

THE 7TH DAY OF REST

The creation-restoration passage of Genesis 1:1-2:3 can be divided into four sections by the syntactical use of the Hebrew conjunction (waw).

The absence of the Hebrew (waw) in **Gen.1: 1** sets this verse apart from the rest of the creation-restoration passage. Gen.1: 1 explains the original creation of the heavens and the earth. It is given as an independent statement.

Gen.1: 2 is the only verse in the creation-restoration passage to use 3 circumstantial (waw) conjunctions. It introduces the chaotic conditions of *tohu waw bohu* as a result of the fall of Satan and the fallen angels (Isa.45: 18).

Gen.1: 3-31 uses 30 consecutive waw conjunctions to record the six days of creation-restoration from uninhabited to inhabited condition (Psa.104: 30).

Gen.2: 1-3 breaks from the use of the consecutive waw conjunction to introduce the final day of creation-restoration. It used 5 summary waw conjunctions for the completion of the 6 days of creation-restoration and to introduce the Seventh Day.

This lesson will study SIX aspects of the 7th DAY OF REST. What day of week?

1. Gen.2: 1-3 teaches that at the end of the 6 days of creation-restoration God rested from His completed work.

Many Hebrew scholars refer to Gen.2: 1-3 as a colophon of Gen.1: 1-2:3. This refers to an inscription placed at the end of a historic manuscript written by Moses (Heb.11: 24-26).

The five summary (waw) conjunctions can be divided into two parts of study.

- § First 2 conjunctions state that the six days of God's work of creation-restoration is completed (2:1-2a).
- § Last 3 conjunctions state that on the 7th day God rested, blessed, and sanctified it (2:2b-3).

What three important statements are made about the seven days of creation-restoration in 2:1-3?
_____, _____ and _____.

"Great are the works of the Lord; They are studied by all who delight in them." (Ps.111: 2)

2. The 7th Day of creation-restoration teaches the doctrinal principle that God's grace provides everything necessary for man's habitation on earth.

"Thus the heavens and the earth were completed (*kalah* / *pual* impf. 3plm), and all their hosts. And by the Seventh Day God completed (*kalah* / *piel* impf 3ms) His work (*milakah* / work of Creator) which He had done (*asah* / *kal* pf); and He rested on the Seventh Day from all His work which He had done (*asah* / *kal* pf)." (Gen.2: 1-2)

Mankind made in the image according to the likeness of God lives in the completion of everything necessary to sustain life on earth (Phil.4: 19; 1 Tim.4: 4-5; Matt.6: 26).

3. The 7th Day teaches that mankind began in a highly organized and perfect earth. The last words from creation-restoration were that it was “very good” (1:31).

The second day was the only one NOT given the “good” creation seal. We believe that it wasn’t given the “good” creation seal because the water will bring the flood upon the antediluvian civilization (Gen.6-9).

Today we understand that the earth is moving in an imperfect status because of Adam’s Original Sin (AOS) (Gen.3: 17-19; Heb.1: 10-12; Rom.8: 18-22; 2 Pet.3: 4-13).

“For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it.” (Rom.8: 20)

4. Note that the 7th Day was the only day of creation-restoration that was blessed and sanctified without any divine work done.

“Then God blessed (barak / piel impf 3ms) [piel is the intensive stem] the Seventh Day and sanctified (qadash / piel impf) it, **because in it** He rested (shabath / kal pf) [completed rest] from all His work which God had created (bara) and made (asah).” (Gen.2: 3)

§ This doctrinal principle is very important to understand: **blessed and sanctified are given as memorials to God’s work of grace on behalf of mankind (Rom.1: 20-23; Exo.20: 11; 31:17).**

Since deity cannot tire (omnipotence), the rest of God is not from fatigue or tired but from a completed task (Read Isa.40: 28-31-Eagle Wings Ministry).

5. The 7th Day is unique from the other 6 days because it emphasizes the infinite grace rest of God (Heb.4: 1-6). The weekly 7th day rest of God points towards a saving and eternal rest.

The weekly 7th day (Saturday) teaches mankind that they are the beneficiary of God’s grace provisions (Matt.6: 25-26; 7:11; 10:29-30; Acts 14:17). On Saturdays reflect on God’s grace to your life!

“He cause the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” (Matt.5: 45)

§ Mankind enters God’s saving rest through faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (Heb.4: 1-6; 1 Cor.15: 3-4; Rom.1: 16).

§ Only God’s saving grace can work for man’s benefit and blessing (Eph.2: 8-9).

§ Man enters God’s eternal rest because He did the work not vice versa (Rom.4: 4-5).

6. The 7th Day Rest will not be completed until the end of human history (Matt.5: 18; 11:25; 2 Pet.3: 4-13).

The Hebrew word for rest is (shabath).

§ There is no evening or morning with the 7th Day. It emphasizes the infinite grace rest of God.

§ There is no ending or conclusion because there is NO beginning of an 8th day.