

The Sabbath

What is the first time the Sabbath is mentioned in Scripture?

- Read Genesis 2:1-3.
- What did God do on the seventh day? (verse 2)
 1. He _____ His work.
 2. He _____ from all His work.
- What two things did God do to the Sabbath? (verse 3)
 1. _____
 2. _____
- What work was He resting from? (verse 3) _____

What is the fourth commandment of Scripture?

- Read Exodus 20:8-11.
- What does God tell His people to do with the Sabbath? (verse 8 – first word)

- How do we remember the Sabbath? (verse 8)

- How many days are we commanded to work? (verse 9) _____
- What day of the week is the Sabbath? (verse 10) _____
- Who is not to do any work on the Sabbath? (verse 10) _____

- Why is the seventh day the Sabbath? (verse 11) _____

- What two things did God do the Sabbath? (end of verse 11)
 1. _____
 2. _____

The Ten Commandments are repeated again in Deuteronomy.

- Read Deuteronomy 5:12-15.
- What does God tell His people to do with the Sabbath? (verse 12 – first word)

- How and why are we to do this? (verse 12)

- What are we to remember? (verse 15) _____

- How is this different from what we are told to remember in Exodus 20:8-11? _____

Therefore, the fourth commandment tells us to remember two things:

1. Creation
2. Redemption

When does the Sabbath begin and end?

- According to God, what constitutes a day? (Genesis 1:5) _____

Extra Research: *Our days are reckoned from midnight to midnight. When did this begin?*
<http://www.ancientsites.com/aw/Article/1120774>

- When does God reckon a new day to start?
- At evening (sunset)?
 - At midnight?
 - At morning (sunrise)?
- Read Leviticus 23:32. How long did this ceremonial Sabbath last? _____

The Sabbath starts at sundown on our 6th day (Friday) and lasts until sundown on our 7th day (Saturday).

What should the Sabbath be like?

- Read Leviticus 23:3.
- How many days may we work? _____
- The seventh day is a Sabbath of _____.

Extra Research: *What Hebrew word is used for "Sabbath" in this verse? _____
What does it mean? _____ What Hebrew word is used for "rest"
in this verse? What does it mean? _____ Are either of these
words used back in Genesis 2:1-3? _____*

Tools: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Lev&c=23&v=3&t=KJV#conc/3>

- The Sabbath is also a day of _____. (Some translations say "holy convocation," where others say things like "sacred assembly.")

Extra Research: *What Hebrew word is used for "convocation" or "assembly" in this verse?
_____ What does it mean? _____*

Tools: <http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Lev&c=23&v=3&t=KJV#conc/3>

- On the Sabbath, you are not to do any _____.
- The Sabbath was to apply to the people of God in what locations? _____

Of what is the Sabbath a sign?

- Read Ezekiel 20:12.
- Why did God give His people Sabbaths? _____
- "... so they would know _____."
- Read also Ezekiel 20:20.
- Read Exodus 31:13. For how many generations would the Sabbath be a sign? _____
- Read Exodus 31:17. The Sabbath would be a sign between God and Israel for how long? _____

Was the Sabbath just for the Jews?

- Read Mark 2:27. Who did Jesus say the Sabbath was made for? _____
- Read Isaiah 66:22-23. In the future, who will still be recognizing the Sabbath? (verse 23) _____
- Sabbath was instituted at Creation. Was this before or after Abraham? _____
- What command did Cain break? (Genesis 4:8, Exodus 20:13) _____
- What sin did Joseph have knowledge of? (Genesis 39:9, Exodus 20:14) _____
- What did Abraham keep? (Genesis 26:5) _____
- What were the Israelites to gather on the sixth day? (Exodus 16:4-5) _____
Why? _____
- Read Exodus 16:22-28. Was this *before* or *after* the Ten Commandments were given at Sinai? (See Exodus 19-20.) _____

How was the New Testament church taught?

- Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. How much of Scripture is useful for teaching us? _____
- Note that the New Testament had not yet been compiled when 2 Timothy was written. What "Scripture" would Paul have been referring to?*
- Read Luke 24:27. What was used to explain the Scriptures? _____
 - Read Acts 17:2. What did Paul use to reason with people? _____
 - Read Acts 18:28. What did Paul use to prove his argument? _____

On what day did the first-century believers worship?

Common Passage #1:

- Read Acts 20:7-8. What had they come together to do? _____

- What does it mean to “break bread”? _____
Compare to the meal eaten in Luke 24:28-30, and see that this was not necessarily a communion service.
- What were burning in the upstairs room? _____
- What time of day was it? _____
- What day of the week was it? _____
- Remember that the Biblical day started at what time? _____
- The believers here had gathered for a meal on what we now call Saturday evening. Why were they meeting? (Who was preparing to leave? See Acts 20:11.) _____
- Do you think that this passage is describing a weekly occurrence for the believers in this location, or was this a special circumstance?

