

The Sabbath—Past, Present and Future

“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His” (Hebrews 4:9-10).

God commanded the Sabbath

Exodus 20:8-11 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 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. 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.”



Jesus observed the Sabbath

Luke 4:16 “So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.”

The apostles observed the Sabbath after the resurrection

Acts 13:42, 44 “So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. . . . On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.”



The Sabbath will be observed after Christ returns

Isaiah 56:6-7 “Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer.”

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.”

Revelation 22:14 “Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.”

God created the Sabbath

Genesis 2:2-3 “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. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”

Mark 2:27 “And He said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath.’”



Israel ignored the Sabbath

Ezekiel 20:21, 24 “Notwithstanding, the children rebelled against Me; they did not walk in My statutes, and were not careful to observe My judgments, ‘which, if a man does, he shall live by them’; but they profaned My Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them and fulfill My anger against them in the wilderness. . . . Because they had not executed My judgments, but had despised My statutes, profaned My Sabbaths, and their eyes were fixed on their fathers’ idols.”



Roman Christianity tried to abolish the Sabbath

The Council of Nicaea, A.D. 325: Constantine and the Catholic Church established Sunday as a day of rest.

The Council of Laodicea, ca. A.D. 365: The Catholic Church made it illegal to “Judaize” or be idle from work on the seventh-day Sabbath.



To gain an in-depth understanding of God’s Sabbath, download our free booklet *The Sabbath: A Neglected Gift From God* at LifeHopeandTruth.com/Learning-Center/Booklets