

THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH SCRIPTURES FROM THE WRITTEN TORAH, THE PROPHETS, THE WRITINGS, AND YEHOVUA'S WORDS

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My purpose in writing this article:

I pray that everyone, once you have read and understand these scriptures, will MAKE THE DECISION TO HONOR AND OBEY YEHOVAH ELOHIM and RECEIVE THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH as A DELIGHTFUL GIFT FROM OUR LOVING FATHER and THE DAY THAT HE BLESSED AND MADE HOLY TO WORSHIP HIM AS THE CREATOR OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, TO CEASE WORKING, TO REST, AND TO BE REFRESHED!!!

BEFORE I BEGIN, PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

DOES ANYONE REALLY BELIEVE THAT ANY HUMAN BEING, OR ANY HUMAN ENTITY, EVEN A "CHURCH," OR A "CHURCH COUNCIL," HAD THE AUTHORITY TO NEGATE OR CHANGE THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH COMMANDMENT OF YEHOVAH ELOHIM, THE CREATOR?

DID YEHOVAH GIVE THAT AUTHORITY TO ANYONE AND WHEN?

DID YEHOVUA, (JESUS), THE SON OF YEHOVAH ELOHIM, EVER CHANGE THE SABBATH OR GIVE ANYONE THE AUTHORITY TO DO SO?

DID YEHOVUA EVER TELL ANYONE THAT THE SABBATH WOULD NO LONGER BE IMPORTANT TO HIS FATHER WHEN THE NEW COVENANT WAS ESTABLISHED? I can tell you that the answer is no. In fact, the Gospel of Matthew has Yehoshua telling His Disciples the following concerning the end-time tribulation when there will be those who need to flee Judea into the surrounding mountains. OBVIOUSLY, YEHOVUA EXPECTED THAT THE SABBATH WILL STILL BE BEING KEPT HOLY!!!

[Matthew 24:20 KJV] 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, NEITHER ON THE SABBATH DAY:

WHICH OTHER OF YEHOVAH'S TEN COMMANDMENTS DO WE BELIEVE HAVE CHANGED OR ARE NO LONGER IMPORTANT TO HIM???

The question, then, becomes: WHAT DOES YEHOVAH, OUR CREATOR, DESIRE OF US TO KEEP HIS SABBATH HOLY???

I need to make it clear that this is a LIST of many of the scriptures concerning the Sabbath from the Written Torah and the Prophets, and even some of the Writings (although I don't claim that it is an exhaustive list). This is the Hebrew Tanach, or the Hebrew Bible, which is what Christians refer to as the Old Testament. I've added a few of Yehoshua's Words from the Gospel of Matthew, but mostly just explained how he was simply ignoring the Oral Torah laws of the Pharisees, while still upholding the true Written Torah Yehovah gave to Moses concerning the Sabbath. The distinction between the Written Torah and the Oral Torah is crucial to understand Yehoshua's ministry!

Much of Yehoshua's ministry was against the Pharisee's additions to the Written Torah (which they called the Oral Torah) concerning the Sabbath that WERE TRULY BURDENSOME for people to observe. Those extra laws were what Yehoshua constantly came against!!! (See Matthew 15:1-9 and Matthew 23). As an example, there was actually an oral commandment not to rub grain together in your hands on the Sabbath, and Yehoshua and his Disciples completely disregarded that (Matthew 12:1-15). There are even new laws added by modern rabbis, such as not using any technology on Shabbat, that go beyond what Yehovah has asked us to do. (See my book *The Holy Arm of the Lord*, Chapter 16 – The Oral Torah Examined Too! – available as a free pdf on my website www.TheHolyArmoftheLord.com for further explanation. However, even though Yehoshua declared that He was the “Lord of the Sabbath” – notice that we do not find Him, nor His disciples, working at an occupation on the Sabbath!! Notice that the women who came to see His tomb waited until after the Sabbath. So, no, He did not come against true observance of the Sabbath. On the Sabbath, His custom was to go to the synagogue and read the Written Torah and The Prophets, and even go to the Temple, but He also did not fail to help those who needed healing on the Sabbath. I believe He is our example of how to keep The Sabbath Holy in a way that is pleasing to Yehovah! I believe He did that with all of the Written Torah, and will in the future Messianic Kingdom as well!

[Isaiah 42:1-4 KJV] 1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, [in whom] my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. 2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. 3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and THE ISLES SHALL WAIT FOR HIS LAW.

[Isaiah 2:2-4 KJV] 2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, [that] the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and HE WILL TEACH US OF HIS WAYS, AND WE WILL WALK IN HIS PATHS: FOR OUT OF ZION SHALL GO FORTH THE LAW (“TORAH”), AND THE WORD OF THE LORD FROM JERUSALEM. 4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Let us start from the beginning and delve into what Yehovah says about the Sabbath.

The word “Sabbath” is the Hebrew noun “Shabbat” (Strong's H7676) and is described in the Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon (accessed from www.blueletterbible.org, July 28, 2024)

שֶׁבֶת const. state שֶׁבֶת, with suff. שֶׁבֶתוֹ, pl. שֶׁבֶתוֹת, const. state שֶׁבֶתוֹת, common (Exod. 31:14, compared with Lev. 25:4)—(1) *sabbath*, the seventh day of the week, Exod. 16:25, שֶׁבֶת הַיּוֹם לַיהוָה “to-day is the sabbath of Jehovah.” שֶׁבֶת שֶׁבֶת every sabbath, 1 Ch. 9:32. שֶׁבֶת שָׁנִים the sabbatical year, every seventh year, in which the land was not tilled, Lev. 25:4, seqq.

(2) perhaps *a week*, like the Syr. and Gr. (Matt. 28:1) Lev. 23:15; compare Deu. 16:9.

“Shabbat” is a noun derived from the Hebrew verb “shavat,” Strong’s Hebrew #7673, which is described in Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon, (accessed from www.blueletterbible.org, July 28, 2024) basically meaning “TO CEASE.” As we look at the Hebrew words in the following scriptures, It is helpful to know that Hebrew verbs have prefixes and suffixes added to the root, which is usually three consonants, that make the different “Binyamin” (Conjugations) and Tenses and also can show who is doing the action. So, finding the root of a Hebrew verb, usually in the middle of the word, is

important when reading Hebrew text. In this case it is SHIN, BET, TAV, שבת, read from right to left:

שָׁבַת fut. יִשְׁבֹּת and יִשְׁבֹּת. Lev. 26:34.—(1) TO REST, TO KEEP AS A DAY OF REST. (Arab. سبت IV. to take rest. The primary idea appears to be that of *to sit down, to sit still*; cognate on the one hand are יָשַׁב, inf. שָׁבַת, on the other to שׁוּת and שָׁפַת.) It is used of men (opp. to labour), Ex. 23:12; 34:21; of land which is not tilled, Lev. 26:34, 35, compare 25:2. Followed by מִן to rest from labour, Gen. 2:2, 3; Ex. 31:17.—Isa. 33:8, שָׁבַת עִיר אֶרֶץ “the traveller rests,” abstains from journeying; Isa. 14:4; Lam. 5:14, “the elders rest from the gate,” i. e. do not go to the forum.

(2) *to cease, to desist, leave off*, followed by מִן with an inf. (prop. to desist from doing any thing), Job 32:1; Jer. 31:36; Hos. 7:4; absol. *to cease to be, to have an end*, Gen. 8:22; Isa. 24:8; Lam. 5:15.

(3) *to celebrate the sabbath*, followed by שָׁבַת Lev. 23:32.

NIPHAL, i. q. Kal No. 2, prop. pass. of Hiphil, *to have an end*, Isa. 17:3; Eze. 6:6; 30:18; 33:28.

HIPHIL—(1) *to cause to rest*, followed by מִן from work, Ex. 5:5, or *to cause a work to cease*, i. e. *to interrupt*, 2 Ch. 16:5; to make an enemy to rest, i. e. *to restrain*, to still, Ps. 8:3.

(2) *to cause to cease*—(a) any person, followed by מִן before an inf. Eze. 34:10; followed by לְבִלְתִּי Josh. 22:25.—(b) any thing, i. e. *to put an end to*, e. g. war, Ps. 46:10; contention, Prov. 18:18; exultation, Isa. 16:10. Followed by לְ Jer. 48:35; Am. 8:4; Ruth 4:14, אֲשֶׁר הִשְׁבִּית לְךָ זֵאל “who hath not left thee without a redeemer;” Lev. 2:13.

(3) *to remove, to take away*, followed by מִן from any person or thing, i. q. הִסִּיר, Exod. 12:15; Levit. 26:6; Eze. 34:25; 23:27, 48; 30:13; Isa. 30:11; Jer. 7:34; Ps. 119:119.

Derivatives, מִשְׁבָּח, שְׁבַחְתִּי, שְׁבַחְתֶּן, שְׁבַח, No. I, שָׁבַת.

So, to understand the Sabbath ("Shabbat"), GENESIS CHAPTER ONE should be read first carefully to understand that YEHOVAH ELOHIM CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH IN THE FIRST SIX DAYS. HE REITERATES THAT HE DID THIS IN SIX LITERAL DAYS THROUGHOUT THE WRITTEN TORAH ALMOST EVERY TIME HE ADDRESSES THE SABBATH, AS YOU WILL NOTICE! (REMEMBER, THERE IS NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE OR TOO WONDROUS FOR GOD!!!)

Now, read these verses from Genesis chapter two:

Genesis 2:1 KJV - THUS THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH WERE FINISHED, AND ALL THE HOST OF THEM.

Genesis 2:2 KJV - AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY GOD ENDED HIS WORK WHICH HE HAD MADE; AND HE RESTED ("AND HE CEASED " - "VAYSH'BOT") ON THE SEVENTH DAY FROM ALL HIS WORK WHICH HE HAD MADE.

