

# Ezekiel 20:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

## Analysis

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'Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.' The Sabbath as covenant sign, marking Israel as God's sanctified people. 'Sign between me and them' distinguishes Israel from nations. 'That they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them' emphasizes divine action—God sanctifies, making them holy. Sabbath observance demonstrates trust in God's provision and acknowledges Him as Creator and Redeemer.

## Historical Context

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Sabbath observance originated at creation (Genesis 2:2-3), was renewed at the exodus (Exodus 16), and formalized in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 5:12-15). Sabbath distinguished Israel from surrounding nations who observed different calendars and festivals. Post-exilic Judaism emphasized Sabbath as covenant identity marker.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What does Sabbath teach about rest, worship, and trust in God's provision?
2. How do Christians observe the principle of Sabbath while fulfilling its reality in Christ?

## Interlinear Text

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לְהִי וְתַּלְפִּיכְמִי שְׁבָתוֹתִי נָתַתִּי אֶת וְגַם

H1571 H853 them my sabbaths Moreover also I gave H0 H1961

H7676 H5414

לֹא וְתַּבְּנִי בְּגִינִּיכְמִי בֵּין יָדֵיכְמִי עַת

to be a sign between me and them that they might know H3588

H226

H3045

מְקֹדְשָׁם: יְהִי הָאָמֵן

H589 that I am the LORD that sanctify

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## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 37:28** (References Lord): And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.

**Ezekiel 20:20** (References Lord): And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

**Leviticus 21:23** (References Lord): Only he shall not go in unto the vail, nor come nigh unto the altar, because he hath a blemish; that he profane not my sanctuaries: for I the LORD do sanctify them.

**1 Thessalonians 5:23** (References Lord): And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

