

# Leviticus 23 Feasts to the LORD

Jesus

1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are **My feasts.**

7 Feasts of the LORD  
Beginning in v 4

## Sabbath

3 'Six days shall work be done, but the **seventh day is a Sabbath** of solemn rest, a **holy convocation**. You shall do no work on it; it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

Not a Feast as the Seven Feasts that Follow. Time marker relative to the feasts  
Still a Holy Convocation/Sacred Gathering on the Sabbath

- **Convocation:** heb. *mik-raw'* Calling together. Sacred Assembly. rt. Call out. Recite.
- **Sabbath:** Seventh Day. Saturday. First day being Sunday; i.e. the LORD's day...

**John 20:19** [The Day Jesus rose] Then, the same day at evening, being the **first day of the week**, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and **stood in the midst**, and said to them, "**Peace be with you.**"

**Acts 20:7** [Day early church met] Now on the **first day of the week**, when the disciples came together to break bread...

**1 Corinthians 16:2** On the **first day of the week** let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

Observe the Sabbath...Don't Idolize the Sabbath

**Colossians 2:16** So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or **sabbaths**, 17 which are a **shadow** of things to come, but the **substance is of Christ.**

Ceremonial Laws Melt in the Light of the Face of Jesus  
Jesus fulfilled what the ceremony symbolized. Here, Rest...

**Hebrews 4:9** There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10 For he who has entered **His rest** has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His ...**11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest...**

Here, Rest from trying to earn God's favor  
How? Strive to enter His rest

## I. Passover

4 'These are the **feasts of the LORD**, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times. 5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the **LORD's Passover**. 6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the **Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD**; seven days you must eat unleavened bread. 7 On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it. 8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it.' "

The LORDs Passover  
1<sup>st</sup> Month [Nisan] on 14<sup>th</sup> Day at Twilight each Year

- **Exodus 12:** First Passover
  1. Israel slaves in Egypt
  2. God sent plagues to Egypt
  3. Final Plague: Death of Firstborn

Judgment Passed Over those w/Blood applied to Wood  
Who executed judgment on those who did not obey?

**Exodus 11:4** "Thus says the Lord: 'About midnight **I will go out into the midst of Egypt**; 5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die

**Exodus 12:12** 'For **I will pass through the land of Egypt** on that night, and **will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt**, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. 13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And **when I see the blood, I will pass over you**; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt ...**29** And it came to pass at midnight that **the Lord struck all the firstborn** in the land of Egypt

**Revelation 6:16** [They] said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath of the Lamb!**

Those who Apply the Blood of the Lamb  
Receive the Mercy of the Lamb by the Sacrifice of the Lamb

**Genesis 22:8** [Isaac to Abe: Where is the Sacrifice?] And Abraham said, My son, **God will provide himself a lamb** for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

**John 1:29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

Feast of Passover  
Judgment *passing over* those covered by Jesus blood

## II. Unleavened Bread

Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD  
Commencement of Israel's Existence as a Nation

- Established at the 1<sup>st</sup> Passover
- 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Passover: Nisan 15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>
- Eat **Unleavened Bread** 7 Days...

A Necessity at the 1<sup>st</sup> Passover while leaving Egypt  
A Remembrance/Testimony afterward to God's Faithfulness

OT a Physical Representation of a NT Spiritual Truth  
Unleavened Bread: God's desire for Purity for w/in the Church

**1 Corinthians 5:6b ...Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Therefore purge [clean] out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

**On the First and Seventh day:** On both the first and last day of the week-long Feast of Unleavened Bread, Israel was to gather in sacred assemblies [holy convocation]. They were also to regard those days as **additional Sabbath** days [do no customary work on it]. [Guzik]

Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD  
7 Days Long

- 1/3 Feasts Israelite men required to attend yearly
  1. Feast of Unleavened Bread
  2. Feast of Weeks AKA Pentecost vv15-21
  3. Feast of Tabernacles v 33-43

