

SABBATH—CORRECT DAY?

by Avram Yehoshua

[The Seed of Abraham](#)

There are some people who question whether the 7th day Sabbath today, from Friday night at dark until Saturday night at dark,¹ is actually the 7th day Sabbath of Creation because of calendar changes by either Pope Gregory VIII or man (the International Date Line controversy), etc. There are a number of biblical reasons, though, why the 7th day Sabbath of today is the biblical Sabbath of Creation, which lines up with Friday night to Saturday night in the Gregorian Calendar.

One reason has to do with the Sabbath of Creation, and another reason has to do with how and when God gave the Sabbath to Israel. A third reason revolves around Yeshua (Jesus) and His confrontations with the Pharisees and Scribes. These will reveal that the 7th day Sabbath of Creation is the 7th day Sabbath of today. A fourth point will present Luke's writing of the Sabbath in the Book of Acts.

The Sabbath of Creation

The Sabbath appears in Creation Week on the 7th day. This establishes when God's 7th day Sabbath is during the biblical week:

“Then God blessed the 7th day and made it holy because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.” (Genesis 2:3)

Some people today opt for a so-called lunar Sabbath, but there is never any mention in Scripture of following the cycle of the moon for the Sabbath.² Some lunar sabbaterians say that the first light of Creation, on the first day, is the sun and the moon so that the 7th day is seven days after the creation of the moon, but this interpretation is contradicted by Scripture.

Genesis 1:14-19 states that the moon was created on the fourth day. The light of the first day, as a number of ancient Jewish sages correctly understood, was the Light of Messiah, the Living Word of God, the Light of the world (Gen. 1:3; John 1:1-9; 8:12; 9:5, etc.). The very first words of God in Hebrew were ‘Light, be!’ (Gen. 1:3), and Yeshua, the Light of the world and the Word of God (John 1:1-3; Rev. 19:13) came forth, *begotten* (not created) of the Father (Ps. 2:2, 6-7; Jn. 1:18; 3:16, 18).³

The First Sabbath in the Wilderness

God Himself starts Israel off on His 7th day Sabbath in the Wilderness (Ex. 16:4-5, 22-23, 26-27, 30) even before giving the Ten Commandments (Ex. 20) with its admonition to keep the 7th day Sabbath holy (Ex. 20:8-10). Israel, therefore, knew *when* the Sabbath was to take place:

“Then Yahveh said to Moses, “Behold! I will rain bread from Heaven for you and the

¹ See [When Does The Sabbath Begin?](#) The biblical Sabbath begins on Friday night at dark. Jewish tradition has it beginning at sunset on Friday.

² For more on why the lunar Sabbath is biblically impossible see [A Lunar Sabbath?](#)

³ For more on the Sonship and deity of the Messiah see [Yeshua—God the Son](#).

people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the 6th day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.” (Ex. 16:4-5)

“And so it was, on the 6th day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. Then he said to them, “This is what the Lord has said: *‘Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahveh. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil, and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.’*” (Exodus 16:22-23)

“Six days you shall gather it, *but on the 7th day, the Sabbath*, there will be none.” Now it happened that some of the people went out on the 7th day to gather, but they found none.” (Exodus 16:26-27)

“*So the people rested on the 7th day.*” (Exodus 16:30)

Scripture states, ‘the people rested on the seventh day.’ This ancient ‘7th day’ in the Wilderness is directly tied into the 7th day of Creation Week by the Lord God Himself. Fast-forwarding to the days of Messiah Yeshua we’ll see that He never corrected the Pharisees about the day when they accused Him of breaking the 7th day Sabbath of Creation.

The Sabbath and Yeshua

When the Pharisees came to Yeshua and spoke of Him, or His followers, desecrating the Sabbath, by say, plucking grain on it (Mt. 12:1-7; Mk. 2:23ff; Lk. 6:1ff)⁴ or about healings on the Sabbath day (Lk. 13:14ff; Jn. 9:14ff), or when Yeshua healed the man and told him to pick up his pallet and walk on the Sabbath day (Mk. 3:2ff; Jn. 5:9ff), Yeshua never once tells the Pharisees that their Sabbath day was *not* God’s 7th day Sabbath. He never tells His Apostles, either, that the Jewish reckoning of the Sabbath was wrong nor do we find anything in the New Testament that speaks of the 7th day Sabbath being on the wrong day or a day other than when the Jewish priests and people were keeping it.

