

Rest

God finished

Gen. 2:1 ¶ **Thus** the heavens and the earth were **finished (pual -passive intensive)**, and all the host of them.

thus

- Gen 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 29 (summary statement - nothing left to say)

finished

- Isa 45:1-13 (God finishes)
2 Chron 36:22-23 (150 yrs later...)
- Phil 1:6 (same lesson for us)
- Heb 12:2 (the finisher of our faith)

God rested

Gen. 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished (piel - active intensive) his work that he had done, and he **rested (shavath -sabbath)** on the seventh day from all his work that he had done.

Verses 2-3 contain four lines, the first three of which are parallel, each possessing seven words (in the Hebrew), with the midpoint of each line having the same phrase, "the seventh day."

rested

- isa 40:28 (not weary)
- Gen 8:22 (shavath = ceased)
- Gen 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31 (nothing left to do)
- Jn 5:16-17 (ceased creating only
First Law of Thermodynamics states that energy cannot be created or destroyed; the total quantity of energy in the universe stays the same.)
- ex 31:17 (refreshed - delighted)

It matters

Gen. 2:3 So God **blessed (piel)** the seventh day and **made it holy (piel)**, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

blessed/consecrated

- mk 2:27; Ecc 3:1-8 (It matters to mankind)
- Ex 20:8-11 (It matters to Israel)
- Ex 31:12-17 (a sign for Israel)
- Lev 25:1-7; 26:33-35, 40-44 (exile)
- 2 Chron 36:20-21 (return)
- deut 5:15; Ps 95:7-11 (a symbol to Israel...)

Rest

Intro:

TGIF - there is something exciting and anticipatory about the end of the week - all people feel it but only a few understand the significance
- video

problem:

God sabbathed on the 7th day
Sabbath is a loaded word today but at its most fundamental level it means to rest
The sabbath has become a contentious topic in the church - Col 2:8-23 (jews, adventists, legalists)
at best it's formal practice is for the immature - Rom 14:1-9
at worst it's formal practice is a rejection of the gospel - Gal 4:9-11

despite all this - the fact remains that God rested on the 7th day and it is indeed important in a profound way at this very moment...

main idea:

God finished
God rested
It matters

implication:

Genesis is not a command - it is a declaration that finds its fulfillment in Christ

- Heb 3:16-4:10 Christ is our sabbath rest
- Gen 2:1-3 is missing a key phrase
- today is the day of salvation

application:

today, right now His sabbath rest is offered - you can cease striving and rest in Him
- Matt 11:28-30

Articles for further study

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Sabbath-day-rest.html>

<https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-221/the-rest-of-creation>