

Leviticus: Living Life at the Second Fork

Chapter 23:33-44 “Rest Thee, Part 7:

The Feast of Booths and Resting in the Grace of God”

October 19, 2025

Feast of Booths = “Sukkot” = Feast of Tabernacles; Ingathering
“booth” = temporary dwelling/structure; made of branches; not same word as OT for “tabernacle,” but NT word same for “tent” and “tabernacle,” as in “a dwelling place.”

Feast of Booths

Once the harvest is completed (grain; olives; grapes, etc) after they had settled in Canaan

“celebrate” it, **vv 39,41**

“you shall rejoice before the LORD,” **v 40**

“perpetual statute throughout your generations,” **v 41**

Purpose: “that your generations may know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out from the land of Egypt.”

203 animals sacrificed during these seven days. They were resting in the provision of the blood sacrifices; we rest in the provision of the blood sacrifice of our Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ. The blood would flow like a river from the Tabernacle, while they rested, *abiding in celebration of God’s provision and protection.*

Zechariah 1:3 ... “Return to Me,” declares the LORD of hosts (armies), “that I may return to you...” The theme of Zechariah is encouragement to the people of Israel, as they are returning to their land, at a time when the future of their nation, and people, looks bleak. He tells them of the coming Kingdom of Messiah.

“in that day” refers to the future time of Messiah, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, when God directly intervenes in His creation and exerts His direct will upon it. “That day” starts with the rapture of the church, through the Tribulation period, into the 1,000 year kingdom.

“in that day” **Zechariah 9:16; 12:3,8,9,10,11; 13:1; 14:4,6**

One striking feature preceding the second coming of Christ will be a dimming of the sun, moon, and stars; see **Isaiah 13:9ff; Jeremiah 4:23; Ezekiel 32:8; Joel 2:30f; Matthew 24:29f; Rev 6:12ff**

The first time Jesus came, they all said, more or less, “Naw, that wasn’t Him.” But, when He comes back, no one will be asking, “Is that Jesus?” The Creator will come back to His creation.

Revelation 20:1-6 “a thousand years” FIVE times. *How long does this period of time last?*

Zechariah 14:8-10 The LORD will be King over a vastly changed landscape for 1,000 years, just like Revelation says.

Zechariah 14:16ff During the Kingdom, every nation that does not go up to Jerusalem every year to celebrate the Feast of Booths will be under a curse of drought. That entire geographic region is under a curse of drought even today.

Nehemiah 8:1-18 Here is an outline for our proper response to the Word of God.

A scribe, a podium, the Word - **v4**

Attentive to the Word - **v5**

Stood in respect - **v5**

Gave the sense so could be understood - **v8**

Convicted by the Word - **v9**

Joy of the LORD was their strength - **v10**

Celebrated when understood the Word - **v12**

Gaining insight is necessary - **v13**

Responded with obedience - **v16**

Joy from obedience - **v17**

Continued in the Word - **v18**

Having been through 70 years of exile in Babylon, the people listened attentively to God’s Word, they were convicted when they learned of their disobedience, they repented, and they rejoiced in the graciousness of God. *Israel had never celebrated the Feast of Booths, not for 950 years!* Then, they responded with obedience, and enjoyed fellowship with God.

God deals with us from a standpoint of grace. However, oftentimes after a period of discipline, when we are ready to listen, He will reveal His will to us. Then, we must respond with obedience.