GENESIS 2:3 KJV - AND GOD BLESSED ("HE BLESSED " - "VAY'VARECH") THE SEVENTH DAY, AND SANCTIFIED IT ("HE MADE IT HOLY" – "VAY'KADESH OTO") : BECAUSE THAT IN IT HE HAD RESTED (literally "HE CEASED" – "SHAVAT") FROM ALL HIS WORK WHICH GOD CREATED AND MADE.

NOTE: YEHOVAH BLESSED THE SEVENTH DAY AT CREATION AND SANCTIFIED IT (SET IT APART AS HOLY). He did it BECAUSE HE HAD CEASED CREATING ALL HIS WORK ("SHAVAT" – HE CEASED) ON THAT DAY. He did NOT make it a commandment for the world to "SHAVAT" (CEASE) working on that day at that time, though. BUT, THIS DISTINCTION OF THE SEVENTH DAY AS A BLESSED AND HOLY DAY WAS MADE AT CREATION - BEFORE THE TORAH WAS GIVEN AT ALL!!

Yehovah then made it into a command FOR ISRAEL to honor the Blessed Seventh Day as the Sabbath Day – The Day of Ceasing to work and simply rest - just before the children of Israel arrived at Mt. Sinai when He started giving them manna (Exodus 16:4-5, 22-30), and then, shortly afterward, made it part of the TEN COMMANDMENTS for them at Mt. Sinai (Exodus 20: 8-11). BUT, REMEMBER, IT WAS BLESSED AND SET APART AS HOLY AT CREATION! As we will see, IT WAS EXTENDED TO ALL WHO WOULD JOIN ISRAEL, EVEN THE "MIXED MULTITUDE" WHO CAME UP WITH THEM FROM EGYPT AND BECAME PART OF THE CONGREGATION OF ISRAEL, ALONG WITH ALL OF THE OTHER COMMANDMENTS (EXODUS 12:18-20, 43-51 AND NUMBERS 15:15-16, ETC.). In the Messianic Kingdom, we will see that any "stranger" who joins Yehovah and His People Israel by Covenant will also keep the Sabbath (Isaiah 56:1-8) and it appears to be a commandment for "ALL FLESH" to literally come TO WORSHIP YEHOVAH on the Seventh Day Sabbath (Isaiah 66:23, Ezekiel 44:23-24, Ezekiel 46:1-15).

I believe that YEHOVAH WANTS ALL OF HIS PEOPLE WHO ARE JOINED TO HIM, BECOMING PART OF HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL, EVEN OF THE GENTILES, to sanctify The Seventh Day (The Sabbath) BECAUSE IT SHOWS THAT WE BELIEVE THAT HE IS THE CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH – THAT HE IS THE ONLY ONE TRUE LIVING GOD (ELOHIM)!!! IT ABSOLUTELY SHOWS WHICH "GOD" WE SERVE!!! WE DON'T SERVE A GENERIC "GOD"!!! WE DON'T SERVE ALLAH, OR BUDDHA, OR BAAL, OR MOLECH, OR CHEMOSH, OR ZEUS, OR JUPITER, OR ANY OF THE OTHER MULTITUDE OF PAGAN "GODS" OF THE DIFFERENT NATIONS OF THE EARTH!

WE SERVE “YEHOVAH ELOHIM” – THE GOD (ELOHIM) WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH – IN SIX LITERAL DAYS – AND RESTED ON THE SEVENTH LITERAL DAY - WHO ALSO REFERS TO HIMSELF AS “YEHOVAH TSAVAOT ELOHEY YISRAEL” – “YEHOVAH OF HOSTS, THE GOD OF ISRAEL,” WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH (JEREMIAH 27:4-5, ISAIAH 21:3-18, JEREMIAH 7:3, AND MANY MORE) – THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB/ISRAEL!!!

[Exodus 3:13-15 KJV] "13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, [when] I come unto THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, and shall say unto them, THE GOD OF YOUR FATHERS hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, WHAT [IS] HIS NAME? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM (“EHEYEH ASHER EHEYEH” – LITERALLY “I AM/ WILL BE WHO I AM/WILL BE”) : and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM (“EHEYEH”) hath sent me unto you. 15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, THE LORD GOD (“YEHOVAH ELOHEY”) OF YOUR FATHERS, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB, hath sent me unto you: THIS [IS] MY NAME FOR EVER, AND THIS [IS] MY MEMORIAL UNTO ALL GENERATIONS."

YE-HOV-AH (יהוה) - Yod, Heh, Vav, Heh - referred to as the Tetragrammaton – the Four Letter Name of God - IS LITERALLY THE NAME DERIVED (BY YEHOVAH HIMSELF!) FROM ALL THE TENSES OF THE VERB “TO BE” – IT MEANS:

HE WHO WAS [“HAYAH”]

HE WHO IS [“HOVEH”]

HE WHO WILL BE [“YIHYEH”]

Hebrew is read, right to left, so it is pronounced Yeh-Hov-Ah.

(It helps to know that IN THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, every time the word LORD or sometime GOD is seen IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS, it is a substitution for THIS NAME “YEHOVAH”!)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT IN OUR DISCUSSION OF SHABBAT???

SO THAT WE CAN KNOW THAT WE ARE WORSHIPPING A DISTINCT GOD NAMED YEHOVAH ELOHIM, THE ONLY TRUE GOD WHO CREATED EVERYTHING IN SIX LITERAL DAYS AND CEASED ON THE SEVENTH DAY! YEHOVAH CALLS HIMSELF THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB/WHOM HE RENAMED ISRAEL! HE HAS COMMANDED HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL (INCLUDING THOSE JOINED TO THE TWELVE TRIBES OF JACOB/ ISRAEL) TO CEASE WORK ON THAT DAY TOO, I BELIEVE, TO SHOW WE BELIEVE HE ALONE IS THE CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH! Later, when Yehovah allowed the Tribes of Israel to actually enter the Land of Canaan, the fame of YEHOVAH, THE GOD OF ISRAEL and His drying up the Red Sea forty years earlier was still on the lips of the people of Jericho! They knew His Name! Rahab said this to the men Joshua sent in:

[Joshua 2:8-11 KJV] 8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9 And she said unto the men, I KNOW THAT THE LORD (YEHOVAH) HATH GIVEN YOU THE LAND, and that

YOUR TERROR IS FALLEN UPON US, AND THAT ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND FAINT BECAUSE OF YOU. 10 For we have heard how the LORD (YEHOVAH) dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that [were] on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. 11 And as soon as we had heard [these things], OUR HEARTS DID MELT, NEITHER DID THERE REMAIN ANY MORE COURAGE IN ANY MAN, BECAUSE OF YOU: FOR THE LORD (YEHOVAH) YOUR GOD, HE [IS] GOD IN HEAVEN ABOVE, AND IN EARTH BENEATH.

So, it is clear ONLY YEHOVAH, ISRAEL'S GOD, IS THE CREATOR OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH! THEIR KEEPING OF THE SABBATH DECLARES IT!!!!

[Psalm 72:18 KJV] 18 Blessed [be] the LORD (YEHOVAH) God, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, who ONLY doeth wondrous things.

Now, let's review more of the scriptures about The Sabbath. This one is actually when it was **FIRST GIVEN AS A COMMANDMENT TO CEASE WORK AND REST**, even before the rest of the Torah on Mount Sinai was given!!!:

Exodus 16:4 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.**

Exodus 16:5 KJV - 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.

(NOTE: YEHOVAH MADE THE MANNA A TEST AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD OBEY HIS COMMAND TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY OR NOT!!!)

Exodus 16:22 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.

Exodus 16:23 KJV - And he said unto them, THIS [IS THAT] WHICH THE LORD (YEHOVAH) HATH SAID, TOMORROW [IS] THE REST OF THE HOLY SABBATH UNTO THE LORD ("SHABBATON SHABBAT - KODESH LAY'HOVAH"): 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.

(NOTE: "Shabbaton" is an INTENSIVE form of the word "Shabbat" according to Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon H7677 – "A GREAT SABBATH"; the word "Kodesh" H6944 is "Holy" – so a literal translation of Yehovah's Words could be: "TOMORROW IS THE GREAT HOLY SABBATH TO YEHOVAH") "Shabbaton" is translated as "a complete rest" in the JPS (Jewish Publication Society) translation of the Bible, emphasizing the intensity of the word. The word "Shabbaton" is also used in some of the later commandments concerning certain days in the Appointed Times, that we sometimes call Feasts, to designate a "a complete rest." That is not going to be addressed in this article, however.)

Exodus 16:24 KJV - And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein.

Exodus 16:25 KJV - 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.

Exodus 16:26 KJV - Six days ye shall gather it; BUT ON THE SEVENTH DAY, [WHICH IS] THE SABBATH, in it there shall be NONE. (NOTE: EVEN THE MANNA “CEASED” ON THE SABBATH!)

Exodus 16:27 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.

Exodus 16:28 KJV - AND THE LORD SAID UNTO MOSES, HOW LONG REFUSE YE TO KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS AND MY LAWS?

Exodus 16:29 KJV - 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.

Exodus 16:30 KJV - SO THE PEOPLE RESTED (“YISH’B’TU” – “THEY CEASED”) ON THE SEVENTH DAY.

(NOTE: YEHOVAH STATES IN VERSE 29 THAT HE “GAVE” THEM THE SABBATH – IT IS A GIFT! HE CALLS IT “MY SABBATH” AND EXPECTS US TO KEEP IT HOLY/SET APART AND NOT WORK ON IT, BUT ISN’T THAT A GREAT GIFT??? IT IS TO ME! SERIOUSLY, HOW HARD IS IT NOT TO WORK??? HE COULD HAVE SAID THAT WE SHOULD WORK TWICE AS HARD THAT DAY! BUT, NO, HE GAVE HIS SABBATH TO BE THE DAY TO REST – GUILT FREE!!!)