### III. Feast of Firstfruits

9 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 10 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: '**When you come into the land** which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest. 11 He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted on your behalf; on the **day after the Sabbath** the priest shall wave it. 12 And you shall offer on that day, when you wave the sheaf, a male lamb of the first year, without blemish, as a burnt offering to the LORD. 13 Its grain offering shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the LORD, for a sweet aroma; and its drink offering shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin. 14 You **shall eat neither** bread nor parched grain nor fresh grain **until** the same day that **you have brought an offering** to your God; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

Feast of Firstfruits  
AKA Feast of Harvest. One Day Long

- **Observed AFTER** entering Promised Land. Note the Promise of entering
- **Bringing in Sheafs:** Bundles of barley stalks tied together

Celebrating the Harvest the LORD had wrought  
The Day after the Sabbath...Sunday the Lord's Day

- Sheaves given to Priest/Waved before the LORD
- Year old male Lamb/Grain/Drink offering to the LORD

Firstfruits began the Sunday after the Sabbath that ended Passover and began Unleavened Bread  
IOWs The First Three Feasts followed one another within 9 Days

Feast of Firstfruits

NOTE: Nothing was eaten until thanks was given

#### **IV. Feast of Weeks** Pentecost

15 'And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. 16 Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD. 17 You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked **with leaven**. They are the firstfruits to the LORD. 18 And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD. 19 Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering, and two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of a peace offering. 20 The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21 And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

Feast of Weeks

AKA Feast of Pentecost AKA Feast of Ingathering. One Day Long

- **Pentecost:** lit. 50<sup>th</sup> Day. Seven full weeks
- **50 days after Firstfruits...**
  1. Wheat Harvest now over
  2. Offering off New Grain to the LORD
- Bring 2 Large Pita Breads from home
- Bake WITH Leaven? Speaking of Gentiles
- Animal Burnt Offering/Grain/Drink Offerings

Jesus was crucified as the "Passover Lamb" and rose from the grave at the Feast of Firstfruits. Following His resurrection, Jesus spent the next 40 days teaching His disciples before ascending to heaven [Acts 1]. Fifty days after His resurrection and after ascending to heaven to sit at the right hand of God, Jesus sent the **Holy Spirit** as promised [John 14:16-17] to indwell the disciples and empower them for ministry. **The promised Holy Spirit arrived on the Day of Pentecost, which is another name for the Feast of Weeks.** [GQ]

- Jews celebrate for Pentecost as the Anniversary of God giving the law

**Exodus 32:28** And about three thousand men of the people fell **that day**. **[3000 died at the giving of the Law]**

**Acts 2:1** When **the Day of Pentecost** had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place ...**40** [Same day Peter preaches] ...with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." **41** Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day **about three thousand souls** were added to them. **[Three thousand lived at the pouring out of Grace by the Spirit]**

Feast of Weeks/Pentecost/Ingathering  
A Statute for Israel throughout their Generations

22 'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleaning from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.' "

As you are Blessed Remember the Poor  
[C.f. Lev 19:9-10]

## **V. Feast of Trumpets** Rosh Hashanah

23 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 24 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a **sabbath-rest**, a memorial of **blowing of trumpets**, a holy convocation. 25 You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.' "

Feast of Trumpets  
Rosh Hashanah

- **7<sup>th</sup> Month 1<sup>st</sup> Day:** Feast of Trumpets

Ceremonial Blowing of Trumpets  
Call for a Special Sabbath Rest

## **VI. Day of Atonement** Yom Kippur

26 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 27 "Also the **tenth day of this seventh month** shall be the **Day of Atonement**. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. 28 And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29 For any person who is **not afflicted in soul** on that same day **shall be cut off from his people**. 30 And any person who does any work on that same day, that person **I will destroy from among his people**. 31 You shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in

all your dwellings. 32 It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath."

