



# THIS ETERNAL COVENANT

**SEVENTH DAY SLUMBER**

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*“THE GIFTS AND CALL OF ELOHIM ARE IRREVOCABLE.” – ROMANS 11:29*

**T**he clarion call has gone out to all the Earth since it's inception for every manner of life to enter into the first eternal covenant invoked upon the completion of the first week, the call to come receive that precious gift of rest, to enter in to those few precious hours of blessed bliss, to rest in that seventh day of slumber.

We have taught ourselves that it's Jewish, that it's a burden, the shackles of the "Old" Covenant, and the chains of the Law, but our Elohim has always offered us, His Sabbath not as a grueling time of limitation and lamentation, not as fetters on our freedom of action, but as liberation from our will, as a Day away from our wanton desires. The Seventh Day Sabbath is one such eternal covenant thought by most Christians to be nullified by 'Christ' yet as a gift and call of the Elohim, our Creator, it is irrevocable. And when we learn what it really is, beyond the myths we've made for ourselves, and all our thoughts of it being foreign, when we can get past our paranoia of its supposed "Jewishness" and our superstitious interpretations of the commands regarding its keeping, then, in a biblical understanding beyond our bias and modern mindset, we will then behold its blessedness, and thank our Heavenly Father that it is not gone as we had thought.

Regarding this good gift, Susan Pitchford once said, "In short, it makes us different, sets us apart, makes us, in fact, holy, which is part of the reason [Elohim] gave it to His people in the first place." When the common conception within the church is to hold Sunday as the holy day, indeed, it would no doubt distinguish those of us who keep the Seventh Day Sabbath, and set us apart, not merely from all the world, but moreover from the rest of Christendom, which refuses this gift of Rest. From the time of Creation, this one Day has divided all other days and all denominations from those who call upon YHWH and keep

His commandments. And today is no different, for the Sabbath serves to separate, those who hold to Scripture from all who do not, though they may believe themselves to do so.

The Bible does not teach of a "Jewish" sabbath. That Day belongs to neither Jew, nor gentile, but to the Creator Himself. No religion or race has a monopoly on that most holy Day. None can lay claim upon it, though many, such as the Jews have tried, and we have, for the most part, allowed their claim to stand. However, before there was such a thing as the Jewish people, long before the prophets and patriarchs, when there was but one man upon the earth, YHWH Elohim, the Creator of all we see, set apart the Seventh Day, from all the rest, rested up upon it, and said it was sacred for no other reason, then the simple fact of His resting there on. The Almighty Elohim blessed **That Day** in the very beginning and separated it from all others. Thus it was that the Sabbath was started as the last thing established in the earliest age, last in Creation yet first in Intention, as the Maker made clear by His regard for it in the record of Genesis.

Even when Israel was later given the command to Remember the Sabbath with the rest of the Law, they were given it in trust...to keep it holy...but not to keep it to themselves. They were meant to teach the nations to keep it holy as well, but they did not. And so we have been taught till today that the Sabbath Day was only meant for them. We believe so, because they say so, and we receive it as such. Biblically, however, every time the Day is mentioned, it is referred to as the treasured possession of YHWH Elohim. Wherever we read of it (Leviticus 23:3; Exodus 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Exodus 31:12-17; Isaiah, 56:2, 4, 6-7; Isaiah 58:13-14; Ezekiel 20:12, 20; Ezekiel 22:8 and more) our Heavenly Father is always calling the Seventh Day, "**My** Sabbath." Yes, He gave the Day to Israel in eternal covenant, but the Day itself was eternal beforehand, and never was of Judaism exclusively. Just as we who belong to the Messiah are grafted into the covenant the Almighty made with Israel, so also are we now, through Messiah, made partakers of this Precious Day of rest. This delightful Day we were taught to despise by Christendom, just as much as by Judaism, belongs to everyone who works in this world, all in the same manner, as if we were custodians of it; we have been made caretakers, the keepers of this Holy Day, meant to sanctify it within ourselves, and to show the world how to do the same.

The Holy Bible teaches that the 7th Day is to be the **sign forever** that YHWH Elohim made all the Universe in 6 real and literal days. Scripture shows us that the Sabbath is a sign of

this fact, and more so, it is a sign that our Elohim is Who He says He is. And moreover, this Seventh Day, the Book says, is a sign to all His people that it is He Who makes us holy, and not we ourselves. Are we not now His people? Do we not believe our Elohim made all that exists in under a week? Do we not believe in the power of the NAME He has called Himself? And do we not believe we must be holy? Perhaps we hold that we are our own source of righteousness? If not, then, why would we not desire the identification of this most blessed Day? Sabbath is the symbol of all the things we **claim** to believe... but we do not **want** it...and insist we do not **need** it.... Why?

If we are Christian or Messianic, after all, our obligation to follow the One we call 'Messiah', in all things, to do as He said, and as much as possible also, to do as He did. According to the gospels, it was His custom to keep the Sabbath. Why then, do we not follow after Him in this matter? Why do we claim He is our Teacher if we do not follow after the customs and commandments He taught us? The claim is made by the church that the one they call 'Jesus' abolished the Sabbath, or that He Himself **is** the Sabbath, or that every day is now the Sabbath. We profess so many various scenarios about this issue, and all of them contradictory to one another, but never can we produce the excuses from the Scriptures. Never can we find that the Bible teaches of our theories on the subject. If the Sabbath is representative of all these good things of our Elohim, why would our Messiah, Who is His 'Son' and served His will always, abolished such bounty and beneficence? Truly, in 'Messiah' is our rest and peace, but He is not a day of the week. Though spiritually we rest in Him every day and work always for His glory, still we require physical work **and** physical rest, so the need for physical Sabbath stays. And the idea that every day is a Sabbath day is just silly and shows really how little we have been taught about what it truly is. If every day were the Sabbath set apart from the rest, our weeks would be one day apiece and all rest, no work; nothing would be accomplished, and there would be no peace.

