

Exodus 20:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Analysis

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

The Sabbath's foundation is Creation—God's pattern becomes humanity's rhythm. 'Made' (אָשַׁה, asah) recalls Genesis 1's 'created' (bara). 'Heaven and earth, sea, all' (שָׁמָיִם וְאָתָרֶת אָדָם אֶת-הַיּוֹם, shamayim ve'et-ha'aretz et-hayam) comprehensively covers existence—all creation testifies to Creator. God 'rested' (וַיַּעֲלֹם, vayanach) not from exhaustion but completion—He ceased creative work because it was 'very good.' His rest invites ours. 'Blessed and hallowed' (בָּרוּךְ יְהוָה שָׁבָת קָדְשָׁה, berakh vayqaddesh) the Sabbath—God's blessing makes it beneficial; His hallowing makes it holy. Observing Sabbath aligns human rhythm with divine pattern, creation ordinance with covenant command.

Historical Context

Genesis 2:2-3 records God's primordial rest. The Sabbath command at Sinai takes creation pattern and makes it covenant requirement. Sabbath roots in Creation, not just Sinai, giving it universal significance.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does grounding the Sabbath in Creation (not just Sinai) give it universal rather than merely Jewish significance?
2. What does God's rest teach about the purpose and nature of work—why do we work?

Interlinear Text

בְּ	שְׁשַׁת	יְמִין	עָשָׂה	יְהוָה	אָתֶת	בְּשָׂמָמֶת	אֶת	בְּאָרֶץ	וְאֶת	הַשְׁמָמָה	וְאֶת	הָאָרֶץ	
H3588	For in six	day	made	the LORD	H853	heaven	H853	and earth					
	H8337	H3117	H6213	H3068		H8064							H776
אָתֶת	בְּ	בְּ	כָּל	אֲשֶׁר	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	וְ	
H853	the sea	H853	H3605	H834	H0								
	H3220												
וְ	יְמִין	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	וְ	
בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	וְ	
הַשְׁבֵּת	תְּ	יְמִין	עָלָי	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ		
the seventh	H5921	H3651	blessed	the LORD	H853	day	H3117	the sabbath					
H7637			H1288	H3068									
בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	וְ	
יְקַדְּשָׂה													
and hallowed													
H6942													

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 31:17 (Creation): It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org