



JESUS AND THE SABBATH

Jesus' Invitation to Rest

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus' Assessment of Responses to His Messianic Activity (vv. 25-27)

- “*These things*” — 9:35; 10; 11:1, 20-24
- **Matthew 11:10** (Malachi 3:1; cf. Mark 1:2; Isaiah 40:3, 9-11)

Jesus' Yoke of Rest (vv. 28-30)

- Striving without God (v. 28) — **Isaiah 40:27-31**
- Rest in fellowship with God (vv. 29-30) — Yoke (“a coupling,” STRONG); cf. **Jeremiah 6:16**

The Sabbath Day

God Rested the 7th Day (**Genesis 2:1-3**)

- Rested – *šâbat* – “to cease, desist, rest” (BDB)
 - Never stopped being active — **John 5:17**
 - No need for rest as we think of it — **Isaiah 40:28**
- His rest corresponds to the cessation of His creative work.
 - **Genesis 1:31** — stopped creating (rested) when plan was fulfilled.
 - God’s rest is in Himself, and creation’s rest is in Him.
 - **Romans 11:36** — for His glory, “*to Him.*”
- Man to work, but at rest with God until sin — **Gen. 2:15; 3:17-19**

The Sabbath Day

The Observation of the Sabbath for Israel

- A holy day because God rested — **Exodus 20:9-11; 31:12**

A Sacred Assembly for Worship

- **Leviticus 23:3** — “a holy convocation” (assembly) (**cf. Num. 28:9-10; Psalm 92**)
- The Sabbath was an interruption of daily activity for the imitation of God (as He rested), and an intense focus on Him and fellowship with Him in communal worship. It was about devotion to God and remembering and sustaining covenant relationship.

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Jesus' and the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1-21

Jesus is Greater than the Temple and Lord of the Sabbath (vv. 1-8)

- The accusation (vv. 1-2) (cf. Matthew 15:2, 7-9)
- Jesus' exposure of their inconsistencies and bias (vv. 3-4)
- Jesus' exposure of their misunderstanding of Sabbath (v. 5) (cf. Numbers 28:9-10)

Jesus' and the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1-21

Jesus is Greater than the Temple and Lord of the Sabbath (vv. 1-8)

- Jesus' Divine claim (v. 6) (cf. Matthew 23:17, 21)
- Jesus' rebuke of their ignorance (v. 7) (cf. Hosea 6:6, "loyalty" (NASB), "steadfast love" (ESV), "lovingkindness" (LSB))
- Jesus' second Divine claim (v. 8)
 - Jesus is the One who sanctified the Sabbath, and is therefore the source of true rest. (Genesis 2:1-3; Matthew 11:27-30; Colossians 2:9-10, 16-17)

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Jesus' and the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1-21

**Jesus is Greater than the Temple
and Lord of the Sabbath (vv. 1-8)**

Jesus is the Restoring Servant of God (vv. 9-21)

- Man was at rest in fellowship with God, but sin ruined it.
- The Sabbath anticipated restoration of fellowship, healing what was broken, and the renewal of rest with God which Jesus fulfilled.



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