

Fall Feasts of Israel

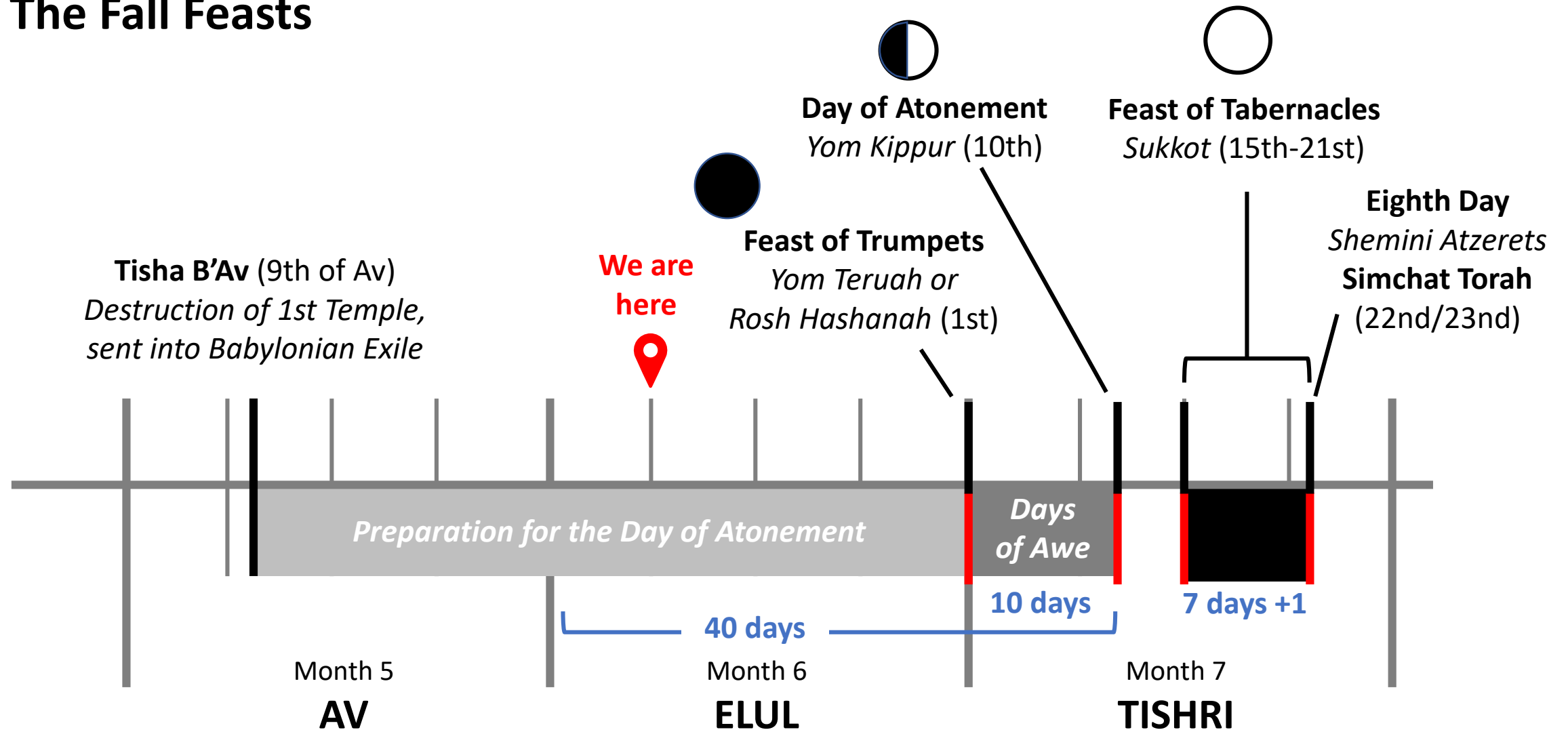
Lesson 2: Tisha B'Av

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The Fall Feasts



Lesson Plan

Explain Tisha B'Av

Walk through the readings (see list) for Tisha B'Av:

- Law (Torah) portions (Deuteronomy)
- Prophets (Haftarah) portions (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations)
- New Testament portions: Specific passages or pictures that we recognize from the New Testament

Application: Look for stumbling blocks in the way:

"... Prepare the way, take the stumbling block out of the way of My people." - Isaiah 57:14

Find pictures of Christ in these passages

Tisha B'Av

Tisha B'Av, 9th of Av (Aug 11th) is a day of fasting and deep mourning that commemorates:

- Israel's decision not to enter the Land after hearing the bad report from the spies sent to Canaan (Numbers 13:20-25)
- The destruction of both Temples
- The failed Bar Kochba rebellion. Simon bar Kochba, who was believed to be a Messiah, led a rebellion against Roman rule in 133 AD. The final battle at Betar happened on Tisha B'Av
- The Jews were expelled from England in 1290 AD
- The Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492 AD

People are to fast; avoid washing, bathing, shaving or wearing cosmetics, having sexual relations. Work is restricted.

Traditional mourning practices are observed: people refrain from smiles, laughter, and idle conversation, and sit on low stools.

Preceding Tisha B'Av, there are a series of three readings called the **Three of Rebuke** to remind the people of the Lord's anger with them, the destruction of the Temple and the reason why they are exiled and dispersed.

The **Three of Rebuke** are: Jeremiah 1:1–2:3; 2:4–28; **Isaiah 1:1–27**.

“Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; Seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together,” says the LORD, ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.’” Isaiah 1:16-18 (cf Luke 3:7-18)

Readings for Tisha B'Av (Destruction of the Temple)

Torah (Law):

Deut 1:1–3:22

Haftarah (Prophets):

Isaiah 1:1–27

Lamentations (1:1-4, 8-10;
2:5-7, 3:7-9, 40)

Jeremiah 8:13–9:24

NT portion:

Luke 3:7–18

Matthew 21:19-21

Mark 11:13–21

Matt 9:10–15

Luke 4:16–23

John 2:19–21

Book of Lamentations

(Potential) Stumbling Block: Self-pity

Expressing true grief and mourning over sin is a godly thing. When you find yourself suffering under the consequences your sin has brought and the consequences become a permanent reality, grief can quickly turn to self-pity.

How does self-pity become a stumbling block?

- Self-pity is self-focused.
- It casts us in the identity of a victim (even a victim of God).
- Self-pity is self-promoting. It demands that others lift us up.
- Self-pity seeks an audience to complain – sin of the unrestrained tongue.

How can we turn away from self-focused self-pity?

Turning from sin can be as simple as taking an opposite action.

What is the opposite action?

Being other's focused . . . Taking up the cause of other's suffering

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Matthew 21:19-21

Mark 11:13–21

Matt 9:10–15

Luke 4:16–23

John 2:19–21

Jeremiah 8-9

Stumbling Block: Not speaking the truth

“For they [false teachers] have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ When there is no peace.” - Jeremiah 8:11

“Everyone will deceive his neighbor, and will not speak the truth; they have taught their tongue to speak lies; . . .” - Jeremiah 9:5

“One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but in his heart he lies in wait.” - Jeremiah 9:8

- How does false teaching create a stumbling block and for whom?
- Why is speaking the truth necessary when removing stumbling blocks from the way?
- Why would a person not tell the truth?
- How does not speaking the truth damage our relationships with others? With God?
- Have there been times when you should have spoken the truth, but didn't?

Three of Rebuke

Isaiah 1:1-27

Isaiah 1:16

“Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean. . .”

BIG PICTURE of TISH B'AV

Themes:

Destruction of the Temple

God driving the unfaithful Bride from the Sanctuary

Day of **Fasting** and Mourning

Days of the **Grape Harvest**

Lamentations / Jeremiah 8:13–9:24

Consolation #1

Isaiah 40:1-22

Isaiah 40:3

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD . . .’”

Jeremiah 7:11

“Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it,’ says the LORD.”

Jeremiah 8:13

“nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things I have given them shall pass away from them.”

Jeremiah 8:18

“I would comfort myself in sorrow; My heart is faint in me.”

Jeremiah 8:19

“Listen! The voice, the cry of the daughter of my people from a far country: ‘Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?’”

Jeremiah 8:20

“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!”

Jeremiah 8:22

“is there no physician there?”

Jeremiah 8:10-11

“Therefore I will give their wives to others, and their fields to those who will inherit them; Because from the least even to the greatest everyone is given to covetousness; from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely. For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace. - Jeremiah 8:10-11 NKJV” (A rebuke against false teachers.)

Mark 11:1-11 Jesus' Triumphal Entry

“Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: 'Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Blessed is the kingdom of our father David . . .”

Luke 19:41-44 Jesus weeps for Jerusalem's coming destruction

Mark 11:12-14, 20 The Withering of the Fig Tree

“And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. In response Jesus said to it, ‘Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.’ . . . Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.” - Mark 11:13-14, 20

Mark 11:15-19 Jesus cleansing the Temple (2nd time)

“ . . . Then Jesus went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. - Mark 11:15

Mark 12:1-12 Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers

“Now at vintage-time he sent a servant to the vinedressers, that he might receive some of the fruit of the vineyard from the vinedressers. . . . Therefore what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the vinedressers, and give the vineyard to others.” - Mark 12:2, 9

Jeremiah 8:19 “Listen! The voice, the cry of the daughter of my people from a far country: ‘Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?’”

Jeremiah 8:18 “I would comfort myself in sorrow; My heart is faint in me.”

Jeremiah 8:13 “nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things I have given them shall pass away from them.”

Isaiah 56:7b “For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

Jeremiah 7:11 “‘Has this house, which is called by My name, become a den of thieves in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it,’ says the LORD.”

Jeremiah 8:10 “Therefore I will give their wives to others, and their fields to those who will inherit them; because from the least even to the greatest everyone is given to covetousness; from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely.”

Greater Context of Tisha B'Av

Destruction of the Temples

God the angry Bridegroom driving the Bride out of the defiled sanctuary

The prophet weeps for Jerusalem's destruction and longs to comfort the people.

A time of fasting and repenting

A time of vintage grape harvest

John 2:13-21 Jesus cleansing the Temple (1st time)

“And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.” John 2:14-15

“So the Jews answered and said to Him, ‘What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ Then the Jews said, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?’” John 2:18-20

All these signs take place at Passover, not at the fall feasts when they are expected.

Just as the figs are out of season, so the sign given out of season.

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Luke 4:23 (After Jesus reads Isaiah 61:1-2 in the Temple)

“He said to them, ‘You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! . . .’”

Matthew 27:39-40 (cf Luke 23:35)

“And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, ‘You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.’”

Luke 4:31-5:26 Various acts of healing (cf Matthew 8-9)

Luke 5:27-31 Jesus eats with tax collectors (cf Matthew 9:9-13)

“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.’” - Luke 5:31-32

Luke 5:33-39 Jesus questioned about fasting (cf Matthew 9:14-17)

“And He said to them, ‘Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them; then they will fast in those days.’” - Luke 5:34-35

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. “But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved.” - Luke 5:37-38

Jeremiah 7:34 “Then I will cause to cease . . . the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. For the land shall be desolate.

Jeremiah 8:11 “For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ When there is no peace.”

Jeremiah 8:20 “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!”

Jeremiah 8:22 “Is there no balm in Gilead, is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery for the health of the daughter of my people?”

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