SABBATH WORSHIP – PART 1



By: Emanuel Bennett April 2020

GOD blessed and sanctified the seventh day at the end of His creation of the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 2:1-3 (KJV) Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. **2** And on **the seventh day** God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on **the seventh day** from all his work which he had made. **3** And God blessed **the seventh day**, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

- There is no mention of Sabbath, three (3) times it says the seventh day
- There is no clear indication that man is given a law or command to worship on that day
- There is no decree or penalty associated with failure to observe the seventh day
- It says GOD blessed and sanctified the seventh day because He rested from His work.
- The focus is on GOD and how He treated the seventh day
- I am not saying there is no benefit to treating this day special, but there are no clear guidelines for man of observing the seventh day

The ONLY COMMAND GOD gave to Adam:

Genesis 2:15-17 (KJV) And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

- This is the only command given to Adam, don't eat of the fruit from a specific tree
- There is a clear consequence for disobeying the command, death

The temptation and sin

Genesis 3:1-5 (KJV) Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **2** And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: **3** But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. **4** And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: **5** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

- The serpent could have seduced Eve into believing the seventh day was unimportant, why not?
- The serpent used the tree because that is the only thing GOD promised the curse of death if eaten

Genesis 3:8-11 (KJV) And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. **9** And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou? **10** And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself. **11** And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

- GOD is in the garden to meet with Adam, we don't know which day it is
- If the day of the week was important why isn't it mentioned?

The first offerings unto GOD

Genesis 4:3-5 (KJV) And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. **4** And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: **5** But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

- The offerings are mentioned, but not the day when offered
- The types of offerings are given, but not the day they are offered
- The acceptance of Abel's offering and the rejection of Cain's offering, and nothing is mentioned about the day of the offering

Prayers and offerings unto GOD by the patriarchs

Enoch

Genesis 5:21-24 (KJV) And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah: **22** And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: **23** And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: **24** And Enoch walked with God: and he *was* not; for God took him.

There is no mention of a special day of worship, only, He walked with GOD

Noah

Genesis 8:18-20 (KJV) And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: **19** Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, *and* whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark. **20** And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

An altar is built and sacrifices offered but no mentioning of the day

Genesis 9:1-17 (KJV) And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. 2 And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered. 3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things. 4 But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man. 6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. 7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein. 8 And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, 9 And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; 10 And with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. 11 And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. 12 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: 13 I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. 14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: 15 And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. 17 And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

- GOD gives clear commands:
 - o Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. (vs. 1)
 - o flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. (Vs. 4)
 - Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. (vs. 6)
 - , be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein. (vs. 7)
- God establishes a covenant with Man and all creatures:
 - And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

• NOTICE: no mention of the seventh day observance

> Abram:

Genesis 12:1-3 (KJV) Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: **2** And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: **3** And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

- The LORD spoke to Abram
- Commanded Abram to leave country, kindred and family
- The LORD promised to make him a great nation, bless him, make his name great and make him a blessing
- The LORD will bless those that bless him and curse those that curse Abram
- No mention of the seventh day

Genesis 12:7-8 (KJV) And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. **8** And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, *having* Beth-el on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.

- The LORD appeared unto Abram
- Abram builds two (2) altars unto the LORD
- Call on the name of the LORD (worship)
- No mention of the seventh day

*** There is no mention of seventh day worship until Exodus 16

Exodus 16:4-12 (KJV) Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. **5** And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare *that* which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. **6** And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: **7** And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what *are* we, that ye murmur against us? **8** And Moses said, *This shall be*, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what *are* we? your murmurings *are* not against

us, but against the LORD. **9** And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings. **10** And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. **11** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **12** I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD your God.

- This is the setting that sets the framework for the introduction of the Sabbath
- The Israelites are in the wilderness are suffering hunger and begin to complain
- GOD introduces a test to for the people:
 - o I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. (vs. 4)
 - o ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: (6)
 - ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: (vs. 7)
 - o in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD your God. (vs. 12)

Exodus 16:22-26 (KJV) And it came to pass, *that* on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one *man*: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. **23** And he said unto them, This *is that* which the LORD hath said, To morrow *is* the rest of **the holy sabbath** unto the LORD: bake *that* which ye will bake *to day*, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. **24** And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. **25** And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day *is* **a sabbath** unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field. **26** Six days ye shall gather it; but on **the seventh day**, *which is* **the sabbath**, in it there shall be none.