Common Passage #2:

- Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-2.
- What two things does Paul say to do with your offerings?
 1. _____
 2. _____
- Were the people to bring their offerings to the church on the first day of the week? _____
- Were these people **giving** on the first day, or saving from their earnings on the first day? _____
- Do you think this passage is describing a change of worship from the seventh day to the first day of the week?

Sabbath-Day Examples

- Mark 1:21. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? _____
- Mark 6:2. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? _____
- Luke 4:16. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? _____
- Luke 4:31. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? _____
- Luke 13:10. What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? _____
- Acts 13:13-15. What did Paul and his companions do on the Sabbath? _____
- Acts 15:21. When is Moses to be taught? _____
- Acts 16:31. What did Paul and his companions do on the Sabbath? _____
- Acts 17:2. What did Paul and his companions do on the Sabbath? _____

- Acts 18:4. What did Paul and his companions do on the Sabbath? _____

The Bible says that we are not under law, but under grace? Doesn't that do away with our having to keep the Sabbath?

- Though no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law, of what does the law make us conscious? (Romans 3:20) _____
- What is sin? (1 John 3:4)
- Shall we sin because we not under law but under grace? (Romans 6:15) _____
- What two things do we have the option of being slaves to? (Romans 6:16) _____

- What do we uphold, instead of nullify, by faith? (Romans 3:31) _____
- Read Matthew 5:17-19. What did the Savior come to fulfill and not to abolish? (verse 17)

- What will disappear before the least part of the law is changed? (verse 18) _____

- Who will be called "least" and "great" in the kingdom of heaven? (verse 19) _____

Jesus rose on the first day. Doesn't that make Sunday holy?

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:20. Because Jesus rose from the dead, he is called the _____
_____.
- Read Leviticus 23:10-14. What were the people to bring as an offering? (verse 10)

- On what day of the week did they bring this offering? (verse 11) _____

This special feast was celebrated on the first Sunday after Passover each year (see Leviticus 23:5-8). As you remember, Jesus rose from the dead on the first Sunday after Passover, on the Feast of Firstfruits.

- For how long were the people of God to celebrate the Feast of Firstfruits? (verse 14)

- According to 1 Corinthians 15:20, who is symbolized in the Feast of Firstfruits? _____
- Did the celebration of Firstfruits nullify the weekly Sabbath commanded by God in Leviticus 23:3?

Isn't Sunday called the "Lord's Day"?

- Revelation 1:10. On what day was John in the Spirit and receive the prophecy given in this book? _____
- Mark 2:28. What does Jesus call himself? _____

What day is the Lord's?

- Exodus 20:10 _____
- Leviticus 19:3 _____
- Deuteronomy 5:14 _____
- Nehemiah 9:14 _____
- Isaiah 56:4 _____
- Isaiah 58:13 _____
- Ezekiel 20:11-12, 19-20 _____

Doesn't the Bible say that it doesn't matter what day we worship, as long as we are each convinced in our own mind?

- Read Romans 14:1, 5-6.
- What type of matters is Paul discussing? (verse 1) _____
- Read 1 John 3:4. What is sin? _____
- Does Scripture consider the Sabbath to be a "disputable matter"? _____

Extra Research: *What might Paul have been referring to in Romans 14:5-6?*

- Read Colossians 2:16-17.
- What were Sabbaths (and other set-apart days) a "shadow" of? _____
- What was the reality ("body" KJV)? _____
- Are others to judge us in regards to a Sabbath? _____ What does this mean?

- Read Hebrews 10:1. What were the things in the law a shadow of? _____

- Each special feast listed in Leviticus 23, including the Sabbath, was established to help us **remember** Christ and what He has done for us. Read more about this in Exodus 12:24-27, Deuteronomy 5:15, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. These "remembrances" do not save us; rather, they are "shadows" which point to Christ and continually remind us of His redemption.
- Read Deuteronomy 4:8-9. How long are we to be careful not to forget? _____

Didn't Jesus break the Sabbath?

- Read Mark 2:23-28.
- Who accused Jesus of doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath? (verse 24) _____
- Read Deuteronomy 4:2. What are we to be careful not to do? _____

- Read 1 Samuel 15:22. What is better than sacrifice? _____
- Read Isaiah 58:1-14. What are some ways of keeping Sabbath that are pleasing to God?

- Read Matthew 23:1-7, 23-28. Were the Pharisees pleasing God? _____
- In Mark 2:23-28, the Pharisees were accusing Jesus of not keeping their own traditions, not the laws of God. Why did God institute Sabbath? (verse 27) _____
- Read John 15:10. Did Jesus always obey His Father's commands? _____
- What will we do if we love God?
 - John 14:15 _____
 - John 14:21 _____
 - 1 John 5:2-3 _____
- Read 1 John 2:3-6. How do we know that we have come to know him? _____

- Read Matthew 15:3-9. Which are more important: God's commands or man's traditions?

- Read Jeremiah 16:19-21. What have we inherited? _____

Extra Research: Read 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12. Compare to Daniel 7:25 and Revelation 13.

- Read John 8:28-36. How can we distinguish a true disciple, one who has been set free? _____
