

## The Three Angels' Call To Prayer

### DAY 7 — THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES, THE SABBATH, AND PRAYER

*"Even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations" – Isaiah 56:5-7*

#### **Created for a Purpose**

The three angels' messages are a clarion call to worship our Creator. We did not evolve. We are not a genetic accident. God created us, and life is a precious gift that comes from Jesus. The apostle John states, "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for you created all things, and by your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:11). It is an awe-inspiring thought to recognize that we exist by the will of God. The Sabbath reminds us that we were created for a purpose. It takes us back to our garden home in Eden and reminds us of a loving Creator who desires only good for our lives. In a world of suffering, sickness, and disease, the God of Creation promises to "never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). This fact alone should drive us to our knees in praise to God for the gift of life and to discover the specific plans He has for our lives.

#### **The Sabbath—A Call to Prayer, Praise, and Proclamation**

The Sabbath also reminds us of the gift of salvation. As we rest upon the Sabbath, we rest in Christ's finished work in our behalf (Hebrews 4:9, 10). We rest in His grace. The Sabbath is not a legalistic requirement given to the nation of Israel. It is a grace-filled day for all humanity, leading us to depend solely and completely on Christ for our redemption (Isaiah 56:6, 7). Jesus ended the Creation week with the words, "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from His work which He had done" (Genesis 2:1, 2). He also culminated His work on the cross with the words, "It is finished." We had nothing to do with the creative work of Christ at the beginning. He began the work, and He finished it. Likewise, we had nothing to do with Christ's work of redemption on the cross. He began the work of salvation, and He finished it. The Sabbath reminds us to rejoice in His love, rest in His care, and glory in the Christ who paid such a high price for our salvation. The Sabbath is a call to prayer, a call to praise, a call to proclaim His goodness.

The Sabbath also reminds us we are not alone in a desolate world of sorrow. The beauties of nature still speak of our Creator God during this world's suffering. The Sabbath points us back to Creation, but it also points us forward to the new heavens and the new earth, where God will re-create this world in Edenic splendor.

The Sabbath is a day of thanksgiving. We are thankful God created us and has plans for our lives. We are thankful He redeemed us and has paid such an infinite price for us. We are thankful He is coming again for us and will create a new heaven and a new earth. Let us seek Him with thankful hearts as we pray.

## Prayer Time (30-45 Minutes)

### Praying God's Word – Isaiah 56:5-7

“Even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

#### “Even to Them”

*God, You created all of us. You willed us into existence and desire eternal fellowship with us. Yes, You long for the salvation of all of humanity. Every nation and tribe and people group. We praise You! Thank You for the weekly Sabbath which reminds us of this reality.*

#### “Everyone Who Keeps from Defiling the Sabbath”

*Lord, too often have we broken the Sabbath or not kept it holy. Please forgive us. Please help us to guard the Sabbath hours and to especially acknowledge and uplift You during the Sabbath. Open our eyes and ears to know and do Your will every day, so that we may celebrate and testify of Your faithfulness throughout the week on the Sabbath.*

#### “And Holds Fast My Covenant”

*Jesus, thank You that the Sabbath is not only a sign and opportunity to remember You as our Creator but also a sign of salvation. Thank You that we can rest in the assurance of Your righteousness, which covers and fills us as we hold fast to Your covenant promises. May our Sabbath-keeping be a reflection of a daily experience of Your faithfulness to us.*

## More Prayer Suggestions

**Thanks and Praise:** Give thanks for specific blessings and praise God for His goodness.

**Confession:** Take a few minutes for private confession and thank God for His forgiveness.

**Guidance:** Ask God to grant wisdom for current challenges and decisions.

**Our Church:** Pray for regional and world church needs (see separate sheet with requests).

**Local Requests:** Pray for current needs of church members, family, and neighbors.

**Listen and Respond:** Take time to listen for God's voice and respond in praise or song.

## Song Suggestions

*SDA Hymnal:* Crowning Jewel of Creation (#385); Don't Forget the Sabbath (#388); O Day of Rest and Gladness (#383); Wonderful Words of Life (#286); Jesus, Lover of My Soul (#490); Higher Ground (#625); How Sweet Are the Tidings (#442); Marching to Zion (#422)