

In the Beginning

First day: It was good

Second day: It was good

Third day: It was good

Fourth day: It was good

Fifth day: It was good

Sixth day (living creatures): It was good

Genesis 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good..

Next Actions

1. Rested on the 7th day and refreshed Himself (Exodus 31:17)

2. Blessed the 7th day

3. Set apart the 7th day from all the other days

Note: While not self-evident on it's face, at this point, God cared about the role the Sabbath played in His Plan.

Summary

1. Perfection (Deuteronomy 32:4)

2. Very Good (Genesis 1:31)

3. Could have gone on like this but..

4. Adam sinned and sent the world into a tailspin of destruction and imperfection

Questions

1. Was God caught off guard, unprepared for the impending disaster that would destroy His perfection?

2. If not, then God had a plan ("slain from the foundation..")

Move Forward in TIME

Abrahamic Covenant

Cut a covenant with Abraham to establish a nation that would receive His instructions with the intention that in the living out of them, they would become a light to the rest of the world. (Deuteronomy 4:6-8)

Mosaic Covenant

Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine.

Exodus 19:8 And all the people answered together, and said, "All that יהוה hath spoken we will do." And Moses returned the words of the people unto יהוה.

Exodus 20 - The Ten Commandments

Our focus is the fourth (except in Catholic Bibles where it is the third)

Exodus 20:8 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it set apart from the other days.

Once again, we see that God cares about the Sabbath

Establishing a Baseline

When is the Sabbath first mentioned?

ANS: Genesis 2:2-3

We have a very good creation that included the seventh day, resting, blessing, and the seventh day being set apart from the other days of the week.

Genesis 1:14 and Definitions

Genesis 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years.

Genesis 1:14

Genesis 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for אֹתוֹת, and for מוֹעֵד, and for days, and years.

אֹתוֹת (ot) (sign)

To signal something in some way...

Examples of signs:

The rainbow, circumcision, all the plagues on Egypt, Joshua's stones in the Jordan, Isaiah 7:14, and...

The Sabbath (Exodus 31:13, 17; Ezekiel 20:12)

Genesis 1:14

מוֹעֵד (moed) (appointment)

To designate a time for a meeting

He has appointments set when He wants to meet with us

We should find out when they are so we can be present

Genesis 1:14 Expanded

Genesis 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and to designate the times for divine appointments... [HODF Expanded]

Continuing the Foundation

קָרָא (qari) (proclaim)

It denotes primarily the enunciation of a specific message.

It is customarily addressed to a specific recipient and is intended to elicit a specific response.

מִקְרָא (miqra) ([dress] rehearsal)

Frequently translated as Convocation and Assembly

Review

קָרָא (qari) (proclaim)

מוֹעֵד (moed) (appointment)

מִקְרָא (miqra) (rehearsal, convocation, assembly)

Leviticus 23:2-3

v2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, "Concerning the divinely appointed times (sacred assemblings) of יְהוָה, which you shall proclaim to be holy dress rehearsals, even these are My divinely set appointments." [HODF Expanded]

v3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the Sabbath, a day for a sacred assembly... [HODF Expanded]

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as some have begun to do... [HODF Expanded]

Note

If our Heavenly Father did not establish a particular "appointment" as a call to worship, we might want to look into who did.

Establishing a Baseline

Reasons the Sabbath were given?

Exodus 31

v13,17 - sign between יְהוָה, and Israel

v15 - rest

v17 - refreshing

Leviticus 23:3 Sacred assembling

Establishing a Baseline

Who is the Sabbath for?

A popular answer is "the Jews"

The Sabbath was one of the 10 commandments given in Exodus 20 at Mount Sinai. Can you make a case that the only people who were at the foot of mount Sinai when the 10 commandments were given were the tribe of Judah?

Who is the Sabbath for?

Mark 2:27 And he [Yeshua] said unto them, "The Sabbath was made for mankind (ἄνθρωπος), and not man for the Sabbath."

Prophecies about the Gentiles

Isaiah 56:2 Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it..

Isaiah 56:4 For thus saith יהוה unto the eunuchs that keep My Sabbaths, and choose the things that please Me, and take hold of My covenant..

Isaiah 56:6 Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to יהוה, to serve Him, and to love the name of יהוה, to be His servants, every one that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of My covenant;

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, the holy of יהוה, honourable; and shalt honour Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

Isaiah 58:14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in יהוה; 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 יהוה hath spoken it.

