

# 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

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**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

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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

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בְּאַרְצָה וְאַתָּה בְּשָׂמָמָה וְאַתָּה בְּאָרֶץ וְאַתָּה בְּאָרֶץ כִּי  
H3588 For in six day made the LORD H853 heaven H853 and earth  
H8337 H3117 H6213 H3068 H8064 H3117 H776

אַתָּה בְּמִזְרָחָה וְאַתָּה בְּמִזְרָחָה כִּי אֲשֶׁר בְּמִזְרָחָה  
H853 the sea H853 H3605 H834 H0 and all that in them is and rested  
H3220 H5117 H3117 H776

בְּשַׁבָּת יְהוָה כִּי בְּשַׁבָּת יְהוָה כִּי בְּשַׁבָּת  
the seventh H5921 H3651 blessed the LORD H853 day the sabbath  
H7637 H1288 H3068 H3117 H7676

וְקִדְשָׁה  
and hallowed  
H6942

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.

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