

THE FEASTS OF THE LORD

Leviticus 23

NOTE: The Hebrew word we translate “Feasts” or “Festivals” is “*moedim*”, which literally means “appointed times.” The word is usually translated, “holy convocation.” The idea is a gathering of G-d’s people to be with Him for a specific period time, at a specific place and for a specific purpose. Note also that these are *G-d’s feasts*, not feasts we observe to honor him. Rather, He is the host and He desires our focus to be on Him rather than on the cares of this life.

The Sabbath – Leviticus 23:1-3

Creation completed: Genesis 1:31 – 2:3

The reason for the commandments: Exodus 20:1

Part of the 10 Words: Exodus 20:8-11

An eternal covenant: Exodus 31:12-18

Jesus kept the Sabbath: Mark 1:21

Rabbinic law was known: Acts 1:12

Jesus’ treatise on the Sabbath: Mark 2:23-28

The Pilgrim Feasts – Deuteronomy 16:1-17

The Spring Feasts – Leviticus 23:4-14

Pesach story: Exodus 11:1-12:36

THE FEASTS OF THE LORD

The four aspects of redemption: Exodus 6:6-7

- I will bring you out from under the burdens of Egypt
- I will rescue you from bondage
- I will redeem you
- I will take you to Me for a people

Corresponds to the four cups of the Seder Observance

- The cup of Sanctification (Kiddush)
- The cup of Deliverance (or judgment)
- The cup of Redemption (or Blessing)
- The cup of Praise or Restoration (Hallel)

A Royal Priesthood: Exodus 19:6

Deuteronomy 7:6

1 Peter 2:9

The prescribed manner of sacrifice:

The sin offering – a Kohen: Leviticus 4:1-12

The sin offering – a Ruler: Leviticus 4:22-26

The Lamb: Exodus 12:3-6

John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18-21; throughout the book of Revelation

The Feast of Unleavened Bread: Leviticus 23:6-8

Deuteronomy: 16:3-4

The penalty: Exodus 12:15

Leaven as sin: Matthew 16:5-12; also Mark 8:15

Luke 12:1

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Galatians 5:9

No corruption: Psalm 16:10

The Feast of First Fruits: Leviticus 23:9-14 (v 13 – unleavened)

Deuteronomy 26:5-10

Neglect as robbery: Malachi 3:8

Jesus as fulfillment: 1 Corinthians 15:12-28

And you Shall Count: Leviticus 23:15-16 (Counting the Omer)

Psalm 119

Shavuot (Pentecost): Leviticus 23:15-22 (v17 – 2 leavened loaves; v22 - sharing)

Numbers 28:26-31

Deuteronomy 16:9-12

Symbolism of 2 Loaves: Kosher Food
Faithful Marriage (“Lechem” as wife – Genesis 39:6)

Loaves not burned: Leviticus 2:11-16 (because they are leavened)

Other Names: Giving of our Torah
Day of First Fruits (*Shteí HaLechem*)
Festival of the Harvest
Atzeres (Day of Assembly)
Festival of Weeks

Giving of the Torah: Exodus 19:1 *Zeman Mattan Toratenu* (Time of Giving Our Law)

New Testament Harvest: Matthew 9:35-38
Mark 4:26-29
Luke 10:2 (see “70,” below)
John 4:35 (4:1-42, Jesus and the Samaritan Woman)

End Times Harvest: Matthew 13:24-43
Revelation 14:14-20

Symbolism of “70”

Genesis 10:1-11:9 Origin of the *Goiim* (Nations)

Genesis 46:1-27 70 in Jacob's family move to Egypt

Exodus 15:27 G-d's purpose for giving the Torah (literally, "Instruction")

Daniel 9:2 Seventy as a symbol of completeness

Luke 10:1-17 Jesus sends out seventy (some *ms* say 72)

Great Commission: Matthew 28:19-20

Summary of Jesus' Teaching: Luke 24:

Luke 25:

The Prophecy: Numbers 11:24-29

Joel 2:28-32

Traditional Readings: Ezekiel 1:1-28 (the Glory of the Lord, v. 28)

- Wind – Ez 1:4
- Fire – Ez 1:5
- Sound & Voices – Ez 1:24 & Ez 1:25

Habakkuk 2:20-3:19

Gift of the Holy Spirit: Acts 2:1-41 (New Testament Pentecost)

THE FALL FEASTS

Feast of Trumpets: Leviticus 23:23-25 The Seventh Month

Numbers 29:1-6 A call to repentance

The only Feast celebrated at the new moon – a prelude to brightness

Sevens: Genesis 2:2-3 God blessed the Seventh Day
 Exodus 20:8-12 Sabbath Day Rest
 Exodus 23:10-11 Sabbath Year – Rest of the Land
 Leviticus 25:1-7 Sabbath Year
 Leviticus 25:8-18 The Year of Jubilee (Restoration)

Uses of the Shofar: Gather a sacred assembly (Numbers 10:2-4)
 Sound a battle alarm (Numbers 10:9, Judges 3:27)
 Joshua 6:20 – The battle of Jericho
 Announce coronation (1 Kings 1:34, 39)

End time according to Jesus: Matthew 24:1-44 (The clouds of heaven)

God redeemed our ancestors at Pesach for this life in the month of Nisan, and we will all be redeemed in the month of Tishri (the seventh month) in the time to come. The 10 days leading up to Yom Kippur are called to “Days of Awe,” during which through repentance we draw closer to God.

Yom Kippur Isaiah 55:6 God is near
 Leviticus 23:26-32 A day of atonement; a day of “affliction”
 Leviticus 17:11 Atonement means “covering”
 Numbers 29:7-11 The sacrifices described

Hosea 14:2 The Call to repentance

Ezekiel 33:19 The result of repentance

Isaiah 59:20 The promise of a Redeemer

Leviticus 16:7-10 The scapegoat

Romans 5:11 *καταλλαγήν* means "reconciliation,"
not atonement

God blows the Shofar: Exodus 19:16-19

Zechariah 9:14 – Announcing the Messiah

Isaiah 27:13 – Gathering the exiles

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 The last trumpet (see Zechariah)

Feast of Tabernacles Leviticus 23:33-36; 23:39-43 The Lord's Festival

Exodus 23:16b The Feast of Ingathering

Numbers 29:12-39

Isaiah 12:3 The wells of salvation – Pool of Siloam

Deuteronomy 16:13-15

Exodus 13:21-22 The pillars of cloud and fire

Revelation 7:9-10

Ezekiel 43:1-6ff The glory returns to the Third Temple

Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV) At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight the cry rang out: "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!"

Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out."

"No," they replied, "There may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves."

But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. AND THE DOOR WAS SHUT.

Later the others also came. "Sir! Sir!" they said. "Open the door for us."

But he replied, "I tell you the truth, I don't know you."

Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

John 1: 29-30 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, "A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me."

John 19:28-30 Later, knowing that all was no completed, and so that Scripture (Ps 69:21) would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.