THEN LATER, YEHOVAH GAVE ISRAEL HIS TORAH WHEN THEY REACHED MOUNT SINAI. IT IS THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT (one of the longest and most detailed of the Ten Commandments!) THAT YEHOVAH SHOUTED DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND ALL THE PEOPLE HEARD HIM SPEAKING!!!

EXODUS 20:8 KJV - REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY, TO KEEP IT HOLY.

Exodus 20:9 KJV - SIX DAYS SHALT THOU LABOUR, AND DO ALL THY WORK:

Exodus 20:10 KJV - 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:

Exodus 20:11 KJV – FOR [IN] SIX DAYS THE LORD (YEHOVAH) MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IN THEM [IS], AND RESTED THE SEVENTH DAY: WHEREFORE THE LORD (YEHOVAH) BLESSED THE SABBATH DAY, AND HALLOWED IT.

NOTE: THIS FOURTH COMMANDMENT STATES THAT IT IS GIVEN TO CONFIRM THAT YEHOVAH IS THE GOD WHO CREATED EVERYTHING - IN SIX LITERAL DAYS – AND THEN YEHOVAH, THE CREATOR GOD, RESTED THE VERY NEXT DAY – THE SEVENTH LITERAL DAY. THE COMMANDMENT REITERATES THAT YEHOVAH BLESSED AND MADE HOLY THE SEVENTH DAY – AT CREATION (Genesis 2:1-3)!!!

THAT IS WHY THE SABBATH DAY CANNOT BE CHANGED TO ANY OTHER DAY!!!

NO “MAN” AND NO “CHURCH” AND NO “CHURCH COUNCIL” WAS EVER GIVEN AUTHORITY BY YEHOVAH TO CHANGE THE SABBATH TO ANOTHER DAY!!!

ALL OF THE OTHER SIX DAYS OF THE WEEK ARE WORK DAYS! Interestingly, every work day of the week is only defined by its number – first day, second day, third day, etc. – they are not named! Only the seventh day is given a name - “Shabbat”! ALSO, A WEEK HAS TO START WITH THE FIRST DAY AND END WITH THE SEVENTH DAY SHABBAT!!! This is discerned from Leviticus 23:15-22 when it specifies that “seven SABBATHS shall be complete” before the Feast of Shavuot which means “Weeks” (Exodus 34:22, Numbers 28:26-31, Deuteronomy 16:9-12)!

WHEN MOSES APPROACHED THE THICK CLOUD WHERE YEHOVAH WAS FOR THE PEOPLE, AT THEIR REQUEST, HE WAS GIVEN SOME OF THE JUDGMENTS (MISHPATIYM) FOR ISRAEL (SEE EXODUS CHAPTERS 21-23). AT THAT TIME, THE SABBATH COMMANDMENT WAS ALSO REITERATED BY YEHOVAH:

Exodus 23:12 KJV - **SIX DAYS THOU SHALT DO THY WORK, AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY THOU SHALT REST:** that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

THEN MOSES WAS CALLED UP ON THE MOUNTAIN FOR 40 DAYS AND YEHOVAH SPOKE TO MOSES ALL THE REST OF THE JUDGMENTS (MISHPATIYM) AND ALSO STATUTES (CHUKOT). ON THE MOUNT OF SINAI, YEHOVAH DECLARES THAT THE SABBATH IS TO BE KEPT AS A SIGN OF THE COVENANT THAT HE MADE WITH HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL FOREVER!

Exodus 31:12 KJV - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Exodus 31:13 KJV - **Speak thou also unto THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL, saying, Verily MY SABBATHS ye shall keep: for it [is] A SIGN (“OT” חֶסֶד) BETWEEN ME AND YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS; that [ye] may know that I [am] the LORD (YEHOVAH) that doth SANCTIFY YOU (MAKE YOU HOLY AND SET APART TO HIM).**

Exodus 31:14 KJV - **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.**

Exodus 31:15 KJV - 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.

Exodus 31:16 KJV - Wherefore THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL SHALL KEEP THE SABBATH, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, [FOR] A PERPETUAL COVENANT (“BRIYT OLAM”). (THIS IMPLIES THAT THE SABBATH ITSELF IS AN EVERLASTING COVENANT BETWEEN YEHOVAH AND ISRAEL!)

EXODUS 31:17 KJV - IT [IS] A SIGN BETWEEN ME AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FOR EVER: FOR [IN] SIX DAYS THE LORD MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY HE RESTED (“SHAVAT” – “HE CEASED”) AND WAS REFRESHED (“VAY’NAPHASH” – “HE WAS REFRESHED”).

Exodus 31:18 KJV - And he (YEHOVAH) gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, TWO TABLES OF TESTIMONY, TABLES OF STONE, WRITTEN WITH THE FINGER OF GOD.

*** NOTE ON ABOVE SCRIPTURE: HONORING, AND ENJOYING, THE SABBATH AS A SIGN OF THE COVENANT WAS THE VERY LAST THING YEHOVAH INSTRUCTED MOSES TO REITERATE TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BEFORE HE CAME DOWN FROM MOUNT SINAI!!! THIS WAS AFTER HE WAS THERE ON THE MOUNTAIN 40 DAYS AND YEHOVAH SPOKE TO MOSES ALL THE REST OF THE JUDGMENTS (MISHPATIYM) AND STATUTES (CHUKOT) ... THIS SHOWS HOW IMPORTANT THE SABBATH WAS TO YEHOVAH! THE SABBATH WAS ALSO SO IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT HE TELLS THEM THREE TIMES IN THAT DECLARATION THAT HE HAS PUT A DEATH PENALTY ON DEFILING IT!

***THIS DEATH PENALTY should make us realize that THE SABBATH COMMANDMENT IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE OTHER OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS of committing NO IDOLATRY, OR MURDER, OR ADULTERY, OR DISHONORING ONE’S MOTHER OR FATHER BY STRIKING, ALL WHICH ALSO HAD DEATH PENALTIES FOR BREAKING!!!

Remember that God asked Adam, “WHO TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE NAKED???” Since this is the one commandment that MOST CHRISTIANS (WHO ARE JOINED BY COVENANT TO YEHOVAH AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL) THINK IS NO LONGER NECESSARY (OR HAS BEEN CHANGED), He could ask us the same thing:

“WHO TOLD YOU THAT I DIDN’T WANT YOU TO KEEP MY SABBATHS???”

***NOTE ON Exodus 31:17: THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE ARE INFORMED THAT YEHOVAH ACTUALLY STATES THAT WHEN HE CEASED ALL HIS WORK, THAT HE WAS “REFRESHED”!!! It is an incredible concept to us that HE would be “REFRESHED,” but HE states it! The Hebrew verb root is “NAPHASH” in its basic form, Strong’s H5314, meaning “TO TAKE BREATH, REFRESH ONESELF.” It is described in the Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon (accessed from www.blueletterbible.org, July 29, 2024) this way:

נָפַח not used in Kal; Arab. نفس, Conj. V. to breathe strongly, to pant.

NIPHAL, TO TAKE BREATH (when wearied [or, to rest, cease from working]), Ex. 23:12; 31:17; 2 Sam. 16:14 (Arabic Conj. II. to refresh any one).

Hence pr. n. נָפִישׁ and—

WE SEE THAT YEHOVAH ALSO STATES THAT HE WANTS HIS PEOPLE, ALL OF THEM, EVEN THE STRANGERS JOINED TO THEM IN THEIR CONGREGATION THROUGH THE AGES, AND EVEN THEIR ANIMALS, TO BE “REFRESHED” AS HE WAS, when He gave the Sabbath Commandment! HE IS SO GOOD!!!

[Exodus 23:12 KJV] “12 Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day THOU SHALT REST (“TISH’BOT” – “YOU WILL CEASE”): THAT THINE OX AND THINE ASS MAY REST (“YANUACH” – “HE WILL REST”), AND THE SON OF THY HANDMAID, AND THE STRANGER, MAY BE REFRESHED (“YINAPHESH” – “HE WILL BE REFRESHED.”)

You will notice that we are also introduced to one more Hebrew word in this verse! The Hebrew root verb “NUACH” is Strong’s Hebrew #5117 and is described by the Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon (accessed www.blueletterbible.org, July 30, 2024) as basically “TO SIT DOWN, TO REST”:

So, we now have **THREE HEBREW VERBS** that describe **WHAT YEHOVAH WANTS US TO DO ON HIS SEVENTH DAY SABBATH** that He called BLESSED AND HOLY, and THEY ARE ALL FOR OUR GOOD!!! THEY ARE A BLESSING TO US!!!:

SHAVAT - TO CEASE (WORKING)!

NUACH – TO SIT DOWN AND REST!

NAPHESH – TO BREATHE AND BE REFRESHED (“TO CATCH OUR BREATH”)!

Continuing with our list of scriptures that Yehovah drills into us that it is His desire for us to keep His Sabbath Holy:

Exodus 34:21 KJV - Six days thou shalt work, but on the seventh day thou shalt rest: IN EARING TIME AND IN HARVEST THOU SHALT REST.

So, Yehovah clears up the question one might have about working on The Sabbath because he just feels like he has to! A farmer may feel like he just has to get his crops in! NO, ACCORDING TO GOD, HE DOESN'T....

So, in many ways, resting on the Sabbath is A TEST OF OUR FAITH! Faith that if we simply obey Him in this, He will provide for us on the six working days He gave us!

NEXT, HE AGAIN EMPHASIZES THAT HE HAS PUT A DEATH PENALTY ON WORKING ON HIS HOLY DAY!:

Exodus 35:1 KJV - And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These [are] the words which the LORD hath commanded, that [ye] should do them.

