

History of the Sabbath and First Day of the Week

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Chapter 1 “The Creation”

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Answers to the questions are found on pages 9–26.

1. What is time, as distinguished from eternity? **The duration which is measured by the Bible, from the book of Genesis to the end of the millennium**
2. From the earliest date in Genesis to the resurrection of the unjust, at the end of the millennium, what period of time is measured off? **Time distinguished from eternity**
3. What marks the commencement of the first week of time? **Creation**
4. What was accomplished by the Creator's work on the first day? **The heaven and the earth, light**
5. What was done on the second day? **Firmament**
6. What is the firmament and what is its use? **The atmosphere, to give us air to breathe**
7. What was the third day's work? **The waters were gathered together and dry land appeared, grass, herbs, and fruit trees**
8. What was accomplished on the fourth day? **Lights in the firmament**
9. What on the fifth day? **Whales and every living creature that moveth in the waters and winged fowl**
10. What on the sixth day? **Beasts of the earth, cattle, everything that creepeth on the earth, man**

Chapter 2 “The Institution of the Sabbath”

1. How was the seventh day distinguished from the rest? **God rested**
2. Gen. 2:2 reads: And on the seventh day, God ended his work. Did God perform any labor on the seventh day? **No**
3. What is the genuine reading of this passage? See Ex. 31:17 **God was refreshed**
4. As God rested upon the seventh day of the week, what did that day thus become? **The rest-day of the Lord**
5. But the Creator fainteth not, neither is weary, Is. 40:18. Why, then, did he rest on the seventh day? **He was laying the foundation of a divine institution, the memorial of his own great work**
6. Having rested upon the seventh day, what was the second act of God concerning it? **To place his blessing on the day of his rest**
7. Why did he bless and sanctify that day? **So it would remain a blessed day in the future**
8. What third great act completed the sacred institution? **It was sanctified**
9. What is the meaning of the word sanctify? **To separate, set apart, or appoint to a holy, sacred, or religious use**
10. When was the first of these three great acts performed? **On the seventh day**
11. On what day were the second and third acts performed? **The first day of the second week**

12. To what, then, did the blessing and sanctification of the seventh day relate? **To the seventh day of the week for time to come in memory of God's rest on that day from the work of creation**
13. How are the days of the week measured off? **By the revolution of our earth on its axis**
14. To whom were they given to use? **Adam and Eve**
15. In order to set apart one of these days to a holy use, what must be done? **Use it only for sacred purposes, all secular employment must be laid aside, and the day observed in memory of the Creator's rest**
16. What is Gesenius' definition of the Hebrew verb *kadash*, rendered in our version *to sanctify*? **To pronounce holy, to sanctify, to institute any holy thing, to appoint**
17. Give some instances of its use. **Cities of refuge were sanctified, the gathering of a solemn assembly or the appointment of a public fast**
18. Where is found the most striking illustration of the use of this word? **The sanctification of Mount Sinai**
19. What, then, was it to sanctify the Sabbath in Eden? **To treat it as holy to the Lord**
20. In the light of these facts, is it correct to say that there was no command given for the observance of the Sabbath prior to the giving of the law on Sinai? **No, for God could not set apart his day of rest if the people (Adam & Eve) knew nothing about his will for the seventh day.**
21. What does the term Sabbath signify? **Rest**
22. To what time and event does the fourth commandment point back for the origin of its obligation? **The rest day at creation**

23. Where is the next mention of the Sabbath after the book of Genesis?
By Moses in the wilderness of Sin (Ex. 16:22, 23)

24. Did Moses do anything to the seventh day in the wilderness to make it the rest-day of Jehovah? **No**

25. Had anything been done, up to this time, since the acts recorded in Gen. 2:2, 3 to make the seventh day the Sabbath? **No**

26. What conclusion follows from these facts?

27. What is the testimony of our Lord relative to the origin and design of the Sabbath? **The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath.**

28. What renders the original of his language peculiarly emphatic? and why? **The Sabbath was made for THE (the word is in the original) man, not THE (the word is in the original) man for the Sabbath; it fixes the mind on Adam**

29. God first made the Sabbath his by solemn appropriation. Why did he do this? **That he might convey it back to us under the guarantee of a divine charter, that none might rob us of it with impunity.**

30. What reasons can be given to show that Gen. 2:2, 3 is a record of what took place at the close of the creation week, not something spoken by anticipation? **The record in Genesis is a narrative of events. What God did on each day is recorded in its order down to the seventh. It does violence to the narrative to affirm that the record respecting the seventh day is of a different character from that respecting the other six. To say that God did not sanctify the day at that time, but did it in the days of**

Moses distorts the narrative and affirms that God neglected to do that for which the reason existed at creation until twenty-five hundred years later.

31. Did God sanctify the Sabbath in the wilderness of Sin? **No**

32. How is the Sabbath there mentioned? **The rest of the holy Sabbath unto the Lord**

33. Why does the Sabbath commandment commence with the word *Remember*? **To take us back to creation**

34. What gives especial importance to this memorial? **Creation**

35. What is the observance of the Sabbath on our part? **An act of grateful acknowledgement that God is our Creator, that we owe all to him, and that for his pleasure we are and were created**

36. What would have saved the world from atheism and idolatry? **The Sabbath**