When we begin to view, Messiah as actually teaching about Sabbath keeping, without previously conceived notions clouding the issue, a completely different picture comes into focus. Since Emperor Constantine the Great first issued the commandment in the fourth century A.D., Christians have been taking the time out of our week to try to honor the Creator on Sunday, which we have been calling all along, "the Lord's day". Yet as great as Constantine was, and however well intentioned, he may or may not have been in this edict to celebrate Sundays, he is only a man after all. Who is he to counter Heaven's

command? And who are we to listen to him when he does? The Bible says, the people of YHWH keep Day Seven holy. The Empire said the holy day is the day one. Which then should we follow?... Do we even have to ask? Besides, who is our "Lord" anyway? Is it not Yahshua, the One we've known in the West as 'Jesus'?! He called Himself, 'Son' of Man, and He said, "the 'Son' of Man is 'Lord' of the Sabbath." Thus He affirmed the real "Lord's day" is the Seventh Day, and not the first. And more over in Constantine's day, the pagan sungod, Sol Invictus, was called 'Lord' by his worshipers, and was served upon the "vulnerable day of the sun" we now know as Sunday. Why would we want anything to do with that day being special?

If this Messiah they call "Jesus Christ" is 'Lord' of the Sabbath, therefore His followers should keep holy the Day of which He is 'Lord' thereof. Should we not? Further still, this 'Jesus' taught us that the Sabbath was made for Man. It is a gift to all Creation, not to confine us, as we have believed, but to be our comfort. A break from our busy schedule, the Creator's day of rest is a 24 hour period of peace, for the duration of which we are able to tell all the world to keep their problems while we keep this eternal covenant. For these few hours, we are able, at last, after long, hard days of toil, trial, trouble, and strife, to finally cease our striving to build, make, create, and accomplish. Far from being burdensome, the Sabbath is the Day when we are free. It is not so much a time when we are *not allowed* to work, and are *required* to rest, so much as it is the *only* time when we *don't have to* work, and we *get to* rest. For a short time we don't have to be *doing*, but only *being*. Sabbath is the only setting in which we are capable of setting our own will aside, and deciding not to do our own ordinary obligations, the only time when we are compelled for a time to surrender our compulsion.

As much as it is a blessing though, the Sabbath is also not ours to treat as we please. We may not do our will on this day, neither may we abolish it, nor move it from day to day as we may desire. The Creator's command to keep the Sabbath was given purely because it is the Day on which He completed Creation. It is an order, therefore, to rest on this day, the Seventh of the week. He does not order we keep *a* seventh day starting from whenever *we* think is best. Neither does He mandate we take *a* day off. Our Elohim ordered we keep *His* Sabbath holy, not *a* Sabbath. *Our* sabbath may be *any* day, and there is nothing wicked in it...but there is also nothing wonderful. Because *our* sabbath is not *His* Sabbath and has no bearing on the commandment, either from the days of Creation or from the Decalogue.

We know that we are instructed in the Ten Commandments to Remember the Sabbath, though we've been taught to slough it off as being moved to Sunday, or to make it a metaphorical holiday, or to regard the command as just an order to take a day off when we can/want to. Yet the Fourth Commandment is clearly, conclusively concrete as Day Seven, dedicated not to anything of our will, but to YHWH Almighty. And why? He gives no other reason in Scripture, but this: The first week when He was making everything was a model for all our movements, the framework around, which He intended, we should build our world. As He worked six days, we work six. As He ended everyday, looking over all He had made, ensuring its nature in goodness, so we too review all our actions ending every day, ensuring we have done well, and have done His will. And crowning all He made, He set the Sabbath as the Day of rest for us by resting on it first. The Fourth Commandment claims the Sabbath was blessed **because** of the rest of Elohim. It says YHWH set this one day apart and hallowed it **by** resting on It.

We have to ask then: Why would the Creator rest if not, as an example for His Creation? Was He tired? Of course not. He is YHWH, after all. He never needs sleep or any rest. Why make everything in six days, when He is powerful enough to think everything into reality in an instant?... Unless again, it is to set the pattern for all people to follow after as He had done. Sometimes, we forget in our humanity that our Heavenly FATHER has no needs. He requires not the time to make one thing let alone the entire universe. He knows all His works are perfectly good without inspection after making them. And He cannot rest nor benefit from it. So why do it if not for us? Everything our Elohim ever does or has done involving His Creation has been for us to see and do likewise. If it is written in Scripture of Him, it is for our benefit and for, to the best of our ability, our imitation as well. Whether it is the Sabbath, or a commandment, or a covenant, all His actions are done on our behalf, and are meant for our practice; no matter who we are - Jew, or gentile, Christian, or pagan - the same gift is offered all. The same call gone out to all sentient life to come to Him and receive the free gift of rest in His eternal covenant established in the Sabbath.



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