

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"Day 7 – God Rested"**  
**Genesis 2:1-3**  
**Study-8**

**Ten times, God is mentioned in Verses 2-3.**

**The passage makes clear that,**

**"It's God Who Created All Things, And It was God Who Rested."**

**Four times, God's creation was complete.**

**Three times "all His work."**

**Three times "Seventh Day."**

**There are three reasons this day was unique, and those three reasons are indicated by three verbs in our passage.**

1<sup>st</sup> Verb is **"finished"** (v. 1).

2<sup>nd</sup> Verb is **"rested"** (v. 2).

3<sup>rd</sup> Verb is **"blessed"** (v. 3).

**God Later Extended The Sabbath To Israel As Part of His Covenant.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: (Not Repeated NT) Exodus 20:8-11**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "On The Seventh Day, God Declared His Work Of Creation Complete And Rested Blessing The Day."

**1. Verses 1-2 He Finished His Work**

**2. Verse 2 He Rested**

**3. Verse 3 He Blessed The Day**

**1. Verses 1-2 He Finished His Work:**

**Genesis 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed,**

**Context** – Unfortunately, **Genesis 2:1** should have been part of **Genesis 1**

Genesis begins **Genesis 1:1**, and Notice how the chapter should end **Genesis 2:1** Technically called "*inclusion,*" *being included in a group or instruction.*

**Genesis 1:31 God saw all that He had made,** just so none would miss it

**and behold, it was very good.**

"God saw ...that it was good"**(1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25)** omissions.

Work was complete in every sense.

God was pleased **Ecclesiastes 3:14**

**Thus the heavens and the earth were completed,**

There were no loose ends to tie up. There were no problems to fix.

**Psalm 104:24**

**The Stars: and all their hosts.**

**Deuteronomy 4:19; Nehemiah 9:6; Jeremiah 33:22**

**Hosts Mean Angels: 1 Kings 22:19; Luke 2:13-14**

**Genesis 2:2**

**By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done,  
Exodus 20:11**

## **2. Verse 2 He Rested:**

**and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.** This is God setting into motion a spiritual and physical order that was going to be for the existence of man.

**rested** – (*Shabbat*) "to cease from" God simply stopped His creative activity. **Rest** is the Greek word for "Sabbath." *The Hebrew word translated "rested."* He abstained from creative work. He had completed all creation, so there was nothing more for Him to create. Therefore, He ceased His work. **Isaiah 40:28**  
**Does not become weary or tired.**

**God was not tired but commemorated the work of Creation and Celebrated It.** Hebrews 4:4

**on the seventh day from all His work**

**This first week determined the periods of labor and rest.**

**God would later require of His covenant people. Exodus 20:11**

**Exodus 16:23-30**

**1<sup>st</sup> time God applied it to man was hundreds of years later**

**God Later Extended The Sabbath To Israel As Part of His Covenant.  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Exodus 20:8-11**

**Exodus 31:16-17 He ceased from labor, and was refreshed."**

**Refreshed** – "*exhale of satisfaction, relief*" **Nehemiah 9:13-14**

**God employed the number 7 to Israel in numerous ways to express the ideas of completion, perfection, and holiness.**

**Creation—God creates for six days, and on the seventh day, God rests,**

**Noah's Clean Animals—Noah must bring seven pairs of clean animals on the ark.**

**Leviticus 23 Israel's Seven Feasts**

**Every seven years, debts are canceled - and the land must lie fallow. After seven cycles of seven years pass, the jubilee year is declared.**

**Slaves – Hebrew slaves are to be freed on the seventh year.**

**He ceased from labor, and was refreshed.”**

*This speech is figurative, describing God’s cessation of work, and His rest for the sole purpose of enjoying what He had made.*

**Specifically, God ceased His creative activity.**

**He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.**

**Psalm 121:4**

**God Rested From His Work of Creation**

**(Not Very Long Adam & Eve Sinned),**

**Next, God Would Begin The Work of Redemption: Genesis 3**

**John 4:34; 5:17; John 17:4**

### **3. Verse 3 He Blessed The Day:**

**Genesis 2:3**

**God Blessed The Seventh Day: Then God blessed the seventh day**

*“God made it spiritually fruitful, divine favor”* **Genesis 1:22, 28**

**God Made The Seventh Day Holy: and sanctified it,**

The Hebrew word translated as **“sanctified”** is *qedesh*, meaning God

**blessed. Sanctified** – Its root meaning is **“holy,”** and it conveys the idea of being

*“Set apart, to be holy, for a special purpose.”*

**This is the first time in Scripture that anything is said to be holy.**

**The seventh day is unique. It is an exalted day because God “Blessed It” and “Sanctified It”**

**The Seventh Day of the Week** - The Jewish Sabbath, symbolizes the old creation and the covenant of law: first you work, then you rest.

**The Jewish Sabbath Law Was Fulfilled by Christ on The Cross and is no longer binding on God’s people (Galatians 4:1–11; Colossians 2:16–17)**

**The First Day of the Week** - the **Lord’s Day**, symbolizes the New Creation and the Covenant of Grace: first, you believe in Christ and find rest, and then you work (**Ephesians 2:8–10**).

**God's Day Of Blessing: Mark 2:27-28**

**Celebration of God The Creator: because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. Exodus 20:11**

**Isaiah 58:13-14**

**Celebration of God The Redeemer: Deuteronomy 5:15; John 19:30**

**Covenant Sign: Exodus 31:12-13**

**There Is A Spiritual And A Physical Side To This Day Of Rest:**

**Spiritual Rest of The Believer: Hebrews 4:1-11** Explains the rest.

**God's Creation Rest: Hebrews 4:4**

**Israel's Canaan Rest: Hebrews 4:8** To teach us about the spiritual rest.

**Spiritual Rest: Hebrews 4:9-11**

**Through Faith In Jesus Christ, We Enter The "New Creation"**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

**Rest Right Now:** Through placing our faith in Jesus Christ, **Matthew 11:28-30**

**We Enter Into The Spiritual Inheritance In Christ:**

**(Acts 20:32; Ephesians 1:18; Colossians 1:12)**

**Rest In Heaven: Revelation 14:13**

**Spiritual Rest – Devotional/Relational Application - Hebrews 10:25**

**Physical Rest – Our bodies need it. They will last longer. Mark 4:35-36**

**Application:**

1. God Rested Not Because He Was Tired, But To Commemorate The Finished Work Of His Creation, And Thus He Celebrated It. We As New Creations Of God Should Stop And Celebrate The God of Creation And Salvation.

2. God Blessing And Making Holy The Seventh Day Reveals Man's Great Need For Spiritual, And Physical Rest. That Rest Can Only Be Experienced Through Faith In Jesus Christ. **Matthew 11:28**