

WHEN DOES SABBATH START & END?

Leviticus 23:32 “It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath.”

- Weekly Sabbath, New Moons, & High Sabbaths **ALL START AT EVENING AND ENDS THE NEXT EVENING.**

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN IT IS EVENING?

Genesis 1:5 “And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.”

- The daytime is when there is still light out.
- Evening is **NIGHT TIME WHEN IT IS COMPLETELY DARK EXCEPT FOR THE MOON & STARS.**
- The sun, moon, and stars were not created till Day 4 of creation see Genesis 1:14-19. **SUNSET IS NOT WHEN SABBATH STARTS. SUNSET IS NOT WHEN NIGHT/DARKNESS STARTS. IT IS NOT COMPLETELY DARK TILL AFTER ASTRONOMICAL TWILIGHT WHEN THE SUN IS 18 DEGREES BELOW THE HORIZON WHICH IS KNOWN AS ASTRONOMICAL DUSK.**
- Twilight is the time between day and night when there is light outside, but the Sun is below the horizon. There are three stages of twilight before it is **NIGHT/DARK.**

1. Civil Twilight, Dawn, and Dusk: Civil twilight occurs when the Sun is less than 6 degrees below the horizon. In the morning, civil twilight begins when the Sun is 6 degrees below the horizon and ends at sunrise. In the evening, it begins at sunset and ends when the Sun reaches 6 degrees below the horizon.
 - Civil dawn is the moment when the center of the Sun is 6 degrees below the horizon in the morning.
 - Civil dusk is the moment when the center of the Sun is 6 degrees below the horizon in the evening.
 - Civil twilight is the brightest form of twilight. **There is enough natural sunlight during this period that artificial light may not be required to carry out outdoor activities.** Only the brightest celestial objects can be observed by the naked eye during this time. Several countries use this definition of civil twilight to make laws related to aviation, hunting, and the usage of headlights and street lamps.
2. Nautical Twilight, Dawn, and Dusk: Nautical twilight occurs when the center of the Sun is between 6 degrees and 12 degrees below the

horizon. This twilight period is less bright than civil twilight and artificial light is generally required for outdoor activities.

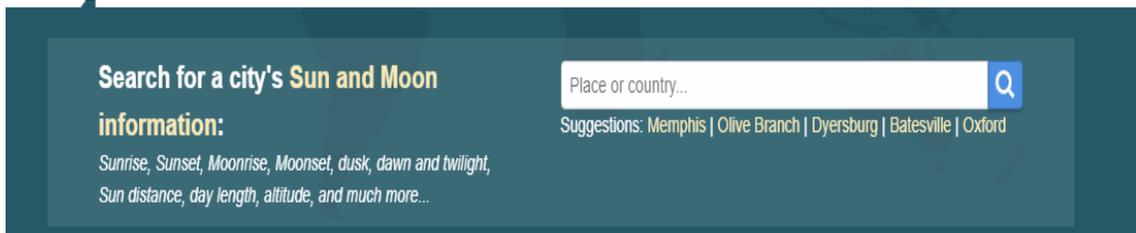
- Nautical dawn occurs when the Sun is 12 degrees below the horizon during the morning.
 - Nautical dusk occurs when the Sun is 12 degrees below the horizon in the evening.
 - The term, nautical twilight, dates back to the time when sailors used the stars to navigate the seas. During this time, most stars can be easily seen with naked eyes, and the horizon is usually also visible in clear weather conditions. In addition to being important to navigation on the seas, nautical twilight also has military implications. For example, the military forces of the United States use nautical twilight, as reflected by the terms begin morning nautical twilight (BMNT) and end evening nautical twilight (EENT), to plan tactical operations.
3. Astronomical Twilight, Dawn, and Dusk: Astronomical twilight occurs when the Sun is between 12 degrees and 18 degrees below the horizon.
- Astronomical dawn is the time when the center of the Sun is at 18 degrees below the horizon.
 - Astronomical dusk is the instant when the center of the Sun is at 18 degrees below the horizon. **THIS IS WHEN NIGHT/DARKNESS STARTS AND MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE EVENING. NIGHT/DARKNESS ENDS AT ASTRONOMICAL DAWN WHEN EVENING TRANSITIONS INTO MORNING OR DAYTIME.**
 - During astronomical twilight, most celestial objects can be observed in the sky. **However, the atmosphere still scatters and refracts a small amount of sunlight**, and that may make it difficult for astronomers to view the faintest objects.
 - Before astronomical dawn and after astronomical dusk, it is astronomical nighttime, when no indirect sunlight is visible and even faint celestial objects can be seen, weather permitting.
 - Nehemiah 4:21-22 “21 So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning **till the stars appeared.** 22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.”
 - Nehemiah 13:19 “And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem **began to be dark before the sabbath**, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the

gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.” **BEGAN TO BE DARK=SUNSET. NOTICE SABBATH HAD NOT STARTED YET BECAUSE IT WAS NOT COMPLETELY DARK OR NIGHT YET.**

- Proverbs 7:9 “In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:” **TWILIGHT= ASTRONOMICAL DUSK. נֶשֶׁפֶת nesheph, neh'-shef; from H5398; properly, a breeze, i.e. (by implication) dusk (when the evening breeze prevails):—dark, dawning of the day (morning), night, twilight.**

INSTRUCTION FOR DETERMINING THE START AND END OF SABBATH:

1. Go to <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/search.html?query=>
2. Search for your location here



3. When the new page comes up, scroll down to the middle of the page. Where it says “Night, Twilight, and Daylight Times in your city Today”. Once here on the right you will see listed when Astronomical Twilight ends and Night begins. This is when Sabbath starts Friday. Repeat again for Saturday to see when it ends. You can look days up in advance as well because this is all science, math, astronomy, & geography.

Night, Twilight, and Daylight Times in Memphis Today



Day, night, and twilight times in Memphis today. Black is nighttime, light blue is daytime. The darker blue shadings represent the twilight phases during dawn (left) and dusk (right). Hover over the graph for more information. [How to use this >](#)

■ Night	12:00 am – 4:01 am
■ Astro. Twilight	4:01 am – 4:41 am
■ Nautical Twilight	4:41 am – 5:17 am
■ Civil Twilight	5:17 am – 5:46 am
■ Daylight	5:46 am – 8:10 pm
■ Civil Twilight	8:10 pm – 8:39 pm
■ Nautical Twilight	8:39 pm – 9:15 pm
■ Astro. Twilight	9:15 pm – 9:55 pm
■ Night	9:55 pm – 11:59 pm

4. So using the above as an example Sabbath would start at 9:55pm. You do the same steps the next day to determine when it ends.