

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson ONE, March 24, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

I. Background (*Lev 23:1-2)

- a. "Feasts" in Hebrew "moed or moedeem" means "appointments" or "fixed times"
- b. "Convocations" in Hebrew "assemblies or rehearsals"

II. Why study the Feasts? (Lev 23: *Col 2:16-17; Lk 24:27)

- a. Are commemorative
- b. Are predictive of first and second comings of Christ
- c. Shed light on redemptive work of Jesus
- d. Help us understand where we are in time
- e. Reveal God's love and provision for us (Eph 3:14-21)

III. The Feasts (Lev 23)

- a. Sabbath (Lev 23:3)
- b. Passover (Lev 23:4-5)
- c. Unleavened Bread (Lev 23:6-8)
- d. First Fruits (Lev 23:9-14)
- e. Pentecost (Lev 23:15-22; Jn 16:7; Mt 9:37-38)
- f. Trumpets (Lev 23:23-25)
- g. Atonement (Lev 23:26-32)
- h. Tabernacles – *Succot* (Lev 23:33-44)

IV. God's View of Time

- a. Not subject to laws of time as space as we are
 - 1. Knows the future (*Isa 46:9-10; 41:22-23)

2. Reveals future to us through the prophets (***Amos 3:7**)
 3. Reveals future to us through the Holy Spirit (Jn 16:13)
- b. Doesn't see time as we do (II Pet 3:8-9; ***II Pet 3:3-4**)

V. Interpretation of the Prophetic Aspects of Feasts

- a. Provide a safeguard for us in interpretation because all the prophetic scriptures will agree when properly interpreted
1. Because all inspired by Holy Spirit (***II Pet 1:19-21**; II Tim 3:16-17; 2:15)
- b. Help us to understand where we are in time when we properly interpret, so we know what we are to do (***I Chr 12:32**)

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson TWO, March 31, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

I. Feast of Passover (*Lev 23:4-5)

- a. Commemorated Passover before the exodus from Egypt
(*Ex 12:1-14; 21-24)
- b. Prophetically pointed to Jesus's death (Col 2; 16-17; Jn 1:29)
 1. Lamb to be selected (Ex 12:3; Mt 21:7-11; Mk 11:8-11; Lk 19:35-39; Jn 12:12-15)
 2. Lamb was to be without blemish (*Ex 12:5; Lk 23:4; I Pet 1:18-20)
 3. Lamb was to be killed (Ex 12:6; Mk 15:25; Mat 27: 45-50; Mk 15:44)
 4. Blood to be applied to door posts
(Ex 12:7; Heb 9; 11-28; Rom 10:9-10; Jn 3:16)
 5. Were to eat the Passover meal (Ex 12:8; *Mat 26:26-29; I Cor 10:16-17; 11:24-25; Jn 6:22-59; Rom 6:3-5; Eph 2:4-6)

II. Feast of Unleavened Bread (*Lev 23:6-8)

- a. Commemorated the day God brought Israelites out of the land of Egypt
(Ex 12:17; *I Cor 5:7-8)
- b. Prophetically pointed to Jesus's burial (*Jn 12:23-24)

III. Feast of First Fruits (*Lev 23:10-14)

- a. Commemorated the First Harvest in the Promise Land
- b. Prophetically pointed to Jesus's resurrection
(*I Cor 15:20-22; Mat 28:1-6; Mk 16:2-7; Lk 24:1-6; Jn 20:1-10)

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson THREE, APRIL 7, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk () during class*

I. Feast of First Fruits (*Lev 23:10-14)

- a. Commemorated the First Harvest in the Promised Land
- b. Prophetically pointed to Jesus' Resurrection
(*I Cor 15:20-22; Mat 28:1-6; Mk 16:1-6; Lk 24:1-6; Jn 20:1-10)
- c. Belief in Resurrection central to Christian Faith (Rom 10:9; *I Cor 15:12-19)
 1. Witnesses of the Resurrected Christ (*I Cor 15:1-11)
 2. Martyrdom of Early Believers
 3. Defeat of Satan (*Heb 2:14-15)
 4. Satan behind the Crucifixion (*I Cor 2:7-8)
- d. Because Jesus was resurrected, assurance we will be too
(*Phil 3:20-21; *I Cor 15:20-23; Matt 27:52-53)