Exodus 35:2 KJV - SIX DAYS SHALL WORK BE DONE, BUT ON THE SEVENTH DAY THERE SHALL BE TO YOU AN HOLY DAY, A SABBATH OF REST TO THE LORD (TO YEHOVAH): WHOSOEVER DOETH WORK THEREIN SHALL BE PUT TO DEATH.

Exodus 35:3 KJV - YE SHALL KINDLE NO FIRE THROUGHOUT YOUR HABITATIONS UPON THE SABBATH DAY.

This additional command “**YE SHALL KINDLE NO FIRE ON SHABBAT**” has had many people wondering through the ages “why?” Instead of discussing the reasons I have heard, I have decided to just believe it and obey it. It’s the reason Orthodox Jews light candles 18 minutes before sundown. I personally believe that it is an injunction to prepare everything ahead of time before the Sabbath, even a fire for warmth. I also personally believe that in an emergency, in winter weather, Yehovah would forgive us if we had to build a fire to preserve our life. But, see the following passage that shows Yehovah was serious about it, and that stoning was the method of administering the death penalty:

[Numbers 15:32-41 KJV] 32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. 33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him

unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. 34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. 35 And the LORD (YEHOVAH) said unto Moses, THE MAN SHALL BE SURELY PUT TO DEATH: ALL THE CONGREGATION SHALL STONE HIM WITH STONES WITHOUT THE CAMP. 36 AND ALL THE CONGREGATION BROUGHT HIM WITHOUT THE CAMP, AND STONED HIM WITH STONES, AND HE DIED; AS THE LORD COMMANDED MOSES. 37 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 38 Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: 39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: 40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God. 41 I [am] the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I [am] the LORD your God.

(THE FACT THAT YEHOVAH THEN TOLD MOSES TO TELL THE PEOPLE TO START WEARING THE FRINGES ("TSIT TSIT") ON THE BORDERS OF THEIR GARMENTS TO REMIND THEM TO KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, I BELIEVE, SHOWS THAT HE DESIRES FOR THEM TO BE OBEDIENT SO THEY CAN BE BLESSED, NOT DISOBEDIENT SO THEY WILL HAVE TO BE PUNISHED! HE IS GOOD – THE PERFECT FATHER!!!)

[Leviticus 19:1-3 KJV] 1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, YE SHALL BE HOLY: FOR I THE LORD YOUR GOD [AM] HOLY. 3 Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, AND KEEP MY SABBATHS: I [AM] THE LORD YOUR GOD.

At the very end of the Written Torah, after the Israelites had to spend forty years wandering in the desert for their unbelief, Moses REITERATED THE TEN COMMANDMENTS to them ONE MORE TIME! This time Moses actually tells them that one of the reasons Yehovah gave them the Sabbath to rest is because they had been slaves in Egypt but Yehovah delivered them from that slavery – I AM SURE SLAVES HAD TO WORK SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!!!:

[Deuteronomy 5:12-15 KJV] 12 KEEP THE SABBATH DAY TO SANCTIFY IT (KEEP IT HOLY!), AS THE LORD THY GOD HATH COMMANDED THEE. 13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: 14 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, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. 15 AND REMEMBER THAT THOU WAST A SERVANT IN THE LAND OF EGYPT, AND [THAT] THE LORD THY GOD BROUGHT THEE OUT THENCE THROUGH A MIGHTY HAND AND BY A STRETCHED OUT ARM: THEREFORE THE LORD THY GOD COMMANDED THEE TO KEEP THE SABBATH DAY.

SERIOUSLY, HOW MANY TIMES DOES YEHOVAH HAVE TO SAY IT FOR US TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE SABBATH DAY IS THE SEVENTH DAY AND IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT WE HONOR HIM BY KEEPING IT A HOLY DAY???

NOW, LET US LOOK AT SOME OF THE SCRIPTURES CONCERNING THE SABBATH IN THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM OF HEAVEN :

MOST SCHOLARS BELIEVE THESE WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ON EARTH AS THE MESSIAH (THE PRINCE) RULES THE WORLD FROM JERUSALEM! The SIX WORKING DAYS are kept, as well as THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH! (THIS MEANS THAT THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK CANNOT HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO THE SABBATH EVEN IN THIS AGE!):

Ezekiel 46:1 KJV - Thus saith the Lord GOD; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut THE SIX WORKING DAYS; BUT ON THE SABBATH IT SHALL BE OPENED, and in the day of the new moon it shall be opened.

Ezekiel 46:2 KJV - And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of [that] gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

Ezekiel 46:3 KJV - Likewise the people of the land SHALL WORSHIP at the door of this gate BEFORE THE LORD (IN THE SABBATHS and in the new moons.

Ezekiel 46:4 KJV - And the burnt offering that the prince shall offer unto the LORD IN THE SABBATH DAY [shall be] six lambs without blemish, and a ram without blemish.

Ezekiel 46:5 KJV - And the meat offering [shall be] an ephah for a ram, and the meat offering for the lambs as he shall be able to give, and an hin of oil to an ephah.

NOTE ON ISAIAH 66 SCRIPTURE BELOW:

EVEN AS THE SEVENTH DAY WAS BLESSED AND MADE HOLY AT CREATION (ALTHOUGH NO COMMANDMENT TO CEASE WORK ON THAT DAY WAS GIVEN TO ISRAEL UNTIL EXODUS 16), SO IT WILL CONTINUE AS THE HOLY DAY OF WORSHIP TO YEHOVAH IN THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM. Isaiah 66:22 below cannot be the New Heavens and New Earth spoken of in Revelation – it seems to be a “renewed heaven” and “renewed earth” as described in many of the prophecies (Isaiah 30:23-26, Isaiah 35, Ezekiel 36:35, Isaiah 11, Isaiah 51:3-8). The root of the word new (“Chadashah “ Strong’s H2319) is the same as renew (“Chadash” – Strong’s H2318 – new or renewed) but, as you will note below, the Israelites are being brought back physically by the nations of the earth in Isaiah 66:20. Another Messianic prophecy that confirms that the Messianic Age is not the New Heaven and the New Earth is Micah 5:1-6 (KJV). The Messiah will guard against the Assyrians attempting to come against Israel during The Messianic Age!!!

Isaiah 66:15 KJV - For, behold, the LORD (YEHOVAH) will come WITH FIRE, AND WITH HIS CHARIOTS LIKE A WHIRLWIND, TO RENDER HIS ANGER WITH FURY, AND HIS REBUKE WITH FLAMES OF FIRE.

Isaiah 66:16 KJV - For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

Isaiah 66:17 KJV - They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one [tree] in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 66:18 KJV - For I [know] their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

Isaiah 66:19 KJV - And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, [to] Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, [to] Tubal, and Javan, [to] the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

Isaiah 66:20 KJV - And they shall bring all your brethren [for] an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

Isaiah 66:21 KJV - And I will also take of them for priests [and] for Levites, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 66:22 KJV - For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

Isaiah 66:23 KJV - And it shall come to pass, [that] from one new moon to another, and FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER, SHALL ALL FLESH COME TO WORSHIP BEFORE ME, SAITH THE LORD.

Isaiah 66:24 KJV - And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

So, now we have A FOURTH HEBREW VERB for what Yehovah wants us to do on His Sabbath!!!:

WORSHIP - “SHACAH” שָׁחָה – TO BOW DOWN - is the BASIC FORM OF THIS VERB THAT IS USED IN EZEKIEL 46:3 AND ALSO ISAIAH 66:23.

Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon defines Strong's H7812 this way:

שָׁחָה (compare שָׁחַ and שָׁחָה)—(1) TO BOW ONESELF DOWN, Isa. 51:23 (Chald. id. and more frequent).

(2) *to sink down, to be depressed.* Compare derivatives שָׁחָה, שָׁחָה.

HIPHIL, הִשְׁחָה *to depress*, metaph. the heart, Pro. 12:25.

HITHPALEL, הִשְׁתַּחֲוָה (with the third radical doubled, like נִשְׁתַּחֲוָה, נִשְׁתַּחֲוָה from the root נָחָה) fut. apoc. יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה, in pause יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה.

(1) to prostrate oneself before any one out of honour, προσκυνεῖν, followed by ? of pers. Gen. 23:7; 37:7, 9, 10; more rarely לְפָנַי Gen. 23:12; על Lev. 26:1. Those who used this mode of salutation fell on their knees and touched the ground with the forehead (whence there is often added אֶפְסִים אֶרְצָה Gen. 19:1; 42:6; 48:12), and this honour was not only shown to superiors, such as kings and princes, 2 Sam. 9:8; but also to equals; Gen. 23:7; 37:7, 9, 10 [?]; but especially —

(2) in worshipping a deity; hence *to honour* God *with prayers*, Gen. 22:5; 1 Sa. 1:3; even without prostration of body, Gen. 47:31; 1 Ki. 1:47.

(3) *to do homage, to submit oneself.* Ps. 45:12, “(the king) is thy lord, הִשְׁתַּחֲוֵה לִי render homage to him” [this king is Christ, who is to be worshipped as being God over all]. Inf. Ch. הִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה 2 Ki. 5:18. As to מִשְׁתַּחֲוִיתָם, see Analyt. Ind.

Derivatives, see under Kal No. 2.

Below is more confirmation that the Sabbath WILL BE TAUGHT to continue to be kept Holy in the Messianic Kingdom, after Yehoshua's return:

[Ezekiel 44:15, 23-24 KJV] "15 But **THE PRIESTS THE LEVITES, THE SONS OF ZADOK**, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD: ...