- The instructions:
 - On the sixth day gather twice as much bread (vs. 22)
 - Tomorrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD (vs. 23)
 - Eat that today; for today is a sabbath unto the LORD: today ye shall not find it in the field (vs. 25)
 - Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none. (vs. 26)
- The Sabbath is given to the Israelites to establish a relationship of trust and obedience
- The Sabbath is on the seventh day

Exodus 16:27-30 (KJV) And it came to pass, *that* there went out *some* of the people on **the seventh day** for to gather, and they found none. **28** And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? **29** See, for that **the LORD hath given you the sabbath**, therefore **he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days**; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on **the seventh day**. **30** So **the people rested on the seventh day**.

- The LORD now explicitly states it is a commandment and law (vs. 28)
- It is emphasized, the LORD hath given you the sabbath, addressed to "Israel" (vs. 29)
- The Israelites were to rest on the seventh day, the sabbath

Exodus 20:1-2 (KJV) And God spake all these words, saying, **2** I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Exodus 20:8-11 (KJV) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9** Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: **10** But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: **11** For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

- Here GOD gives the 10 commandments to the Israelites
- the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God
- The Israelites and all that are in relationship with them are not to work on the sabbath
- The sabbath day is for rest

Exodus 31:13-16 (KJV) Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you. 14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.

- The sabbath is exclusively for the Israelites (vs. 13)
- The sabbath is a sign between GOD and the Israelites, to confirm He sanctifies them (vs. 13)
- The sabbath is holy unto Israel and defiling it will lead to death (vs. 14)
- The sabbath is a perpetual covenant between GOD and Israel (vs. 16)

THE SABBATH FOR THE LAND

LEVITICUS CHAPTER 25

Leviticus 25:1-4 (KJV) And the LORD spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying, **2** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a **sabbath** unto the LORD. **3** Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; **4** But in the **seventh** year shall be a

sabbath of rest unto the land, a **sabbath** for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

- The LORD give instructions for a SABBATH for the land every seventh year
- This requirement is only demanded of ISRAEL, no other nation

2 Chronicles 36:17-21 (KJV) Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave *them* all into his hand. 18 And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all *these* he brought to Babylon. 19 And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. 20 And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia: 21 To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: *for* as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years.

- Judah was prophesied to be exiled into Babylon for threescore and ten years, which is
 70 years
- The Israelites failed to observe the sabbath for the land GOD gave them for 490 years (1094BC – 605BC) and they never celebrated the sabbath years
- 490/7 = 70years (605BC 536BC) this was the period from the first attack of Nebuchadnezzar against Jerusalem in 605BC until the proclamation from Cyrus for the Jews to return to Jerusalem 536BC
- Throughout world history no other nation was punished according to this guideline of sabbath year for the land

Ne 13:15 (KJV) In those days saw I in Judah *some* treading wine presses on the **sabbath**, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all *manner of* burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the **sabbath** day: and I testified *against them* in the day wherein they sold victuals.

- **16** There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the **sabbath** unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.
- **17** Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing *is* this that ye do, and profane the **sabbath** day?
- **18** Did not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the **sabbath**.
- **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.
- 20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath.

- The exiles have returned to Jerusalem after 70 years in Babylon
- Nehemiah notice they are violating the sabbath by buying and selling with the gentiles from areas surrounding Jerusalem
- Nehemiah reminds them this is why they was punished by GOD with the captivity in Babylon
- Nehemiah accuse only the Judahites of profaning the sabbath, not the gentiles

Isa 56:1 (KJV) Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation *is* near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