II. Hebrew Calendar

- a. Unlike Gregorian calendar, Hebrew calendar is lunar
- b. Two Hebrew Calendars
 1. Civil
 2. Religious (Ex 12:2; Begins month of Passover)
- c. Day: Sundown to Sundown (Gen 1:5)
- d. Week: 7 Days (Gen 2:1-3) ending in Sabbath or 7th day (Saturday)
 1. Weekly Sabbaths (every seven days)
 2. High or Holy Sabbaths – Any holy day or convocation when people are to do no work.
- e. Month: Lunar based. Starts with First Sighting of New Moon.
 1. Nissan (March/April)
 2. Iyar (April/May)
 3. Sivan (May/June)
 4. Tammuz (June/July)
 5. Av (July/August)
 6. Elul (August/September)
 7. Tishri (September/October)

8. Chesvan (October/November)
9. Kislev (November/December)
10. Tevet (December/January)
11. Shevat (January/February)
12. Adar (February/March)

F. Year (360 days) Extra Month added periodically to correct or adjust.

III. Introduction to Feast of Pentecost

- a. Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit (John 16:7-16; ***Acts 1:4-8**)

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Lesson FOUR, APRIL 14, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

I. Feast of Pentecost (aka Harvest, Weeks) (*Lev 23:15-22)

- a. Commemorates Lord coming down on Mt Sinai and the giving of the Ten Commandments (Ex 19:1,11,18-20; Rom 3:19-20)
- b. Future fulfillment in person and work of Jesus (Col 2:16-17)
 - 1. Promise of Holy Spirit (Jn 16:7; ***Acts 1:4-8**)
 - 2. Sending of Holy Spirit (***Acts 2:1-5**)
 - 3. Result of the fulfillment of Pentecost (Acts 2:37-41; Ex 32:28)
- c. Reason for Empowering on Pentecost
 - 1. Equipping church for bringing in harvest of souls (Acts 1:8)
 - 2. God's Heart for Souls (II Pet 3:9; Mt 9:37-38)

II. The Person and Ministry of the Holy Spirit

- a. Indwells us (Jn 14:17; I Cor 6:19; Rom 8:9)
- b. Empowers us for the work of the ministry (Acts 1:8)
- c. Reveals truth to us (Jn 16:13)
- d. Enables us to understand spiritual realities (I Cor 2:9-14)
- e. Is the sealer of our covenant and is the earnest of our future inheritance (II Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13-14)
- f. Gives us spiritual gifts (I Cor 12:1-11; Rom 12:6-8)
- g. Transforms us (II Cor 3:17-18)

III. Composition of the Church (*Lev 23:17)

- a. Both Jews and Gentiles are one in Christ (Gal 3:28; Acts 10:34-35; I Cor 12:13)

IV. Understanding Gentiles and Jews in God's Plan

- a. Early church mainly composed of Jews
- b. Modern church mainly composed of Gentiles (Rom 11:25-26)
- c. Jesus came as the Jew's Messiah (Mat 10:5-7)
- d. Not until after His rejection, crucifixion and resurrection, was invitation extended to Gentiles (Mt 27:22-25; Lk 19:34; Mt 28:18-20)
- e. Mystery of Gentiles being brought into the covenant revealed to Paul (Eph 3:1-7)
- f. Is God through with the Jews? No! (Gen 17:7-8; Ezek 36-37; Rom 10-11)

V. The Three Groups God sees Prophetically (*I Cor 10:32; II Cor 5:17; Gal 3:28)

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson FIVE, APRIL 21, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