23 And **THEY SHALL TEACH MY PEOPLE [the difference] BETWEEN THE HOLY AND PROFANE, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.** 24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; [and] they shall judge it **according to MY JUDGMENTS: (“BMISHPATAY”)** and they shall keep **MY LAWS (“TORATAY”)** and **MY STATUTES (“CHUKOTAY”)** in all mine assemblies; **AND THEY SHALL HALLOW (“Y’KADESHU” – “THEY WILL MAKE HOLY”) MY SABBATHS.**"

NOTE ON SCRIPTURE BELOW: THIS IS SPECIFICALLY WRITTEN TO THE GENTILES (AND EUNUCHS) THAT HAVE JOINED THEMSELVES TO YEHOVAH. YEHOSHUA ACTUALLY QUOTES ISAIAH 56:7 IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW!!! THE NEW COVENANT SEALED IN THE BLOOD OF YEHOSHUA JOINS THE GENTILES TO YEHOVAH! Since we know that the Sabbath is A SIGN BETWEEN YEHOVAH AND HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL (Ezekiel 31:12-18), His emphasis on the gentiles who keep the Sabbath Sign holy, when they are joined to Him by Covenant, I believe is confirmation that they have become A TRUE PART OF ISRAEL!

Isaiah 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.** (NOTE: This shows that this may be speaking specifically of the End Times, when Yehovah’s Salvation – Yehoshua, His Son – returns!)

Isaiah 56:2 KJV - **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.**

Isaiah 56:3 KJV - **NEITHER LET THE SON OF THE STRANGER, THAT HATH JOINED HIMSELF TO THE LORD, SPEAK, SAYING, THE LORD HATH UTTERLY SEPARATED ME (יְבִדְלָנִי - “yav’diylaniy” - “DISTINGUISHED ME”) FROM HIS PEOPLE:** neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I [am] a dry tree.

Isaiah 56:4 KJV - **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;**

Isaiah 56:5 KJV - **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.** (NOTE: THIS ALSO SEEMS TO SHOW THIS IS SPEAKING OF THE END TIMES, SINCE “EUNUCHS” WERE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE TEMPLE ACCORDING TO THE TORAH OF MOSES: [Deuteronomy 23:1 KJV] 1 He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD.)

Isaiah 56:6 KJV - **ALSO THE SONS OF THE STRANGER, THAT JOIN THEMSELVES TO THE LORD (YEHOVAH), TO SERVE HIM, AND TO LOVE THE NAME OF THE LORD (YEHOVAH), TO BE HIS SERVANTS, EVERY ONE THAT KEEPETH THE SABBATH FROM POLLUTING IT, AND TAKETH HOLD OF MY COVENANT;**

Isaiah 56:7 KJV - **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.**

Isaiah 56:8 KJV - The Lord GOD (“Adonai YEHOVAH”) which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, YET WILL I GATHER [OTHERS] TO HIM, BESIDE THOSE THAT ARE GATHERED UNTO HIM.

NOTE: THE ABOVE IS A PROMISE TO GATHER THE STRANGERS JOINED TO YEHOVAH BY COVENANT, (WHO ARE ALSO KEEPING HIS SHABBAT HOLY!) BACK TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL, TO BE JOINED WITH THE REMNANT OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL THAT HE WILL GATHER FROM ALL OVER THE EARTH, WHEN YEHOSHUA RETURNS! IT AGREES WITH MATTHEW 24!!! As Ezekiel 47:21-23 states, the even the strangers joined to Israel and gathered will be given an inheritance in whatever tribe they choose!

[Matthew 24:29-31 KJV] 29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together HIS ELECT (“HIS CHOSEN”- “NIVCHARAYV”) from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Isaiah shows in this next passage that WE ARE TO CALL THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH HOLY, HONORABLE, AND A DELIGHT!!!

Isaiah 58:1 KJV - Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

Isaiah 58:2 KJV - Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

Isaiah 58:3 KJV - Wherefore have we fasted, [say they], and thou seest not? [wherefore] have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

Isaiah 58:4 KJV - Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as [ye do this] day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

Isaiah 58:5 KJV - Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? [is it] to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes [under him]? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

Isaiah 58:6 KJV - [Is] not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Isaiah 58:7 KJV - [Is it] not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Isaiah 58:8 KJV - Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward.

Isaiah 58:9 KJV - Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I [am]. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity (FALSEHOOD);

Isaiah 58:10 KJV - And [if] thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness [be] as the noonday:

Isaiah 58:11 KJV - And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Isaiah 58:12 KJV - And [they that shall be] of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Isaiah 58:13 KJV - **IF THOU TURN AWAY THY FOOT FROM THE SABBATH, [from] doing thy pleasure ON MY HOLY DAY; and CALL THE SABBATH A DELIGHT, THE HOLY OF THE LORD, HONOURABLE; AND SHALT HONOUR HIM, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking [thine own] words:**

Isaiah 58:14 KJV - **THEN SHALT THOU DELIGHT THYSELF IN THE LORD; AND I WILL CAUSE THEE TO RIDE UPON THE HIGH PLACES OF THE EARTH, AND FEED THEE WITH THE HERITAGE OF JACOB THY FATHER: FOR THE MOUTH OF THE LORD HATH SPOKEN [IT].**

NOTE: This is AN OATH FROM YEHOVAH TO THE CHILDREN OF JACOB/ISRAEL (AND THOSE JOINED TO ISRAEL!)— “FOR THE MOUTH OF THE LORD HATH SPOKEN” - for those who will do these things... including honoring the Seventh Day Sabbath!!! I personally think this means that, on the Sabbath, we are not to work because we “just feel like it,” or think we “have to” to make enough money to live – that would be “doing our own pleasure” and “doing our own ways.” I personally don’t think this means we cannot do pleasurable things on Shabbat, since we are to call it a delight!!! I also think “nor speaking words” could refer to not making business deals – I certainly don’t think it means that we are not to talk!!! Again, we can look to Yehoshua as our example! We know He went for a walk through the fields with his Disciples! SABBATH IS THE DAY TO WORSHIP YEHOVAH and possibly visit with family and friends, maybe even share a Shabbat meal together, maybe even as a congregation! That is what many of the Messianic Congregations I have been a part of do – usually every week! That is NOT a commandment though! **I HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY SINCE 2002 (24 YEARS AT THIS POINT), AND ONCE YOU COMMIT TO OBEYING YEHOVAH AND GET IN THE HABIT OF PREPARING AHEAD OF TIME SO THAT YOU CAN RELAX AND “TAKE THAT BREATH” HE DESIRES FOR YOU, I CAN SAY THAT IT TRULY IS A DELIGHT, JUST AS HE SAID!!!**

NOTE ON THE AMOS, NEHEMIAH, AND JEREMIAH SCRIPTURES BELOW: THESE SHOW THAT BUYING AND SELLING ON THE SABBATH IS NOT TO BE DONE (EXCEPT IN AN EMERGENCY, ESPECIALLY TO PRESERVE LIFE, I THINK).

Amo 8:4 KJV - Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

Amo 8:5 KJV - Saying, **When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? AND THE SABBATH, THAT WE MAY SET FORTH WHEAT**, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

Amo 8:6 KJV - That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; [yea], and sell the refuse of the wheat?

Amo 8:7 KJV - The LORD hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

(The above passage is dealing mainly with deceit to the poor, BUT IT STILL SHOWS THAT BUYING AND SELLING ON THE SABBATH OR THE NEW MOON WAS NOT TO BE DONE).

The Prophet Jeremiah warned the House of Judah before the Babylonian Exile NOT TO DEFILE YEHOVAH'S SABBATHS in this way and he again reminded them not to do no work!!!

Jeremiah 17:19 KJV - Thus said the LORD unto me; Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, whereby the kings of Judah come in, and by the which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem;

Jeremiah 17:20 KJV - And say unto them, **HEAR YE THE WORD OF THE LORD (YEHOVAH)**, ye kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates:

Jeremiah 17:21 KJV - **Thus saith the LORD; Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden ON THE SABBATH DAY, nor bring [it] in by the gates of Jerusalem;**

*****Jeremiah 17:22 KJV - Neither carry forth a burden out of your houses ON THE SABBATH DAY, NEITHER DO YE ANY WORK, BUT HALLOW YE THE SABBATH DAY, AS I COMMANDED YOUR FATHERS.**

Jeremiah 17:23 KJV - BUT THEY OBEYED NOT, NEITHER INCLINED THEIR EAR, BUT MADE THEIR NECK STIFF, THAT THEY MIGHT NOT HEAR, NOR RECEIVE INSTRUCTION.

Jeremiah 17:24 KJV - **And it shall come to pass, if ye diligently hearken unto me, saith the LORD, to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, BUT HALLOW THE SABBATH DAY, TO DO NO WORK THEREIN;**

Jeremiah 17:25 KJV - **THEN SHALL THERE ENTER INTO THE GATES OF THIS CITY KINGS AND PRINCES SITTING UPON THE THRONE OF DAVID, RIDING IN CHARIOTS AND ON HORSES, THEY, AND THEIR PRINCES, THE MEN OF JUDAH, AND THE INHABITANTS OF JERUSALEM: AND THIS CITY SHALL REMAIN FOR EVER.**

Jeremiah 17:26 KJV - **And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places about Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the plain, and from the mountains, and from the south, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meat offerings, and incense, and bringing sacrifices of praise, unto the house of the LORD.**

Jeremiah 17:27 KJV - BUT IF YE WILL NOT HEARKEN UNTO ME TO HALLOW THE SABBATH DAY, AND NOT TO BEAR A BURDEN, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; THEN WILL I

KINDLE A FIRE IN THE GATES THEREOF, AND IT SHALL DEVOUR THE PALACES OF JERUSALEM, AND IT SHALL NOT BE QUENCHED.

(JERUSALEM WAS BURNT by the Babylonians BECAUSE ISRAEL WOULD NOT OBEY THIS COMMAND TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY and every other warning Yehovah Elohim gave them, SENDING ALL HIS PROPHETS TO PLEAD WITH THEM TO TURN BACK TO THE TORAH, SO HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO PUNISH THEM...)

