

The Seventh Day: A Sabbath Day

As we talk about the seventh day, and as we talk about God resting on the seventh day and consecrating and blessing it, we think about what is man's responsibility in observing a seventh days rest. God's first commands on what to do (and not to do) on the seventh day are given to Israel. These are the commands concerning the Sabbath. In order for us to understand what God expects of us, we need to understand what these Sabbath commands mean and who they apply to. This morning we will look at the Old Testament commands concerning the Sabbath.

Sabbath – שַׁבָּת - *Shabbat* – Sabbath, week.

The Command –

Exodus 20:8-11 ⁸ " Remember 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: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates. 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 ¹² ' Observe 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: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. 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.

Remember - זָכַר , zakar - remember, _____, call to _____.

Holy - קָדָשׁ , qadosh -be _____, consecrated.

It seems there are two important, but interrelated things which they are to do to keep the Sabbath holy:

- They are to do no _____.
- They are to make it a special day of _____.

Isaiah 56:2, Isaiah 58:13

_____ **does keeping the Sabbath entail?**

- Six days you shall labor and do all your work
- The seventh day you shall do no work

_____ **should Israel keep the Sabbath?**

- The seventh day is a Sabbath of the LORD your God
- In six days the LORD created
- On the seventh He rested
- The LORD blessed and hallowed the Sabbath
- God brought Israel out of the land of Egypt

_____ **should keep the Sabbath?**

- God gives a list of people who must observe the Sabbath
 - The hearers of these passages: Israelites
 - Their children
 - Their servants
 - Their animals
 - Anyone who is living in Israel.
- This is a command given to the nation of Israel directly.

What was the _____ for not following the Sabbath command?

Exodus 31:14–16, Exodus 35:2

What is considered not observing the Sabbath?

Manna – Exodus 16:26, Exodus 35:3, Numbers 15:32, Nehemiah 10:31, Nehemiah 13:15–18, Jeremiah 17:21, 22, 24, 27

How was Israel supposed to _____ on the Sabbath?

Leviticus 16:31, Leviticus 23:11, Numbers 28:9, 10, Leviticus 24:8

This is not the _____ place a Sabbath command occurs:

Exodus 16:23, 25, 26, 29

Here God does not give a command to remember the Sabbath, but instead instructs the Israelites on how to gather the manna. For six days God will cause the manna to appear, but on the sixth day, the Israelites were commanded to gather double because God was not going to give any manna on the Sabbath. This continued for forty years until Israel, under the command of Joshua, entered the land and was able to eat off of the produce of the land.

How else is the Sabbath principle _____?

- A _____ Sabbath
Leviticus 23:15, 16
- A seventh _____.
Leviticus 25:2-7
- A seventh _____ of years
Leviticus 25:8-16

This week we looked very briefly at how God commanded Israel to keep the Sabbath. Next week we will look at the New Testament teaching concerning the Sabbath.