

The Seventh Day: A Day of Blessing

This week we will look at what God has declared for this seventh day, which makes it special in ways which the other six days are not.

I. God _____ and _____ the Seventh Day

בָּרַךְ - *barak* - _____, _____

God blessed _____ :

Genesis 1:22, Genesis 1:28

God blessed _____ and _____ and _____ :

Genesis 12:2, Genesis 17:16, Genesis 25:11

God blessed _____ :

Genesis 17:20

Others blessed _____ :

Genesis 9:26, Deuteronomy 10:8

There are only a few places where God blesses something that is not alive (animals or man):

Exodus 23:25, 1 Samuel 9:13

Many times in scripture we see men blessing other men.

Blessing seems to involve the giving of good to someone. In the case of someone blessing God, the meaning would be that we are trying to bring about good to God. For example, often the scriptures speak of blessing His name. We would bless His name by speaking good of God, and by bringing about good by our actions.

God blessed the Sabbath day:

Exodus 20:11 For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

God blessed the seventh day. It is special in a way the other six days are not. The seventh day is a day that reminds us of the Creator. It is a day which brings glory and honor to God which the other days do not. It is a day which is blessed to do this.

קָדֹשׁ - *qadosh* - be _____, consecrated

This concept goes hand in hand with the idea of blessing. The seventh day is set apart from the other days as a special day. Often times we see *qadosh* used of something that is holy. In Isaiah 6, the four creatures are crying out “*qadosh, qadosh, qadosh, is the Lord God of hosts. The whole earth is full of His glory.*” Often, in scripture, the idea of *qadosh* is the

idea of setting something aside for a special use:

Exodus 19:14, Leviticus 8:10, Numbers 7:1, Leviticus 8:30, Numbers 20:13, 1 Samuel 16:5, 2 Chronicles 7:7

The idea of sanctifying the seventh day is the idea of setting it apart for a specific purpose. The seventh day is special because it is a day created to honor and glorify the Creator. God could have just told us that He created the world in six days and we could have had a six day week. Instead God made this seventh day so that we would remember the Creator and give Him praise.

II. God blessed and Sanctified the Seventh Day because He _____.

Rested - שָׁבַת - shavah - _____, desist, rest

Isaiah 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

The other six days, God chose to create. Although each day God did something different, He did something. On this seventh day, God chose not to create anything new. This is different from all the other days. God made this day special because He did something special on it.

Again, God could have just given us a six day week, but He did not. He gave us this seventh day, a day on which He rested, which he ceased working.

III. God blessed and Sanctified the Seventh Day because He Rested from What He Had _____.

בָּרָא - bara - _____, create -- **Qal** *shape, fashion, create*, always of divine activity **1.** heaven and earth; mankind; the host of heaven; heavens; ends of the earth; north and south; wind.

Psalm 89:12, Psalm 148:5, Isaiah 45:12

Gods rest on the seventh day, of course, pertains to His creative acts. The seventh day focuses our attention on a God who is able to speak the universe into being. It focuses our attention on a God who is powerful enough to make everything out of nothing. It should cause us to worship a God who has given us life.

Application:

- Our reflection on the seventh day should draw our attention to creation and thus, to the Creator. As we think on the seventh day we should respond in worship.
- God is setting a pattern for us. There is no Sabbath command at this point in scripture, but there seems to be a principle of resting from one's work. Man cannot work and is not made to work 24/7. God uses Himself as an example of taking time off from one's labors. He gave the seventh day as an example to us.