

## The Sabbath—God’s Sign of Sanctification

### Exodus 31:13-17

- A My Sabbaths ye shall keep: it is a sign between Me and you. (vs.13a)
- B That ye may know, I the Lord doth sanctify you. (vs.13b)
- C Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore, for it is holy unto you. (vs.14a)
- D whosoever doeth work therein, shall be cut off/that soul surely be put to death (vs.14a)
- E Six days may work be done; but  
E<sup>1</sup> in the 7<sup>th</sup> is the Sabbath of rest (vs.15a)
- D<sup>1</sup> whosoever doeth work in the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death (vs.15b)
- C<sup>1</sup> Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath (vs.16a)
- B<sup>1</sup> Observe the Sabbath as a perpetual covenant. (vs.16b)
- A<sup>1</sup> It is a sign between Me and children of Israel forever. For on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day He rested /was refreshed.

Here is a perfectly symmetrical chiasm on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath as God’s sign of sanctification found in Exodus 31. It draws connection between Gen 2:1-3 and Exodus 20:8-11. Note the underlined words of each statement, i.e. A-A, B-B, etc. God reveals here that the Sabbath is a sign, as a perpetual covenant that sanctifies, which corporately (A-C statements) and individually (D statement), must be observed and kept, for it is “My Sabbath” (vs.13), “a Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord.” (vs.15). This passage is not the only witness on the matter. Ezekiel 20:12 also conveys this same idea, while the Children of Israel were in Babylonian captivity.