, that shall have one sheep, and if this fall into a pit on the *sabbath day*, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? **12** How much then is a man of more value than a sheep! Wherefore it is lawful to do good on the *sabbath day*..

EARLY CHURCH ON THE SABBATH

Luke 23:54 And it was the *day* of the Preparation, and the *sabbath* drew on. **55** And the women, who had come with him out of Galilee, followed after, and beheld the tomb, and how his body was laid. **56** And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. And on the *sabbath* they rested according to the commandment.

Acts 13:14 But they, passing through from Perga, came to Antioch of Pisidia; and they went into the synagogue on the *sabbath day*, and sat down.... **27** For they that dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor the voices of the prophets which are read every *sabbath*, fulfilled them by condemning him **42** And as they went out, they besought that these words might be spoken to them the next *sabbath*.... **44** And the next *sabbath* almost the whole city was gathered together to hear the word of God.

Acts 15:21 For Moses from generations of old hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every *sabbath*.

Acts 16:13 And on the *sabbath day* we went forth without the gate by a river side, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down, and spake unto the women that were come together.

Acts 17:2 and Paul, as his custom was, went in unto them, and for three *sabbath* days reasoned with them from the scriptures,

Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every *sabbath*, and persuaded Jews and Greeks.... **11** And he dwelt there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

SABBATH BENEFITS

Hebrews 4:1 Let us fear therefore, lest haply, a promise being left of entering into his rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it. **2** For indeed we have had good tidings preached unto us, even as also they: but the word of hearing did not profit them, because it was not united by faith with them that heard. **3** As I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest: For we who have believed do enter into that rest; even as he hath said, although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. **4** For he hath said somewhere of the *seventh day* on this wise, And God rested on the *seventh day* from all his works; **5** They shall not enter into my rest. and in this place again, **6** Seeing therefore it remaineth that some should enter thereinto, and they to whom the good tidings were before preached failed to enter in because of disobedience, **7** To-day if ye shall hear his voice, Harden not your hearts. he again defineth a certain *day*, To-day, saying in David so long a time afterward (even as hath been said before), **8** For if Joshua had given them rest, he would not have spoken afterward of another *day*. **9** There remaineth therefore a *sabbath* rest for the people of God. **10** For he that is entered into his rest hath himself also rested from his works, as God did from his. **11** Let us therefore give diligence to enter into that rest, that no man fall after the same example of disobedience.

WHY MOST OBSERVE SABBATH FROM FRIDAY SUNDOWN UNTIL SATURDAY SUNDOWN

Genesis 1:5 And God called the light *Day*, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one *day*.... **13** And there was evening and there was morning, a third *day*. **14** And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven to divide the *day* from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years:

Luke 23:32 And there were also two others, malefactors, led with him to be put to death.

Nehemiah 13:19 And it came to pass that, when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the *sabbath*, I commanded that the doors should be shut, and commanded that they should not be opened till after the *sabbath*: and some of my servants set I over the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the *sabbath day*.

Ezekiel 46:1 Thus saith the Lord *Jehovah*: The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the *sabbath day* it shall be opened, and on the *day* of the new moon it shall be opened. **2** And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of the gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate; and the priests shall prepare his burnt-offering and his peace-offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening. **3** And the people of the land shall worship at the door of that gate before *Jehovah* on the sabbaths and on the new moons.

WHAT ABOUT SABBATH IN HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH?

Isaiah 66:22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith *Jehovah*, so shall your seed and your name remain. **23** 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 *Jehovah*.