

The Seventh Day: A Day of Rest

Genesis 2:1-3 Thus 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.

We will look at the seventh day and what implications it has on us and our worship of God.

I. God _____ His work

_____ - פָּלַח , calah – Pual – be _____, at an _____, finished, accomplished, spent

The significance of a *pual* is that it is a passive intensive. In this case the heavens and the earth **were finished**. There was nothing left to be done. There was no unfinished steps. There was nothing that God missed. The whole of creation was done.

Note the work that was finished:

1. The _____ – this could be the idea of “space” or it could refer to one or all of the three heavens Kevin referred to on days two and four (sky, outer space, dwelling place of God).
2. The _____ – All the matter which was created or the physical earth.
3. All the _____ of them – this statement is a statement of completeness, like “if I failed to mention anything, let me make it clear – everything was done by the seventh day.” All the host of them has the idea of everything which fills the heavens and the earth:

II. God _____ His work

Ended - פָּלַח , calah – Piel.

The significance of a *piel* is a active intensive. It is hard to think of stopping as an active verb, but the point is that God stopped or ended His work. He made a decision that at day seven, it was time to stop. When God saw his work was done, God was done with His work.

III. God _____ from His work

_____ - שָׁבַת - cease, desist, rest

We usually think of rest as the idea of being tired or worn out. However, the Hebrew word here carries the idea of ceasing to do activity. When God rested, He as choosing to cease from creating anything else.

Isaiah 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His

understanding is unsearchable.

Genesis 8:22, Deuteronomy 32:26, Joshua 5:12, Nehemiah 4:11, Nehemiah 6:3, Job 32:1, Psalm 46:9, Proverbs 18:18

1. All _____ work –

There is the idea of ownership attached to creation. It is all of God's work. He is the Creator and the one who owns all of creation.

Psalm 102:25, Psalm 148:5, Ephesians 2:10, Revelation 4:11

2. Which _____ had done –

Again there is an emphasis on the Lord being the creator. He has made all things and He alone has created.

Isaiah 40:26, Isaiah 42:5, Isaiah 45:12, Isaiah 45:18, Colossians 1:16, Revelation 10:5-6

Implications of God's completed work:

1) There is nothing _____ being created after the seventh day.

There is a finishing point, an end point. After six days God had created everything which he had set out to create. Unlike evolutionary theories, where new things are being formed or evolved, the Bible teaches that God finished and that everything which was created was created in six days.

2) God's plan is perfectly _____ (in terms of creation).

- God did not need to create anything else. He completed creating everything which needed to be created.

3) God was _____ with what he had created.

Genesis 1:31 Then God **saw everything** that He had made, and indeed *it was very good*. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

God reflected on His work the first six days and as he looked back on it, He saw not that it was good, but that it was very good.

Very - מְאֹד , mi'od - **muchness, force, abundance, exceedingly**

4) God's work had a time when it was _____.

- God had seen His work, that He accomplished what he set out to accomplish and then stopped working.

Application:

- We worship God because He is the creator.
- We should work until our tasks are finished.