

God blessed the seventh day

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. Genesis 2:3

It is important to note that the Sabbath day began long before the Israelites came out of Egypt. Our verse shows us that God blessed the seventh day at the time of creation. The ten commandments did not institute something new, but said: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

The institution of the Sabbath has its root in the very constitution of the universe as God made it. God, Himself, rested on the Sabbath day as an example to us. He sanctified this day and desired that we should always keep it holy.

The seventh day stresses the principle that there is a goal to all of God's activities. Some philosophers may think that all things continue as they have been from the beginning and that life is merely a changeless round of circumstances. The believer in God's Word knows that this is not the case.

God does everything in accordance with His wonderful plan. All His works are joined in a marvelous symphony and will in the end accomplish in full every purpose that He has for them. Every seventh day we rest from the ordinary labors of life and set apart a day to contemplate the marvelous works of God and to glorify our Creator.

When Christ was raised from the dead on the first day of the week the observance of the Sabbath was changed to that day. The principle of ~~still~~ observing one day in seven remains as before. All that the Sabbath ever meant is retained, but it is clarified through our understanding of the fulfillment of the work of God in the sacrifice of Christ at Calvary. On each Lord's day we remember the resurrection of Christ from the dead and realize anew that He will raise us also with a body similar to His glorious body, if we have truly believed on Him for salvation.