

Questions About Sabbath & Stars

Sabbath starts with the appearance of the first star in the night sky...and ends at the appearance of the first 3 stars...very interesting...I did not know this...What is the significance of the stars? Do these stars have names? Does it matter where they appear in the night sky? Is this statement true or false.. "The stars in the sky proclaim the Gospel?"

Answer:

That's a wonderful and thoughtful question — full of curiosity about how God's creation and His Sabbath fit together! Let's look at each part carefully and biblically.

1. When the Sabbath begins and ends

The Bible simply says:

“From evening to evening, you shall celebrate your Sabbath.” — *Leviticus 23:32*

In Hebrew thought, “*evening*” (עֶרֶב, *erev*) meant the time when daylight fades and the first stars begin to appear — marking the transition between day and night (Genesis 1:5).

That's why Jewish tradition measures the Sabbath from sunset (or the first visible star) on Friday evening until sunset (or when three stars appear) on Saturday evening.

So yes, the “**first star**” and “**three stars**” are part of **Jewish timekeeping tradition**, not a biblical command.

It's a *practical sign* of sunset in ancient times, before clocks existed.

2. The significance of the stars

The stars themselves don't make the Sabbath holy — **God does** (Genesis 2:3).
But the stars remind us of His creative power.

“He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name.” — *Psalms 147:4*

So while the stars mark time, they also *testify* to the God who made both time and light.

They were given as “**signs and seasons**” (Genesis 1:14) — meaning they help humanity track God's appointed times, like Sabbaths and festivals.

3. Do the stars have names?

Yes! Scripture says God Himself named them all:

“Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name.” — *Isaiah 40:26*

Many ancient constellations do have Hebrew or Near Eastern names — some even preserved in modern astronomy.

But only God knows *all* their true names and meanings.

4. Does it matter where they appear in the sky?

Not in a salvational or ceremonial sense.

Their appearance simply marked the *timing* of evening across regions.

Different locations and seasons show different stars — but the principle remains the same: when daylight fades into starlight, the new biblical day begins.

5. “The stars proclaim the Gospel” — True or false?

True — in a symbolic sense, not in a verbal one.

Psalm 19:1 says:

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.”

And Romans 1:20 adds:

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made.”

So the stars *do* proclaim God’s glory and creative power — which is the foundation of the Gospel!

They don’t “preach” with words, but they **bear witness** to the same Creator who sent His Son to redeem the world He made.

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Summary

Question	Answer
When does Sabbath start/end?	From sunset to sunset — symbolized by first and third star in Jewish tradition.
What’s the significance of stars?	They mark time and reveal God’s creative order.
Do they have names?	Yes — God named them all (Psalm 147:4).
Does their position matter?	No — they simply mark the transition from day to night.
Do they proclaim the Gospel?	Yes — by declaring God’s glory and pointing us to the Creator and Redeemer.

Reflection

Every Friday evening, when you see the first star twinkle in the sky, it's like heaven's gentle reminder:

“The Creator who made these stars also made time for you to rest in His love.”