



Sabbath

Exodus 20:8-11





The Porsche 911 (Reiterated Laws)



1964



2021



The Honda Civic (Expanded Laws)



1977



2022



VW Beetle and Rocket (Transformed Laws)





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OT → NT
Blackbox



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The Sabbath day mandate from the 10 Commandments is no longer required for Jesus followers.

However, in Christ's new covenant, its expression offers greater rest than anyone could have imagined.



Exodus 20:8-11, page 61

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter...For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”



Described with superlatives

And the LORD said to Moses, “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the LORD, sanctify you.’”

(Exodus 31:12-13)



Described with superlatives

“...the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath,
observing the Sabbath throughout their
generations, as a covenant forever. It is a sign
forever between me and the people of Israel that
in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and
on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.”

(Exodus 31:16-17)



Death for disobedience

Six days work shall be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. You shall kindle no fire in all your dwelling places on the Sabbath day.”

(Exodus 35:2-3)



Death for disobedience

While the people of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day...

And the LORD said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.”

(Numbers 15:32,35)



Even the land gets a Sabbath

“...When you come into the land that I give you, the land shall keep a Sabbath to the LORD. For six years you shall sow your field...but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a Sabbath to the LORD. You shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard.”

(Leviticus 25:2-4)



Even the land gets a Sabbath

“And if you say, ‘What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?’ I will command my blessing on you in the sixth year, so that it will produce a crop sufficient for three years....”

(Leviticus 25:20-22)



Even the land gets a Sabbath

“You shall keep my Sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD. If you walk in my statutes and observe my commandments and do them, then I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its increase...”

(Leviticus 26:2-4)



Even the land gets a Sabbath

“But if you will not listen to me and will not do all these commandments, if you spurn my statutes, and if your soul abhors my rules, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant...”

(Leviticus 26:14-15)



Even the land gets a Sabbath

“...I will scatter you among the nations...Then the land shall enjoy its Sabbaths as long as it lies desolate, while you are in your enemies’ land; ...the rest that it did not have on your Sabbaths when you were dwelling in it.”

(Leviticus 26:33-35)



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Old Testament Truth

- Sabbath was really important!
- Key themes: Rest & Trust



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

[Nebuchadnezzar] took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.

(2 Chronicles 36:20–21)



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

586 BC



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

586 BC ←————→ 516 BC



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

586 BC ←————→ 516 BC
70 years



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

Ezra



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

Ezra → Greeks



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

Ezra → Greeks → Rabbi Hillel



History of Redemption and Revelation: Exile

Ezra → Greeks → Rabbi Hillel → Pharisees



Fulfillment in Christ - Gospels

..[Jesus] said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.”

(Luke 13:12-14)



Fulfillment in Christ - Gospels

Matthew 12:1-8/Mark 2:23-28

- Sabbath: Blessing not Burden
- Authority as Son of Man



Fulfillment in Christ - Gospels

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and

I will give you rest...rest for your souls...”

(Matthew 11:28-30)



Fulfillment in Christ - New Testament Letters

Therefore let no one pass judgment on you
in questions of food and drink, or with regard
to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

These are a shadow of the things to come,
but the substance belongs to Christ.

(Colossians 2:16-17)



Fulfillment in Christ – New Testament Letters

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.

(Romans 14:5–6)



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(Romans 14:5-6)



Fulfillment in Christ - New Testament Letters

Exodus 31:14

You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death...

Romans 14:5

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.



What's black & white? What is gray?

Wrong

- Mandating a Mosaic Sabbath
- Judging based on differing Sabbath decision
- Thoughtlessly practicing or thoughtlessly abstaining

Permissible

- Freedom to observe Sabbath in honor of the Lord



Fulfillment in Christ - New Testament Letters

So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest...

(Hebrews 4:9-11)



Unimaginably great REST through Jesus

ALREADY

- Done earning God's favor
- Forgiveness
- Divine Love
- Child of God



Unimaginably great REST through Jesus

ALREADY

- Done earning God's favor
- Forgiveness
- Divine Love
- Child of God

NOT YET

- Absence of sin
- No disease and death
- Great Commission complete
- His rest, joy and presence



‘Strive to enter that rest’ by:

- Pursuing increasing rest/anticipation
in gospel!



‘Strive to enter that rest’ by:

- Pursuing increasing rest/anticipation
in gospel!
- Trusting God regarding worries.



‘Strive to enter that rest’ by:

- Pursuing increasing rest/anticipation
in gospel!
- Trusting God regarding worries.
- Considering wisely your work/rest



Kids' Question!!



Kids' Question!!

In the 10 commandments, God commanded a Sabbath day of rest.

Describe one aspect of the greater Sabbath rest Jesus offers His followers.



Want to go deeper into this topic?