Day of Atonement  
Yom Kippur

- You shall afflict your soul

**Afflict:** heb. aw-naw' lit. o be occupied, be busied with. Bow down. rt. Respond by looking down and answer

Day of Afflicting our own Soul  
Humility/Responsibility/Recognizing our Need for Salvation

- Do no work
- Priest made Atonement: Sacrificed for self/people to cover sin
- C.f. Lev 16: Priestly Sacrifices/Ceremonies

Seventh Month/Tenth Day  
Seven refers to Perfection. Ten refers to the Law

Application: No one can keep the Law to perfection but One. Jesus

## VII. Feast of Tabernacles Succoth

33 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD. 35 On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it. 36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it. 37 'These are the feasts of the LORD which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on its day— 38 besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, besides your **gifts**, besides all your **vows**, and besides all your **freewill offerings** which you give to the LORD. 39 'Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the LORD for seven days; on the first day there shall be a sabbath-rest, and on the eighth day a sabbath-rest. 40 And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; **and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days**. 41 You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD for seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 You shall **dwell in booths for seven days**. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, 43 that your generations may know that I

made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.' "

### Feast of Tabernacles Succoth

- Seven Day Feast plus one
- Began/Ends with Holy Convocation
- Each Day Sacrifices made: Burnt/Grain/Drink

People brought Gifts/Made Vows/ Presented Free-will Offerings

v 39 Feast of Tabernacles Began/Ended w/Rest

v 40 Only Feast where Rejoicing before the LORD was Commanded

- **Dwelling in Booths for Seven Days:** Branches of Palm/other trees
- Remembering makeshift dwellings in wilderness

### Feast of Tabernacles

Foreshadowing of Jesus Promise of His Indwelling Holy Spirit

The Jewish Talmud says that on each of the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles [and according to one Rabbi, also on the eighth day], a priest went down to the Pool of Siloam and drew water in a golden pitcher, which he brought back to the altar, pouring the water into a silver basin as the worshippers sang psalms from the "Great Hallel" collection of Psalms 113-118. This celebrated the water God miraculously provided for Israel in the wilderness. [Maclaren]

### Jesus Celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles

**John 7:37** On the **last day, that great day of the feast**, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, **"If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."**

Ceremonial Laws Melt in the Light of the Face of Jesus

Jesus fulfilled what the ceremony symbolized. E.g. Promise of the Indwelling Spirit

**44 So Moses declared to the children of Israel the feasts of the LORD.**

God intended great social good in appointing the Sabbath and these yearly feasts. In almost all other ancient cultures, there was no weekly day of rest and there were no holidays. For Israel, God commanded a weekly day of rest, special holidays, vacation days. All of these were centered on Him.

### Seven Feasts

Four Spring Feasts/Three Fall Feasts

- **Four Spring Feasts:** First coming of Christ
  1. **Passover:** Lamb of God shedding His blood to protect us from His wrath
  2. **Unleavened Bread:** Jesus as Sinless. Death could not hold Him
  3. **Firstfruits:** Resurrection. Firstborn from the dead and we to follow
  4. **Weeks/Pentecost:** Birth of Church. Leaven bread waved to wave in Gentiles

**Romans 11:25b...** blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

- **Three Fall Feasts:** Second coming of Christ
  1. **Trumpets:** Rapture of Church. Meet the Lord in the air at the sound of trumpet
  2. **Day of Atonement:** Time of Jacob's trouble when Israel is afflicted/saved
  3. **Feast of Tabernacles:** Millennial reign

Feast of Tabernacles in Millennial Reign  
Peace/Rest in the Spirit from Beginning to End

**Zechariah 14:16** And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles.**

**Zechariah 12:10** "And I will **pour on the house of David** and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the **Spirit of grace and supplication...**

▪ **Feasts Fulfilled thus far...**

1. The Day Jesus Crucified      Passover
2. The Day Jesus Buried              Unleavened
3. The Day Jesus Rose              Firstfruits
4. The Day the Church Began      Pentecost

Next to be Fulfilled  
5. The Feast of Trumpets

6. Time of Jacob's Trouble      Day of Atonement      Day of the LORD
7. Millennial Reign              Tabernacles              Day of Christ