

The Unique Seventh Day

God's plan is revealed in the pattern of the seven-day week. On the first six days, "...the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them" (Genesis 2:1). Everything that God created on those six days was physical, and has a limited lifespan. However, as we are going to see, the seventh day was a unique creation. Unique means "the only one of its kind." We are going to examine the seventh day in the beginning (Genesis) and at the end (Revelation), and we will see what makes it unique, and why it is important to anyone who desires eternal life.

"And **on the seventh day God ended His work** which He had made; and **He rested on the seventh day** from all His work which He had made. And God **blessed the seventh day, and sanctified** [6942, *separated as holy, dedicated to God*] **it**: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made" (Genesis 2:2, 3).

We see that God made a clear distinction between the seventh day and the first six days in several ways. God rested on the seventh day because His work was finished, and God blessed it and set it apart as holy. **The seventh day is the only day of the week that God ever declared to be holy.** Sunday was declared to be holy by men, which is meaningless, because man cannot make anything holy.

There wasn't anything physical created on the seventh day. You could not hear, see, smell, taste, or touch it. Since all of the physical creation was finished on the sixth day, then why did God add one more day? Could it be that the seventh day represents a spiritual creation that will follow the demise of the physical creation?

Each of the first six days was limited by "...the evening and the morning were the _____ day" (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). That was not the case with the seventh day. There were no limitations of time placed on the seventh day. The "evening and the morning" were purposely left out of the text. Could this mean that the seventh day represents eternity? We have seen that the seventh day is unique from the other six days of the week in many respects. Now we will see how these unique aspects will be fulfilled.

Everything that was created on the first six days will be destroyed at the coming of the Day of the Lord. "But **the day of the Lord will come** as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Peter 3:10).

The heavens and the earth were finished on the sixth day of the week. "And God saw **everything that He had made**, and behold, it was very good. **And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.** Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them" (Genesis 1:31;

2:1). Because they were finished on the sixth day of the week, the destruction of the heavens and earth will have to be on the sixth day of the week.

Following the destruction of the physical creation on the sixth day, will be a new creation revealed on the seventh day. “Looking for and hasting to the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat. Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness**” (2 Peter 3:12, 13).

The seventh day pictures the completion of God’s work. On the seventh day “...God **ended** His work...and He rested on the seventh day...” (Genesis 2:2). Now let’s look at the spiritual fulfillment of the seventh day. “...He that sat on the throne said, Behold, **I make all things new**....And He said to me, **It is done** [1096, *to come into being, emerge*]. I am Alpha, and Omega, the beginning and the end...” (Revelation 21:5, 6).

The beginning was the physical creation and the end will be a new spiritual creation that is eternal. “**And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away**; and there was no more sea” (Revelation 21:1). On the seventh day God will come down from heaven to dwell with man.

“And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and **there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away**” (vv. 2-4).

The seventh day is the promise of eternal life for mankind. “...I will give to him that is thirsty of the fountain of **the water of life freely**. He that overcomes [3528, *conquer, subdue, vanquish, prevail*] shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son” (vv. 6, 7).

Before man can enter into eternal life, what is he to overcome? “Be not overcome [3528] of evil [2556, *corrupt, depraved, wicked, immoral*], but overcome [3528] evil with good [18, *upright, virtuous, profitable, generous*]” (Romans 12:21). Remember, the new heavens and new earth is where righteousness dwells. “LORD, who shall abide in your tabernacle? Who shall dwell in your **holy hill**? He that walks uprightly [8549, *integrity, blameless, innocent*], and works [6466, *do, make, practice*] **righteousness**, and speaks the truth in his heart” (Psalm 15:1, 2).

The seventh day is the only day of the week that can represent God’s “holy hill” because it is the only day of the week that God made holy. Holiness cannot be represented by a common day, i.e. a day that God did not make holy.

Those who choose not to overcome will not inherit eternal life, but eternal death. “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers [4205, *a male prostitute*], and sorcerers [5332, *one who deals in drugs*], and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: **which is the second death**” (Revelation 21:8).

The seventh day is a symbol of the Kingdom of God and the way of life that it represents. “There remains therefore the keeping of a Sabbath to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest [2663, *place of rest, place of abode, dwelling, habitation*], he also has ceased from his own works, as God did from His” (Hebrews 4:9, 10). On what day did God cease from His work? “...And God did rest the **seventh day** from all His works” (v. 4).

Those people who will suffer eternal death will have rejected the seventh day and the way of life that it represents. “Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest [2663], lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief” (v. 11).

Remember, the seventh day was the only day on which there was nothing physical created. It was a spiritual creation that represents eternity. “And [*New Jerusalem*] had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof” (v. 23).

The heavenly bodies were created “for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years” (Genesis 1:14). When the sun, moon, and stars cease to exist, then days and years will cease to exist. There will be no need to keep track of time, because only the eternal Sabbath day will remain.

The seventh day Sabbath is a sign between God and man of the promise of an eternal inheritance in the Kingdom of God. “...Verily My Sabbaths you shall keep: for **it is a sign** [226, *sign of an agreement between two parties*] **between Me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am the LORD that does sanctify you. You shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy to you: everyone that defiles** [2490, *pollute, defile, profane*] **it shall surely be put to death...**” (Exodus 31:14).

Defiling the Sabbath is a rejection of the Kingdom of God and the way of righteousness, and those who do so will not inherit the kingdom. “And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defiles [2840, *is unholy*], neither works abomination, or makes a lie: **but they who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life**” (Revelation 21:27).