

## **THE “LORD OF THE SABBATH” TWELVE REASONS TO HONOR HIS DAY**

### **1. THE SON OF GOD BLESSED THE 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY, AND DECLARED IT HOLY.**

The LORD who created this earth in six days, blessed the 7<sup>th</sup> day and declared it holy. (Genesis 2:2; Exodus 20:11) The New Testament is clear - the Son of God created this earth. (I Cor. 8:6, Eph 3:9, Heb 1:1-2, John 1:3&10, Col 1:12-16) He is LORD of the Sabbath because He made the Sabbath. Long before the Sinai covenant, before Jacob, before Abraham - The LORD blessed the 7<sup>th</sup> day. It was not Adam's 7<sup>th</sup> day. It was actually his first whole day. It was a day to celebrate a new world, and a new race of beings.

[References: John 1:1-10, Ephesians 3:9, Hebrews 1:1-10, Colossians 1:12-16, Proverbs 8:27-31]

To Israel, at the foot of the Mountain, He identified Himself as the God who created all things - who then “blessed the Sabbath” (Exodus 20:11). This reminder of creation was a clear statement that the Sabbath was NOT something new. It had been forgotten - as the LORD of the Sabbath had been forgotten - by all but a few.

### **2. GOD'S BLESSING IS FOREVER.**

“For You have blessed O Lord, and it shall be blessed forever” (I Chronicles 17:27) Human beings are blessed conditionally, based upon their loyalty to covenant. The Sabbath was blessed unconditionally. God did NOT say, “If it works out - we'll keep it.” “For I am the Lord, I change not” (Malachi 3:6).

### **3. THE SABBATH IS A SIGN BETWEEN THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE.**

(Exodus 20:11). He declared His Sabbath, “a sign between me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God” (Ezekiel 20:20). “Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them” (Exodus 20:12). “Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout all your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you” (Exodus 31:13).

“I am the LORD who sanctifies you.” To be sanctified, is to be set apart for a holy purpose. The Sabbath was “sanctified” (Gen. 2:2) and we are sanctified. By WHOM are we sanctified? What does the New Testament say? “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:14). “For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren” (Hebrews 2:11). The New Testament says, “Christ in you - the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27). Jesus Christ IS the God who “sanctifies” us, so that He may present us to His Father “without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.” (Ephesians 5:27). When we keep His day, we are saying we believe this promise. I would encourage you to read the study at the web site on “Grace and the Law,” and to listen to the second and third teachings in the series on the letters of Paul.

#### 4. THE LORD COMMANDED HIS PEOPLE (the Israelites)

##### TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.

“Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the 7<sup>th</sup> day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it, you shall not do any work” (Exodus 20:) “...the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day” (Deut 5:15). “Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep...” (Exo. 31:13).

Who spoke this law from the Mountain? I Timothy 2:5 says “there is one mediator between God and man.” From the day our first parents ate of the forbidden fruit, they were separated from God the Father. “Your sins have separated you from your God.” (Isa. 59:2) If ancient Israel was separated from their God by their sins, were not Adam and Eve also separated from God the Father? A mediator stepped in, to win them back. We are reconciled to God the Father, through His Son. (II Cor 5:18) It was the Son of God - on that Mountain. No man has seen the Father. (John 1:18, John 5:37, 6:46) Yet Moses talked with God “face to face” (Exo 33:11). With Whom was he speaking “face to face?” - with the Son. Paul wrote concerning Israel, “They drank of that Rock which followed (accompanied) them, and the Rock was Christ” (I Cor 10:4).

Once again - there is a study at the web site which details the work of the pre-incarnate Son of God. It is titled, “The Mediator.”

#### 5. ALL WHO BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST AS THE LAMB OF GOD ARE ISRAELITES.

We gentile believers have been “grafted in” (Romans 11). We are made “citizens of the commonwealth of Israel.” (Ephesians 2:11-16). Jews who come to belief in Jesus (Yeshua) as Messiah (Hamashea) are “grafted in again” (Romans 11:23).

In the recorded studies at the web site, there is a study titled “Are you an Israelite?” We are working on a written study.

#### 6. AS ISRAELITES - WE CAN CLAIM THE PROMISED BLESSING

##### - FOR KEEPING THE SABBATH.

*ISAIAH 58:13-59:2 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath,  
From doing your pleasure on My holy day,  
and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable,  
and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words,  
Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD;  
and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth,  
and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father.  
The mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

*This promise is for us, and God is not slack concerning His promises. This promise is a covenant, and God said, "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that has gone out of my lips" (Psalm 89:34).*

#### 7. AS ISRAELITES - WE CAN ENTER INTO THE NEW COVENANT.

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah—“ (Hebrews 8:8, Jeremiah 31:31-33, Ezekiel 36:26).

EVERY covenant in THE BOOK is made with Israelites. There is no covenant with Gentiles.

**8. GOD WILL WRITE HIS LAW ON OUR HEARTS - THIS IS THE NEW COVENANT. HIS LAW INCLUDES HIS SABBATH.**

“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (Jeremiah 31:33). The 10 Commandments, were spoken from the Mountain by the Son of God, and He wrote them on the stones with His own finger. Jesus said, “If you love me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15, 21). “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love” (John 15:10). The Ten Commandments ARE His commandments. That is why he told the rich young ruler, “If you would enter into life, keep the commandments” (Matthew 19:17).

**9. JESUS IS “LORD OF THE SABBATH.” (Mark 2:28, Luke 6:5)**

He created the Sabbath at the beginning. He repeated the Sabbath from the Mountain. He promised a blessing for anyone who keeps His day. He declared Himself, “Lord of the Sabbath Day.” So when John the Revelator wrote that he was “in the Spirit on the Lord’s day,” (Rev. 1:10) of which day was he writing? - of the Sabbath day!!

**10. JESUS KEPT THE SABBATH. HE IS OUR EXAMPLE.**

*At the end of the six days of creation “all the works were finished,” and the Creator “rested” over the Sabbath day. (GENESIS ) “It is finished” Jesus cried, and then He rested in Joseph’s new tomb over the Sabbath day (MATTHEW 28:1, MARK 16:1-2, MARK 16:9, LUKE 24:1, JOHN 20:1).*

*Creation and redemption are linked by the Sabbath day.*

There are some who teach that Jesus broke the Sabbath, and was leading His followers away from Sabbath observance. This argument holds no water. If Jesus had broken the law, He would not have been the perfect lamb of God, and He could not have become our Savior.

LUKE 4:16 “And 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” (Luke 4:16).

*For a detailed account of the miracles of Christ, performed on the Sabbath day, and the incident in the cornfield, please see the study “Sabbath-Keeping, 24 Objections Considered” at this web site.*

Jesus said, “I have kept my Father’s commandments” (John 15:10).

**11. IN THE “NEW EARTH” - THOSE SAVED FROM THIS AGE - WILL WORSHIP THE LORD “FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER.” (ISAIAH 66:22-23)**

**12. ANTI-CHRIST WILL “THINK TO CHANGE TIME LAW.” (Daniel 7:25)**

The only “law” of God which involves “time” is the 4<sup>th</sup>, or Sabbath commandment. (Exo. 20).

It is the only commandment which contains the elements of an ancient “seal.” It contains the name of the supreme authority (the LORD), His territory (heavens and earth), the basis of his right to rule (He created mankind), and the sign or symbol of submission to His authority (Sabbath keeping).