- I. Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) (*Lev 23:24; Num 29:1-6)**
 - a. Commemorates God substituting a Ram as a Sacrifice in Isaac's place (Gen 22:13)
 - b. Celebrated by the Blowing of a Ram's Horn (shofar)
 - c. Future Fulfillment (Col 2:16-17)
 - d. The Resurrection or 'Rapture' of the Saints (***I Cor 15:51-55**; Rom 18:23; Heb 2;14-15; ***I Thes 4:13-18**; Phil 3:20-21)
 1. Is the Next Order of Resurrection of which Jesus is the First Fruits (I Cor 15:20-23)
 2. Jericho – an Old Testament type of Rapture (Josh 6:5)
 3. The Whereabouts of Believers Who Die Before the Rapture (Lk 8:55; II Cor 5:8; Heb 12:1; II Pet 3:8; II Cor 12:2-4; Phil 1:21-24; I Sam 28:11-14; Lk 16:22-31; Mt 17:3)
- II. The Judgment Seat of Christ (*II Cor 5:10; *I Cor 3:7-15)**
 - a. Not a Judgment of Sin (I Pet 2:24)
 - b. Paul as Our Model (II Cor 11:23-28; ***II Tim 4:6-8**)
 - c. God Judges by Our Motives (I Cor 13:1-3)
 - d. Our Crowns (Rev 4:1-11)
 1. Crown of *LIFE* (Jas 1:12; Rev 2:10)
 2. Crown of *GLORY* (I Pet 5:4)
 3. Crown of *RIGHTEOUSNESS* (II Tim 4:7-8)
 4. Crown of *REJOICING* (I Thes 2:19)
 5. Incorruptible Crown (I Cor 9:24-25)
- III. The Marriage of the Lamb (*Rev 19:7-9; *Jude 24-25)**

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson SIX, APRIL 28, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk () during class*

- I. **Feast of Atonement (Yom Kippur) (*Lev 23:26-32; Lev 16)**
 - a. Commemorates Moses coming down from Mt Sinai with second set of stone tablets as a sign of God's forgiveness and mercy towards Israel (Ex 34)
 - b. Future fulfillment in tribulation period on earth when Israel recognizes Jesus as Messiah and appropriates atonement made by Him (***Heb 9:1-14**; 24-28; Lev 16; Mat 12:40)

- II. **The Fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD (Lk 19:41-44; 21:5-6; 20-24)**
 - a. No more Temple, sacrificing or High Priest
 - b. Result was diaspora or scattering of the Jews into all the earth (Lk 21:24)
 - c. Reason for fall was Israel did not recognize and receive Jesus as their Messiah (***Lk 19:44**)
 - d. God promises in last days to re-gather people into the land (***Ezek 36:19; 23-24**)
 - e. God promises to reconcile Israel to Himself (***Ezek 36:25-28**)

- III. **The Tribulation**
 - a. Period of unparalleled trouble in the earth (Mt 24:4-24; Rev 6-18; Zeph 1:14-18)
 - b. World-wide in scope but centering on Jews and Jerusalem (Jer 30:7; Dan 9:27)
 - c. Period of God's mercy and provision
 1. Sealing of 144,000 Jews (Rev 7:1-8)
 1. Two witnesses (Rev 11:3-12)
 - d. Duration of seven years (Dan 9:27)

- e. Begins with Anti-christ signing a treaty with Israel and with many for seven years (Dan 9:27)
- f. Description of Anti-christ (II Thes 2:1-10; Dan 7:8)
- g. Mid-point of tribulation marked by “Abomination of Desolation” beginning the Great Tribulation (Dan 9:27; Mt 24:15-22; II Thes 2:3-4)
- h. What the tribulation will be like (Rev 6-18; Mt 24:4-25; Lk 21: 8-19; 25-28)
- i. Tribulation ends with Second Coming of Christ (Mt 24:29-30; Rev 19:11-21)
 - 1. Jews will recognize Jesus as the one they crucified (***Zech 12:9-10**)
 - 2. Two-thirds of Israel will die, the one third remaining will be reconciled to God (***Zech 13:8-9**)
- j. Mystery of the blindness of Israel today (***Rom 11:25-27**)

FEASTS OF THE LORD

Lesson SEVEN, MAY 5, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

I. Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-34; 39-44; Deut 16:13-15; Js 5:7; II Pet 3:8-9)

- a. Commemorates God's provision for Israelites in the wilderness (Lev 23:43)
- b. Prophetic fulfillment in first coming of Christ (***Jn 1:14,11**)
- c. Yet Future fulfillment in Kingdom Age on earth (***Ezek 37:26-28**
1) Feast to be kept during Kingdom Age on earth (Zech 14:16)