Even after the 70 -year Babylonian Exile, when Judah had come back to the Land of Israel, the people were still choosing to defile the Sabbath! Nehemiah, who was the governor of Persian controlled Judea at this time, was warning them not to disobey Yehovah in this way again! This new generation must not have seen the horrible, fiery punishment Yehovah put on Jerusalem when they were exiled!!!

NEHEMIAH 10:31 KJV - And [if] the people of the land bring ware or any victuals ON THE SABBATH DAY TO SELL, [THAT] WE WOULD NOT BUY IT OF THEM ON THE SABBATH, OR ON THE HOLY DAY: and [that] we would leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt.

(*NOTE: If the Seventh Day Sabbath really were changed to the First Day of the week, wouldn't the Seventh Year Sabbath of the Land and the Seventh Year Cancellation of Debts have changed to the First Year too???)**

Nehemiah 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.

Nehemiah 13:16 KJV - 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.

Nehemiah 13:17 KJV - 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?

Nehemiah 13:18 KJV - 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.

Nehemiah 13:19 KJV - 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.

Nehemiah 13:20 KJV - So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

Nehemiah 13:21 KJV - 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.

Nehemiah 13:22 KJV - **And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and [that] they should come [and] KEEP THE GATES, TO SANCTIFY THE SABBATH DAY.** Remember me, O my God, [concerning] this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

Even prior to their return, the Prophet Ezekiel actually was in the exile in Babylon and Yehovah still prophesied through him, about how their fathers **had greatly polluted His Sabbaths** and He called it an **ABOMINATION!!!**:

Ezekiel 20:1 KJV - And it came to pass in the seventh year, in the fifth [month], the tenth [day] of the month, [that] certain of the elders of Israel came to enquire of the LORD, and sat before me.

Ezekiel 20:2 KJV - Then came the word of the LORD unto me, saying,

Ezekiel 20:3 KJV - Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye come to enquire of me? [As] I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.

Ezekiel 20:4 KJV - **Wilt thou judge them, son of man, wilt thou judge [them]? cause them to know THE ABOMINATIONS OF THEIR FATHERS:**

Ezekiel 20:5 KJV - And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day when I chose Israel, and lifted up mine hand unto the seed of the house of Jacob, and made myself known unto them in the land of Egypt, when I lifted up mine hand unto them, saying, I [am] the LORD your God;

Ezekiel 20:6 KJV - In the day [that] I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land that I had espied for them, flowing with milk and honey, which [is] the glory of all lands:

Ezekiel 20:7 KJV - Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I [am] the LORD your God.

Ezekiel 20:8 KJV - But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 20:9 KJV - But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they [were], in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 20:10 KJV - Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness.

Ezekiel 20:11 KJV - AND I GAVE THEM MY STATUTES, AND SHEWED THEM MY JUDGMENTS, WHICH [IF] A MAN DO, HE SHALL EVEN LIVE IN THEM.

*****Ezekiel 20:12 KJV - Moreover also I gave them MY SABBATHS, to be A SIGN BETWEEN ME AND THEM, THAT THEY MIGHT KNOW THAT I [AM] THE LORD (YEHOVAH) THAT SANCTIFY THEM.**

*****Ezekiel 20:13 KJV - But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which [if] a man do, he shall even live in them; and**

MY SABBATHS THEY GREATLY POLLUTED: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.

Ezekiel 20:14 KJV - But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

Ezekiel 20:15 KJV - Yet also I lifted up my hand unto them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given [them], flowing with milk and honey, **WHICH [IS] THE GLORY OF ALL LANDS;**

Ezekiel 20:16 KJV - **Because they despised my judgments, and walked not in my statutes, BUT POLLUTED MY SABBATHS:** for their heart went after their idols.

(NOTE: THEY CHOSE TO DISOBEY HIM! THEY COULD HAVE OBEYED! HE WOULD NOT HAVE PUNISHED THEM IF THEY COULDN'T HELP IT!)

Ezekiel 20:17 KJV - Nevertheless mine eye spared them from destroying them, neither did I make an end of them in the wilderness.

Ezekiel 20:18 KJV - But I said unto their children in the wilderness, Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers, neither observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols:

Ezekiel 20:19 KJV - **I [am] the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;**

Ezekiel 20:20 KJV - And **HALLOW MY SABBATHS; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I [am] the LORD (YEHOVAH) YOUR GOD.**

Ezekiel 20:21 KJV - Notwithstanding the children **REBELLED AGAINST ME:** they walked not in my statutes, neither kept my judgments to do them, which [if] a man do, he shall even live in them; **THEY POLLUTED MY SABBATHS:** then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the wilderness.

Ezekiel 20:22 KJV - Nevertheless I withdrew mine hand, and wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted in the sight of the heathen, in whose sight I brought them forth.

Ezekiel 20:23 KJV - I lifted up mine hand unto them also in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the heathen, and disperse them through the countries;

Ezekiel 20:24 KJV - Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had **POLLUTED MY SABBATHS,** and their eyes were after their fathers' idols.

Ezekiel 20:25 KJV - Wherefore I gave them also statutes [that were] not good, and judgments whereby they should not live;

Ezekiel 20:26 KJV - And I polluted them in their own gifts, in that they caused to pass through [the fire] all that openeth the womb, that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might know that I [am] the LORD.

Ezekiel 20:27 KJV - Therefore, son of man, speak unto the house of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Yet in this your fathers have blasphemed me, in that they have committed a trespass against me.

Ezekiel 20:28 KJV - [For] when I had brought them into the land, [for] the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to them, then they saw every high hill, and all the thick trees, and they offered there their sacrifices, and there they presented the provocation of their offering: there also they made their sweet savour, and poured out there their drink offerings.

Ezekiel 20:29 KJV - Then I said unto them, What [is] the high place whereunto ye go? And the name thereof is called Bamah unto this day.

Ezekiel 20:30 KJV - Wherefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye polluted after the manner of your fathers? and commit ye whoredom after their abominations?

Ezekiel 20:31 KJV - For when ye offer your gifts, when ye make your sons to pass through the fire, ye pollute yourselves with all your idols, even unto this day: and shall I be enquired of by you, O house of Israel? [As] I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.

Ezekiel 20:32 KJV - And that which cometh into your mind shall not be at all, that ye say, We will be as the heathen, as the families of the countries, to serve wood and stone.

Ezekiel 20:33 KJV - [As] I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you:

Ezekiel 20:34 KJV - And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

Ezekiel 20:35 KJV - And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face.

Ezekiel 20:36 KJV - Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 20:37 KJV - And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant:

Ezekiel 20:38 KJV - AND I WILL PURGE OUT FROM AMONG YOU THE REBELS, AND THEM THAT TRANSGRESS AGAINST ME: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and ("BUT" is a better translation of the "VAV," as the JPS version translates) they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD (YEHOVAH).

Ezekiel 20:39 KJV - As for you, O house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD; Go ye, serve ye every one his idols, and hereafter [also], if ye will not hearken unto me: but pollute ye my holy name no more with your gifts, and with your idols.

Ezekiel 20:40 KJV - FOR IN MINE HOLY MOUNTAIN, IN THE MOUNTAIN OF THE HEIGHT OF ISRAEL, saith the Lord GOD, THERE shall all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, SERVE ME: THERE will I accept them, and THERE will I require your offerings, and the firstfruits of your oblations, with all your holy things.

Ezekiel 20:41 KJV - I will accept you with your sweet savour, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen.

Ezekiel 20:42 KJV - And ye shall know that I [am] the LORD, when I shall bring you into the land of Israel, into the country [for] the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to your fathers.

Ezekiel 20:43 KJV - And there shall ye remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled; and ye shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that ye have committed.

Ezekiel 20:44 KJV - And ye shall know that I [am] the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

CONCLUSION:

IN MY OPINION, THESE SCRIPTURES FROM THE WRITTEN TORAH, THE PROPHETS, THE WRITINGS, AND YEHOASHUA'S WORDS ARE CONCLUSIVE THAT THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE WEEK WAS, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER BLESSED AND HOLY! IT IS THE TRUE SABBATH AS COMMANDED BY YEHOVAH ELOHIM. HE COMMANDED IT, AT LEAST PARTIALLY, SO THAT BY GUARDING IT, HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL WOULD CONFIRM TO THE WORLD THAT HE, YEHOVAH, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, IS THE ONLY TRUE GOD WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH IN THE FIRST SIX LITERAL DAYS!!! AS WELL AS BEING A SIGN OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN YEHOVAH AND HIS PEOPLE, EVEN THE STRANGERS JOINED TO HIM BY COVENANT, THE SABBATH IS A GIFT TO HIS PEOPLE TO CEASE FROM WORK, JUST AS HE DID, TO REST AND BE REFRESHED! WE ARE TO CALL IT A TRUE DELIGHT! IT WILL BE KEPT ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM AS THE DAY DEDICATED TO WORSHIP YEHOVAH ELOHIM!!!

HALLELU YAH!!!

SINCE WE KNOW NOW THAT THIS IS TRUE, WHY DID IT CHANGE OR BECOME OBSOLETE???

HOW THE SABBATH CHANGED THROUGH THE LAST TWO MILLENNIA IS A STORY IN ITSELF!

But, to reiterate, here are a few questions to ponder even before you research how and why it changed...

DOES ANYONE REALLY BELIEVE THAT ANY "MAN," OR ANY HUMAN ENTITY, EVEN A "CHURCH," OR A "CHURCH COUNCIL," HAD THE AUTHORITY TO NEGATE OR CHANGE THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH COMMANDMENT OF YEHOVAH ELOHIM, THE CREATOR?

