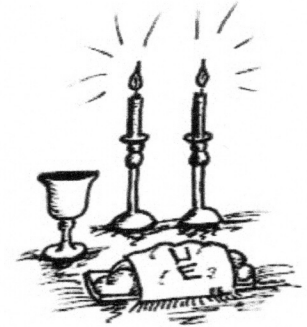


# שַׁבָּת

## Shabbat

When God created the heavens and the earth, He made the sun and moon to mark out time. He put the schedule for how He wanted us to live right in the sky! By keeping track of time by the sun and moon, we not only know when the day is finished and when it begins, but we can count the weeks, the months, and even the years. In fact, God created our universe in six days, and on the seventh day He was finished with His work of the creation, so He ceased or stopped from that work.



The seventh day is called in our modern world “Saturday,” but that’s not the name God gave it. He called it simply by the number “seven.” He called it “the seventh day” (יום השְׁבִיעִי *yom hash-vi-i*). So where did the name “Sabbath” come from? Why do we call the seventh day “Sabbath?” “Sabbath” comes from the Hebrew word שַׁבָּת (*shabbat*) or שַׁבְּתוֹן (*shabbaton*) which means “to cease” or “to stop working.” That’s exactly what HaShem did when He finished His creating work—He “shabbated!” So, because God stopped working on the seventh day, He gave us an example to follow. If God stopped working on the Sabbath, then we will stop our normal work too.

Now God did two specific things about the seventh day: He blessed the seventh day, and He set it apart (declared it holy). How exactly did He bless the seventh day? He gave a commandment to us about the Sabbath! Remember in the 10 Words HaShem commanded us: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.” He blessed the Sabbath day by making it a commandment in our lives. When God gives us His commandments, He gives us His blessings!

But how did God set the seventh day apart—how did He make it holy? He set it apart by making it different than the other six days of the week. So on the Shabbat we put away from us the work which we normally do on the other six days of the week, and we rest from our work.

Shabbat was given to us to be a picture of the way we “rest” in Yeshua our Messiah. We might think that if we do a lot of good things, God will love us more. But that is not true. God loves us because we are His children. We rest in what Yeshua has done for us—He is like our Shabbat. Because of Him we don’t have to work hard to get God’s love. If a person asks God to forgive their sin and accepts Yeshua as their Savior, giving their life to Him, then they have the promise from God Himself that He accepts them and loves them. For when we put our faith in Yeshua, we are fully accepted by God as His very own children whom He loves forever. We can’t earn God’s love—He loves all of those who have accepted Yeshua as their Savior, and calls them His own children. So if we are truly His through faith in Yeshua, then we don’t have to try to earn God’s love. We can rest in the assurance of His love, and because His love is such a wonderful gift, we want to do everything possible to please Him and to show others how great God is. For He sent His own Son, Yeshua, to pay the penalty of sin for all who come to Him in faith and accept Him as their own, personal Savior. That means His love for those He saves from their sin is the greatest and most powerful love and that is why we want to obey Him and show others how great He is.

*In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

(1John 4:10–11)

# HOLIDAY SEARCH

Can you find the following holidays in the letters below? Circle the holidays as you find them.

Shabbat	Hoshana Rabba	Tu B'Shevat	Yom Ha'Azmaut
Rosh Hashanah	Shemini Azeret	Purim	Lag B'Omer
Yom Kippur	Simchat Torah	Passover	Yom Yerushalayim
Sukkot	Chanukah	Yom Hashoah	Shavuot
Rosh Chodesh			Tishah B'Av

S H A B B A T H A P P Y H O L I D A Y S D P R E  
N U S A Q R E T Y R O S H L U L A V Z I U A H F  
E T R O G H F D C H O D E S H S H O F A R S O Y  
M E N O R A H H A D A S S I M S E D E R M S W E  
T R E E H R O S H M H A S H A N A H O N E O N E  
S W R O A M A T Z A H A R A V O T N I N E V E R  
I T P Y S M N T U I B S H E V A T U Y T E E B Z  
M O I O H K A R B E N C O P I E S G H R T R O P  
C R T M O L U L A T I S H A H U I S H E M I N I  
H A Y R A N B V R E B A V B M O I A Z E R E T L  
A H K I H J E W I S H H O L I D A Y F U N M B Y  
T M S H A V U O T Z I M S U K K O T M A T Z A H  
K A R B E N C O P I E S B O O K H E T R O G B I  
C H A N U K A H Y O M C P U Y T A M L A G H A T  
Y O M B V U I Y T E R W U O N E A B O M E R L J  
Y E R U S H A L A Y I M R O T Y Z H A P P Y W E  
C H I L D R E N W A L D I Y T O M N O A M A R I  
Y O M H K I P P U R B R M B A M A P O U Y T R E  
R E A D H E A V E N H A P P Y N U N B V C E S W  
F O U R H O S H A N A C O U N T T M B E W Y O U  
B C E S E R A B B A M I C H A E L R E D W A R D

Two-word holidays may be separated. Be careful!

# A SHABBAT WALK

It's fun to take a walk on Shabbat. Can you find:

- 2 trees
- 3 friends
- 5 birds
- 7 butterflies
- 7 animals
- 7 flowers