II. The Kingdom Age on Earth or Millennium

- a. Earth will be free from Satan and his influence (***Rev 20:1-3**)
- b. Animal life will be restored (***Isa 11:6-9**)
- c. Earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord (Isa 11:9; Hab 2:14)
- d. Jesus will rule and reign on the earth from Jerusalem (Zech 14:9; Isa 9:6-7; Rev 11:15)
 - 1) Resurrected saints and those martyred during the tribulation will rule and reign with Him (Rev 1:6; 5:10; 20:4,6)
- e. Will be a time of peace on the earth (Isa 2:3-4)
- f. One language will be spoken (Zeph 3:9)
- g. Longevity restored to those in natural bodies (Isa 65:20)
 - 1) Jews who live through the Tribulation (Zech 13:8-9)
 - 2) Gentiles (nations) who become believers and live through the Tribulation (Mt 25: 31-46)
- h. Ends with Satan being loosed and leading a final rebellion (Rev 20:7-9; Deut 29:29)
- i. Satan is destroyed and tormented forever (Rev 20;10)
- j. The Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11-13)
- k. Death and hell destroyed (Rev 20:14-15; I Cor 15:24-26)

III. Ultimate Fulfillment of Feast of Tabernacles: The Eternal State (*Rev 21:1-7)

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Lesson EIGHT, MAY 12, 2015

Note: We will turn to scriptures marked with an asterisk (*) during class

- I. **Sabbath (*Lev 23:1-3; *Ex 20:8-11)**
 - a. Commemorates God resting after creation (Gen 2:1-3)
 - b. Quotes from *A God Who Dreams* by Chuck Grice
 - c. Jesus observed the Sabbath
 - 1) Both saw and heard from God (Jn 5:18-20, 30; 12:49)
 - 2) We need to seek God (Ps 46:10; Heb 11:6)
 - d. Probable prophetic fulfillment in Kingdom Age on earth (Col 2:16-17)
- II. **Review of Feasts**
 - a. Passover (Lev 23:4-5)
 - 1) Commemorated the first Passover in Egypt
 - 2) Fulfilled in crucifixion of Jesus (grain of wheat dies -Jn 1:29)
 - b. Unleavened Bread (Lev 23:6-8)
 - 1) Commemorated the flight from Egypt
 - 2) Fulfilled in burial of Jesus (grain of wheat falls into the ground)
(Jn 12:24)
 - c. Firstfruits (Lev 23:10-14)
 - 1) Commemorated the harvest when Israelites entered the Promised Land
 - 2) Fulfilled in resurrection of Jesus as Firstfruits (I Cor 15:20) (Seed brings forth much fruit (Jn 12:24)
 - d. Pentecost (Lev 23:15-22)
 - 1) Commemorated the Lord coming down on Mt Sinai
 - 2) Fulfilled in coming of Holy Spirit upon believers at Pentecost
 - e. Trumpets (Lev 23:24; Num 20:1-4)
 - 1) Commemorated God substituting a ram for Isaac
 - 2) Will be fulfilled at Second coming of Christ at the rapture
 - f. Atonement (Lev 23:26-32; Lev 16)
 - 1) Commemorated Moses coming down from Mt Sinai with the second set of stone tablets
 - 2) Will be fulfilled in the Tribulation period

g. Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-34; Deut 16:13-15)

- 1) Commemorated God's provision for the Israelites in the wilderness
- 2) Will be fulfilled in the Kingdom Age on earth

III. Applying what we have learned (*James 1:22-25)

a. Looking back on feasts and what they commemorate helps to build our faith (Phil 3:6-7)

b. Understanding the feasts from a harvest standpoint makes us aware of the great commission (II Pet 3:9; Lk 10:2; Acts 1:8; ***I Pet 3:15**)

c. Understanding the prophetic significance of the feasts helps us to know where we are in time (Col 2:16-17)

- 1) Affects our behavior (II Pet 3:11-18; Col 3:4-5)
- 2) Helps us to live each day to the fullest being watchful (Mk 13: 33-37)
- 3) Gives us eternal perspective (***II Cor 4:17-18**)
- 4) Shows us futility of getting caught up in earthly pursuits (Heb 11:13; James 4:14; I Tim 6:7)
- 5) Helps us to focus and persevere (Heb 12:1-2)
- 6) Helps us to know what to do (I Chr 12:32; ***Lk 21:28**)