Yeshua defends His healings and His ability to pick and eat grain *on the 7th day Sabbath* in a number of different ways, but never once does He say to the Pharisees or to His disciples (or to us in Scripture through the inspired Word of God; 2nd Tim. 3:16-17) that the ‘Jewish Sabbath’ was on the wrong day. No Gospel or New Testament writer ever tells us that the Jewish people kept the wrong day for the Sabbath.

The Sabbath and Acts

In the Book of Acts God’s 7th day Sabbath is mentioned *9 times*, 34 years *after* the resurrection.⁵ (How very strange in that the Church teaches that the 7th day Sabbath isn’t valid for Christians.)⁶ Luke never

⁴ See Dt. 23:25 where eating grain from the field is allowed. It doesn’t speak of the Sabbath day, but it’s not prohibited from doing such on the Sabbath day. The prohibition was strictly Pharisaic, not biblical.

⁵ The Book of Acts is generally considered to have been written about 64 AD. ‘Sabbath’ is seen in Acts 1:12; 13:14, 27, 42, 44; 15:21; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4. It’s also found in Col. 2:16 and Heb. 4:9 (where the KJV and NKJV *fail* to correctly translate the Greek word *Sabbatismos* in Heb. 4:9, but every other Bible has *Sabbath rest*—not just ‘rest’).

⁶ See [The Two Triangles of the NT, The Feasts of Israel and the Church, Law 102, Grace, Holiness and the Pharisaic Church, No Longer Under the Law?](#), [Ten Ways Yeshua Fulfilled The Law, No Longer Under the Law?](#), [A Snapshot of Church History and Mosaic Law](#), and [Why Sunday?](#) for understanding that both the 7th day Sabbath and Mosaic Law are still in effect for Christians.

mentions that the Jewish 7th day Sabbath was the wrong day of the week. There is not a single Scripture that even hints at this, let alone two clear Scripture witnesses that tell us of a different 7th day. If the Jews were wrong, wouldn't the Holy Spirit have alerted Christians to this fact somewhere in the New Testament, especially as the Church continued to meet on the 7th day Sabbath after the resurrection? Of course the Spirit would have. Therefore, both the Lord Yeshua and the divinely inspired New Testament confirm that the Jewish reckoning for the 7th day Sabbath in Yeshua's time and for the early Church was the correct day.

Conclusion

Today, almost 2,000 years after Messiah and the Apostles, we know for a fact that the Jewish people have not tampered with the 7th day Sabbath since the time of Yeshua (from any cursory glance into any history book of the Jewish people). For something this massive, the change of the 7th day Sabbath among the Jewish people, if the day had been altered since the time of Yeshua, it would have raised many alarms and been written of among every Jewish historian and rabbi, but history records nothing of the sort. Therefore, the 7th day Sabbath of today, Friday night at dark to Saturday night at dark, in Gregorian terms, for that is how the Gregorian Calendar's seven day week parallels itself to God's 7th day Sabbath, *is the very same 7th day Sabbath of Yeshua's day, and the same one of Moses' day, and consequently, the same 7th day of Creation Week.*⁷

Even if another civilization kept a different 'sabbath day' by a different method, we know that Satan worked much of his deception through other civilizations, especially Babylon. There's no reason to think, though, that they had the 'right way' when Scripture clearly states God's Way, and Scripture, as well as Jewish history since the times of Moses and Messiah, supports the current 7th day Sabbath of the Jewish people as the correct one.⁸

⁷ If the Gregorian Calendar had say, a 6 or an 8 day week, Friday night to Saturday night would not line up every week with the 7th day Sabbath, but because it has a 7 day week, it does.

⁸ Revised on Jan 5, 2020.