Ephesians 2:11 Wherefore remember, that you, being in time past Gentiles in the flesh..

v12 That at that time you were without Messiah, separated [ἀπηλλοτριωμένοι] from the Commonwealth of Israel, and excluded [ἔξουσι] from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Ephesians 2:13 But now in Messiah Yeshua you, who previously were far away have been brought near by the blood of Messiah.

v14 For he is our peace, who has joined both groups into one, destroying the barrier of tradition that had separated Jews and Gentiles.

Ephesians 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in **man's traditions**; that in himself he might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace.

Ephesians 2:19 Now therefore, you are no longer excluded from citizenship in God's Kingdom, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God. [HODF Expanded]

Romans 11:17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

v18 Boast not against the branches..

At the Time of Creation

Creation was perfect

During creation, the Sabbath was established as a sign and a Divinely Appointed Time of rest and refreshing

At creation, God cared about the role the Sabbath would play for mankind.

At the Time of Moses

At the time of Moses, the 10 commandments were given to all the tribes of Israel (not just Judah) as well as all those who chose to leave Egypt and become part of Israel.

Within the 10 commandments, one states: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy".

Exodus states that when Yahweh's Sabbath is observed by Israel, it is a sign.

God explained that the Sabbath is to provide rest from 6 days of labor and a refreshing.

It is clear that at this time, God cared about the role the Sabbath would play for Israel.

At the Time of the Prophets

During the time of the prophets, Isaiah states that the Sabbath is for all and in the keeping of it is great blessing.

It is clear that at this time, God cared about the role the Sabbath would play for Israel and all those who chose to become a part of Israel.

At the Time of the First Century

Yeshua said that the Sabbath was made for mankind.

Romans states that we Gentiles have been grafted into Israel.

Ephesians states that in the past, we were Gentiles who were separated from the Commonwealth of Israel, excluded from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God.

Yeshua's work has allowed us Gentiles to become a part of Israel, no longer excluded from citizenship in God's kingdom, fellow citizens with the saints, and the household of God.

It is clear that at this time, God cared about the role the Sabbath would play for Israel.

What is the Plan of God?

Acts 3:20 And He shall send Yeshua the Messiah, which before was preached unto you:

Acts 3:21 Where in heaven he must remain until the time to begin the restoration of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. [HODF Expanded]

When does the restoration of all things begin?

When does Yeshua leave heaven to establish his kingdom on Earth?

During the Millennial Kingdom, what role does the Sabbath play?

Speaking of the priests it says, "And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to My judgments: and they shall keep My Torah and My statutes in all Mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my Sabbaths. Ezekiel 44:24

Likewise, the people of the land shall worship at the door of this gate before יהוה in the Sabbaths and in the new moons. Ezekiel 46:3

It is clear that at this time, God cares about the role the Sabbath will play for all mankind.

What is the Plan of God?

After the New Heavens and the New Earth, what role does the Sabbath play?

"For as the New Heavens and the New Earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith יהוה, so shall your seed and your name remain." Isaiah 66:22

"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 יהוה... Isaiah 66:23

It is clear that at this time, God cares about the role the Sabbath will play for all mankind.

How long was the Sabbath to last?

Exodus 31:16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, obeying the covenant on a continuous basis.

Romans 9:6, Galatians 6:16

Acts 13:14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and sat down.

v15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets, the rulers of the synagogue said unto them, "You men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."

Acts 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles asked that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath.

v44 And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

Even with this evidence, some will say that at the death of Yeshua, the Sabbath was replaced with Sunday.

Verses used to support that include Colossians 2:16-17; Galatians 4:10; Romans 10:4, 14:5-6; just to name a few.

What We Learned

What We Learned is that The Most High cares about the Sabbath from the time it was created until the restoration is completed and beyond!

1 Samuel 2:3 says "by Him actions are weighed."

Hosea 4:6a says "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

Hosea 4:6b says "Since you have forgotten the Torah of your God, I will also forget your children."

Even a pagan understands that they need to find out what their pagan deity desires...

Why can't we apply this same principle and search the Scriptures for the truth, and find the ancient paths.

Matthew 7:21 "Many will say Lord, Lord..."

He says "Depart from me, you who disregard my Divine instructions."

II Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves. Determine if you are still following the truth.

Don't get caught saying "But Lord, I didn't know" and Him responding "My child, I put before you that which could help you recover the truth, the ancient paths (Jeremiah 6:16) and you couldn't even check it out?"

Is this how a child honors their Father?

Ezekiel 22:26 The leaders of Israel have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

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