- **2** Blessed *is* the man *that* doeth this, and the son of man *that* layeth hold on it; that **keepeth the sabbath** from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.
- **3** Neither let the son of **the stranger**, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I *am* a dry tree.
- **4** For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that **keep my sabbaths**, and choose *the things* that please me, and take hold of my covenant;
- **5** Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.
- **6** Also the **sons** of **the stranger**, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that **keepeth the sabbath** from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;
- **7** Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.
- **8** The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather *others* to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.
 - This was written by the prophet Isaiah around 712 BC, more than 100 years before Judah is defeated by Nebuchadnezzar and taken in exile to Babylon
 - This is a message about the requirements of joining with the seed of Abraham and the LORD in their covenant
 - The strangers are the gentiles, they must: keep judgment, do justice, keep the **sabbath**, don't do evil.
 - They must also serve the LORD, love the name of the LORD, keep the sabbath, take hold
 of the covenant
 - GOD will give them access to <u>His holy mountain</u>, accept their <u>burnt offerings</u> and sacrifices upon His altar
 - This appears to refer back to old covenant teaching with the requirements of the stranger to become an Israelite, it doesn't mention grace or the

- o Ex. 20:10, 11; 23:12
- o Lev 16: 29, 30; 17: 8-16; 18:26; 19:9, 10; 19:33, 34; 20:1, 2
- o Lev. 22:17, 18; 24:15, 16; 24:22; 25:6; 25:35, 36
- O Num. 9:14; 15:14-16; 15:25-31; 16:10, 11
- o Deut. 10:17-19

• But notice the restrictions for the stranger

- Exodus 12:43-45 (KJV) And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the
 ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: 44 But every
 man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then
 shall he eat thereof. 45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.
- Leviticus 22:10 (KJV) There shall no stranger eat of the holy thing: a sojourner
 of the priest, or an hired servant, shall not eat of the holy thing.
- Leviticus 22:12-13 (KJV) If the priest's daughter also be married unto a stranger, she may not eat of an offering of the holy things. 13 But if the priest's daughter be a widow, or divorced, and have no child, and is returned unto her father's house, as in her youth, she shall eat of her father's meat: but there shall no stranger eat thereof.
- Numbers 1:51 (KJV) And when the tabernacle setteth forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.
- Numbers 3:10 (KJV) And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.
- Numbers 16:40 (KJV) To be a memorial unto the children of Israel, that no stranger, which is not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD; that he be not as Korah, and as his company: as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses.
- Deuteronomy 17:15 (KJV) Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom
 the LORD thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set
 king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy
 brother.
 - The stranger can't eat of the Passover, unless he is circumcised
 - The stranger can't eat of the offerings with the priest
 - If a widow marries a stranger she can't eat of the offerings with the priest
 - The stranger can't be a priest nor help with the erecting of the tabernacle in the wilderness
 - The stranger attempting to become a priest was to be put to death
 - The stranger can't offer incense on the altar
 - The stranger could never be king over Israel

- Pay close attention to what it says about the stranger in the new testament
 - **Ephesians 2:10 (KJV)** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
 - **11** Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;
 - **12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and **strangers from the covenants of promise**, having no hope, and without God in the world:
 - **13** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.
 - **14** For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;
 - **15** Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace;
 - **16** And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:
 - **17** And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.
 - 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.
 - 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;
 - **20** And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;
 - **21** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:
 - **22** In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.
 - There are no more strangers in Christ Jesus
 - There is no separation in Christ Jesus
 - We all approach GOD by one Spirit
 - The Jewish believer and the Gentile believer becomes one new man
 - The stranger is made a fellow citizen with the Saints
 - The stranger becomes a full participating member of the household of GOD

- We all are the holy temple of GOD we need not approach a holy mountain while we are in Christ Jesus
- **1 Peter 2:6 (KJV)** Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
- **7** Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
- **8** And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.
- **9** But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
- 10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
- **11** Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;
- **12** Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.
- Look at the change in relationship for the Gentiles that believe in Jesus
 - A chosen generation
 - A royal priesthood
 - Holy nation
 - Previously strangers but now the people of GOD
- Isaiah 56 don't mention these benefits for the stranger, therefore it must be applied
 for another time. That time is most likely when the Jews would return from exile in
 Babylon after 70 years. The main reason for the exile was the failure to honor the
 sabbath.

NEXT WE SHALL CONSIDER THE NEW TESTAMENT