Clue: THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH BOASTS THAT THEY HAD THE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THE SABBATH TO THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK! They even openly state in their Catechism that the First Day Sabbath is found nowhere in the Bible, only the Seventh Day Sabbath, but assert that they had the authority to change it (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC]* -

Paragraphs CCC 2174-2176, and CCC 2190-2191 – for a full explanation read paragraphs 2168 - 2195! The Roman Emperor Constantine declared Constantine's Christian Creed (attributed to THE COUNCIL OF NICAIA in 325 A.D. by many scholars) that changed the Sabbath to THE NEW ROMAN SABBATH, and then THE COUNCIL OF LAODICEA (CANON 29) IN APPROXIMATELY 365 A.D. MADE IT OFFICIAL AND ILLEGAL TO KEEP THE TRUE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH. EVENTUALLY, PEOPLE COULD LOSE NOT ONLY THEIR BEING RECOGNIZED BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BUT THEY COULD LOSE THEIR LIVES FOR KEEPING THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH! However, the change started much, much earlier in the late first century or early second century (possibly 110 A.D.) according to the Church Father Ignatius, The Bishop of Antioch. Ignatius applauded those Jewish Believers who rejected the Seventh Day Sabbath with other "Christians" and SUBSTITUTED THE HOLINESS OF THE SABBATH TO THE FIRST DAY (Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch. "The Epistle to the Magnesians," Chapter 9). Did Ignatius start this change, or WHO REALLY STARTED SUCH AN IDEA???

In my quest to find out, I found that after His death on Passover, Yehoshua was resurrected on the First Day of the Week, in fulfillment of the ANNUAL Day of the Waving of the Omer (of barley), referred to sometimes as the Feast of First Fruits of the Barley Harvest. The coinciding of His Resurrection with this day that particular year evidently was understood as Him becoming the First Fruits from the Dead. In fact, the commandment for this day specifically states that it will be on "the day after the Sabbath" [Read Leviticus 23:9-14]. SO, YEHOSHUAH'S RESURRECTION SHOULD HAVE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH CHANGING THE SABBATH!! IT WAS NOT EVEN A WEEKLY APPOINTED TIME, BUT A YEARLY ONE – ONE THAT BECAME THE CHRISTIAN "EASTER"! However, it is reported that some of even the TRUE EARLIEST JEWISH BELIEVERS, THE NAZARENES (NAZORAEANS or "HaNotzrim" in Hebrew), are said to have acknowledged, with other Christian groups, the First Day of the Week, calling it "THE LORD'S DAY," EVEN AS THEY THEMSELVES CONTINUED TO KEEP THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH! (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, III, 27, 3-6). IT SEEMS LIKELY TO BE HOW WE INHERITED THE TWO DAY "WEEKEND"!!! In the beginning, the true Seventh Day Sabbath was still kept holy by the Jewish believers, but eventually as the Church became more and more gentile, and the Jewish Believers were marginalized, The Sabbath was discarded as obsolete. The Day of the Resurrection, being the First Day of the Week, was said to have replaced it. This complete change happened over a long period of time – hundreds of years. HOWEVER, I FIRMLY BELIEVE IF THE NAZARENES HAD KNOWN THE CONFUSION AND ACTUAL CHANGING AND PROFANING OF YEHOVAH'S SEVENTH DAY SABBATH THAT HAS CAUSED FOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS, THEY MAY NOT HAVE PARTICIPATED!!!

DID YEHOVAH ELOHIM, THE CREATOR WHO ESTABLISHED THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH, GIVE THAT AUTHORITY TO ANYONE AND WHEN???

NO! YEHOVAH OR YEHOSHUA NEVER AUTHORIZED IT TO BECOME OBSOLETE AND ITS HOLINESS TO BE REPLACED BY THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK!

DID YEHOSHUA, (JESUS), THE SON OF YEHOVAH ELOHIM, EVER CHANGE THE SABBATH OR GIVE ANYONE, EVEN HIS TWELVE APOSTLES, THE AUTHORITY TO DO SO???

(NO! IF NOT, DID PAUL, who was not even one of the Twelve Apostles, HAVE ANY AUTHORITY TO UNDERMINE THE HOLINESS OF THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH??? WHO GAVE IT TO HIM AND WHEN???

The most explicit verse that Paul wrote is this ONE:

*****[Colossians 2:16-17 KJV] 16 LET NO MAN THEREFORE JUDGE YOU IN MEAT, OR IN DRINK, OR IN RESPECT OF AN HOLYDAY, OR OF THE NEW MOON, OR OF THE SABBATH [DAYS]: 17 WHICH ARE A SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME; BUT THE BODY [IS] OF CHRIST.**

(What does that even mean??? Actually, "Christ," the Mashiach, said that until Heaven and Earth pass away, the Commandments of the Written Torah would not pass away – Matthew 5:18!!! **HE ALSO SAID TO CONTINUE TO KEEP EVEN THE LEAST OF THE COMMANDMENTS AND TEACH THEM TO OTHERS – MATTHEW 5:19 – THE LEAST PREACHED VERSE IN THE CHURCH!!!**)

Other words that **PAUL** wrote that are used by early believers to justify taking away the holiness of the Seventh Day Sabbath (and eventually used by the Catholic Church to outlaw it!) are these:

[Romans 14:5-6 KJV] 5 ONE MAN ESTEEMETH ONE DAY ABOVE ANOTHER: ANOTHER ESTEEMETH EVERY DAY [ALIKE]. LET EVERY MAN BE FULLY PERSUADED IN HIS OWN MIND. 6 HE THAT REGARDETH THE DAY, REGARDETH [IT] UNTO THE LORD; AND HE THAT REGARDETH NOT THE DAY, TO THE LORD HE DOTHTH NOT REGARD [IT]. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.

[Galatians 4:9-11 KJV] 9 But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, HOW TURN YE AGAIN TO THE WEAK AND BEGGARLY ELEMENTS, WHEREUNTO YE DESIRE AGAIN TO BE IN BONDAGE? 10 YE OBSERVE DAYS, AND MONTHS, AND TIMES, AND YEARS. 11 I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.

THESE WORDS OF PAUL'S SEEM TO BE THE FIRST MENTION OF ANYONE DISPUTING THE CONTINUED HOLINESS OF THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH AND I BELIEVE STARTED THE ENTIRE CHANGE 2000 YEARS AGO!!!)

Other verses that early believers used to INFER that the Sabbath is no longer binding and Christians are to worship on Sunday are these:

[Acts 20:7-12 KJV] 7 And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. 8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. 9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and AS PAUL WAS LONG PREACHING, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. 10 And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing [him] said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. 11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten,

and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. 12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

(NOTE: It is probable that the disciples came together to break bread after sundown on the Sabbath (as I can tell you from experience, many of us who observe the Sabbath do even today), which would make it “the first day of the week.” THEY CAME TOGETHER TO EAT A MEAL, MOST PROBABLY AN EVENING MEAL, SINCE IT STATES THAT PAUL CONTINUED PREACHING UNTIL MIDNIGHT).

[1 Corinthians 16:1-3 KJV] 1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 UPON THE FIRST [DAY] OF THE WEEK LET EVERY ONE OF YOU LAY BY HIM IN STORE, AS [GOD] HATH PROSPERED HIM, that there be no gatherings when I come. 3 And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by [your] letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem.

(Note: All that is mentioned is that each person should set aside the money he is willing to donate to Jerusalem believers on the first day. There is no mention of worship.)

[Revelation 1:10 KJV] 10 I WAS IN THE SPIRIT ON THE LORD'S DAY, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

(NOTE: THIS IS THE ONLY VERSE IN THE ENTIRE NEW TESTAMENT THAT EVEN USES THE TERMINOLOGY “THE LORD’S DAY”!!! However, the entire prophecy of Revelation is about the coming Day of Yehovah (the Day of the Lord) that is spoken of over and over in the Hebrew Prophets as the Day of His Wrath! I believe, with many others, that this is speaking of the Apostle John being shown “in the Spirit” the events leading up to and culmination of that Great and Awesome Day!)

There is NO DOCUMENTATION of any change in the Holiness of the Seventh Day Sabbath by anyone...but PAUL. It should be noted that he did not even recognize “The Lord’s Day” as being special, since he said:

[Romans 14:5-6 KJV] 5 ONE MAN ESTEEMETH ONE DAY ABOVE ANOTHER: ANOTHER ESTEEMETH EVERY DAY [ALIKE]. LET EVERY MAN BE FULLY PERSUADED IN HIS OWN MIND. 6 HE THAT REGARDETH THE DAY, REGARDETH [IT] UNTO THE LORD; AND HE THAT REGARDETH NOT THE DAY, TO THE LORD HE DOTHT NOT REGARD [IT].

The Church Father Ignatius in his Epistle to the Magnesians is the next earliest that I have researched well, although the Catholic website lists other earlier sources, (that are not canonical):

One of their tracts on their website state:

Some religious organizations (Seventh-day Adventists, Seventh-day Baptists, and certain others) claim that Christians must not worship on Sunday but on Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath. They claim that at some unnamed time after the apostolic age, the Church “changed” the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday.

However, passages of Scripture such as Acts 20:7, I Corinthians 16:2, Colossians 2:16-17, and Revelation 1:10 indicate that, even during New Testament times, the Sabbath is no longer binding and that Christians are to worship on the Lord’s day, Sunday, instead.

The early Church Fathers compared the observance of the Sabbath to the observance of the rite of circumcision, and from that they demonstrated that if the apostles abolished circumcision (Gal. 5:1-6), so also the observance of the Sabbath must have been abolished.

The following quotations show that the first Christians understood this principle and gathered for worship on Sunday.

The Didache

“But every Lord’s day...gather yourselves together and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure. But let no one who is at variance with his fellow come together with you, until they be reconciled, that your sacrifice may not be profaned” (*Didache* 14 [A.D. 70]).

The Letter of Barnabas

“We keep the eighth day [Sunday] with joyfulness, the day on which Jesus rose again from the dead” (*Letter of Barnabas* 15:6-8 [A.D. 74], emphasis added)

Ignatius of Antioch

“[T]hose who were brought up in the ancient order of things [i.e. Jews] have come to the possession of a new hope, NO LONGER OBSERVING THE SABBATH, BUT LIVING IN OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD’S DAY, on which also our life has sprung up again by him and by his death” (*Letter to the Magnesians* 8 [A.D. 110], emphasis added).

(<https://www.catholic.com/tract/sabbath-or-sunday>, accessed 5/19/2026, emphasis added)

They go on to quote many of the subsequent church fathers, who all seemed to agree and followed suit, as they eventually about the time of Augustine called the Nazarenes (Jewish believers) heretical for keeping the Seventh Day Sabbath, as well as the rest of the Written Torah – the Circumcision, the dietary laws – and even teaching the gentile believers in Yehoshua who joined them to do the same. However, I believe the Nazarenes (Nazoraeans) are the best example I have found so far of how Believers in Yehoshua are truly supposed to live, according to the Written Torah, the Hebrew Prophets, and the Words of Yehoshua! (See Recommended Reading section - *The Holy Arm of the Lord*, Chapter 18.)

***** WITH ALL OF THE SCRIPTURES WE HAVE REVIEWED IN THIS ARTICLE THAT SHOW THE ABSOLUTE IMPORTANCE YEHOVAH HAS PLACED ON KEEPING HIS SABBATH HOLY IN THE PAST, AT THE TIME OF THE COMING GREAT TRIBULATION – WHICH WOULD BE THE PRESENT, AND EVEN IN THE FUTURE MESSIANIC KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ON EARTH, WOULD WE REALLY TAKE PAUL’S WORD, WITH NO DOCUMENTED AUTHORITY GIVEN HIM, THAT THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH WAS NO LONGER TO BE KEPT HOLY TO YEHOVAH???**

NOTE THAT EVEN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH CANNOT POINT TO ANYTHING BUT INFERENCE THAT THE LORD’S DAY WAS TO REPLACE THE SABBATH!

(NOTE: It is beyond the scope of this article to document the plethora of information I have found concerning how the Sabbath was changed! I deal with it to some extent in my book, *HOW TO AVOID THE LAKE OF FIRE*, in Chapter 10, pp. 60-64, as well as Appendix I - Authority in the Church (pp. 154-155), and Appendix III – Constantine the Great and Sun God Worship, which is available on Amazon for a nominal price. Again, for more information, read my book, *THE HOLY ARM OF THE LORD*, available as a FREE PDF DOWNLOAD on www.TheHolyArmoftHeLord.com (See the Recommended Reading section at the end of this article).

May I remind you at this point of Isaiah 66:23 of what Yehovah Elohim states about His Sabbath in the Messianic Kingdom!!!:

[ISAIAH 66:23 KJV] 23 AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS, [THAT] FROM ONE NEW MOON TO ANOTHER, AND FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER, SHALL ALL FLESH COME TO WORSHIP BEFORE ME, SAITH THE LORD.

WHICH OTHER OF YEHOVAH’S TEN COMMANDMENTS DO WE BELIEVE HAVE CHANGED OR ARE NO LONGER IMPORTANT TO HIM???

Unfortunately, the Protestant Reformation kept many of the Roman Catholic Church’s changes of Yehovah’s Laws, including the change to the First Day Sabbath, calling it “The Lord’s Day.” The Roman Catholic Church, at the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. also changed the timing of the celebration of Yehoshua’s Death and Resurrection from the Passover season to the pagan “Easter” timing,

because they wanted to separate themselves from anything Jewish. Constantine states that outright in a letter to the Eastern churches, urging them to accept the “Easter” timing “for unity’s sake.” Unfortunately, that change was kept by the Protestant Reformation (Research the “Quartodeciman Controversy”). Roman Catholicism also has basically NULLIFIED THE SECOND COMMANDMENT by setting up images for Catholics to “VENERATE” – WORSHIP - although they try to justify and explain it away. The Protestants did not keep that, thankfully!

Below is the Roman Catholic canon to no longer honor The Seventh Day Sabbath and keep “The Lord’s Day” holy instead (Council of Laodicea Canon 29, 365 A.D. (It certainly is not the first time it was addressed by the Church, however!)):

“Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, BUT MUST WORK ON THAT DAY, RATHER HONORING THE LORD’S DAY; and if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema from Christ.”

Before just accepting this, as the Protestant Reformers did, you should also consider the many other strange doctrines that the Roman Catholic Church has instituted through the years:

The Immaculate Conception (of Mary as well as Jesus!) made “official dogma” in 1864, The Assumption of Mary (her body and soul went to Heaven at her death) made “official dogma” in 1950, The Perpetual Virginity of Mary (Yehoshua had no brothers and sisters as Matthew 13:55 states he did) which was made “official dogma” in 553 A.D. at the Second Council of Constantinople.

In summary, I WARN EVERYONE TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHAT COULD BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF CHANGING OR DISREGARDING AS OBSOLETE ANY OF THE CREATOR YEHOVAH ELOHIM’S LAWS...even the Fourth Commandment - The Seventh Day Sabbath...as most of Christianity has done for two thousand years! The very fact that YEHOVAH ADDED THE DEATH PENALTY TO PROFANING IT, along with others of the Ten Commandments, i.e., not to commit idolatry, not to murder, not to dishonor one’s parents, and not to commit adultery, should certainly give us pause...

In fact, it could possibly be regarded as “INIQUITY” to profane The Seventh Day Sabbath, since it carried the death penalty to do so. That I don’t know, as I have not found a definition of “iniquity,” in the Bible, but I truly think it should be

considered! Remember that YEHOVAH CALLED IT AN ABOMINATION in Ezekiel 20:4, 12-13, to “GREATLY POLLUTE MY SABBATHS”!

I BELIEVE KEEPING THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH HOLY IS NOT SOMETHING TO TAKE LIGHTLY!

Even those believers who are found COMMITTING INIQUITY at Yehoshua’s return will be told to depart from Him, their name being blotted out from The Lamb’s Book of Life! There is absolutely nothing worse than that!!!

[Revelation 3:1-6 KJV] 1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. 4 THOU HAST A FEW NAMES EVEN IN SARDIS WHICH HAVE NOT DEFILED THEIR GARMENTS; AND THEY SHALL WALK WITH ME IN WHITE: FOR THEY ARE WORTHY. 5 HE THAT OVERCOMETH, THE SAME SHALL BE CLOTHED IN WHITE RAIMENT; AND I WILL NOT BLOT OUT HIS NAME OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE, BUT I WILL CONFESS HIS NAME BEFORE MY FATHER, AND BEFORE HIS ANGELS. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

[Matthew 7:19-23 KJV] 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 NOT EVERY ONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, SHALL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN; BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 AND THEN WILL I PROFESS UNTO THEM, I NEVER KNEW YOU: DEPART FROM ME, YE THAT WORK INIQUITY.

I pray that everyone who, like me before I learned these things, HAS IGNORANTLY OR WILLFULLY BROKEN THIS COMMANDMENT, will INSTEAD REPENT and MAKE THE DECISION TO HONOR AND OBEY YEHOVAH ELOHIM and RECEIVE THE SEVENTH DAY SABBATH as A DELIGHTFUL GIFT FROM OUR LOVING

FATHER and THE DAY THAT HE BLESSED AND MADE HOLY TO WORSHIP HIM AS THE CREATOR OF THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, TO CEASE WORKING, TO REST, AND TO BE REFRESHED!!!

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RECOMMENDED READING MORE INFORMATION:

Lyle, Joy Collins. *How to Avoid the Lake of Fire: A Study of Mankind's Obligations to Believe in Yeshua Ha Maschiach (Jesus) and To Keep the Written Torah of Yehovah Elohim*. Columbia: Martina Publishing, Inc. 2016.

Lyle, Joy Collins. *The Holy Arm of the Lord*. Available as a free pdf download on www.TheHolyArmOfTheLord.com. Chapter 17 deals with Paul's part in Christianity's abandonment

of the Written Torah and Chapter 18 speaks of the faith of the true first believers in Yehoshua, the Nazarenes (Nazoraeans), who continued to keep the true Seventh Day Sabbath, as well as the other Written Torah Commandments. Also, Chapter 15 documents how Yehoshua upheld the continuing validity of the Written Torah for all believers in Him, shown clearly in the Shem Tov Hebrew Matthew manuscripts.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC] Part Three/Section Two/ Article Three/ I. - The paragraphs 2168 – 2195 explain the Catholic view of the Seventh Day Sabbath as abrogated, as they view all of the Mosaic Law (The Written Torah), and the replacement of The Sabbath with “The Lord’s Day,” which is the first day of the week, which they call the “eighth day.” This is actually not very long and is easily accessed on the website <https://www.vatican.va> . For a Protestant, it is a very enlightening read! **It confirms to me that there was no true documented authority to change the Seventh Day Sabbath to the First Day! Paul is the earliest source they point to.**

Pritz, Ray A. ***NAZARENE JEWISH CHRISTIANITY From the End of the New Testament Period Until Its Disappearance in the Fourth Century.*** Jerusalem: The Magnes Press, The Hebrew University, 1988 1st ed., Reprinted 1992. ISBN 9781590459188. Print.

Gordon, Nehemia ***THE HEBREW YESHUA VS. THE GREEK JESUS: NEW LIGHT ON THE SEAT OF MOSES FROM SHEM-TOV’S HEBREW MATTHEW***, Hilkiah Press. 2005. ISBN 0-9762637-0-X. Print. (ALSO AVAILABLE AS A **YOU TUBE VIDEO** ON NEHEMIA GORDON YOU TUBE CHANNEL. Dr. Nehemia Gordon is a Karaite Jew who has helped many believers in Yehoshua come to a much better understanding of the Written Torah, although he himself is not a believer in Yehoshua at this point.www.NehemasWall.com is his website.)