

## THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL AND THE COMING MESSIAH

### Zechariah

These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.  
Leviticus 23:4

## THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL

### The Spring Feasts (1st month: Nisan)

Passover  
Feast of Unleavened Bread  
Feast of First Fruits

### The Middle Feast (+/- 49 days)

Feast of Weeks / Pentecost (*Shavuot*)

### The Fall Feasts (7th month: Tishri)

Feast of Trumpets (*Yom Teruah*)  
Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*)  
Feast of Tabernacles (*Succoth*)

### Primary Point

Note the *heptadic* structure of the feasts. Seven days to a week, seven weeks to the Feasts of Weeks, seven months to the Feast of Tabernacles, and seven years to a Sabbatical Year

## FEASTS THAT SPEAK OF JESUS' FIRST COMING

### The Passover

"On the fourteenth day of the first month (Nisan) at twilight is the Lord's Passover."  
Leviticus 23:4

The lamb is presented on the 10th of Nisan and killed "between the evenings" on the 14th. The Passover feast uses four cups of wine:

1. The cup of Bringing Out
2. The cup of Deliverance
3. The cup of Redemption (see 1 Cor. 10:16)
4. The cup of Taking Out (currently unfinished)

"Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the Lord;

- (1) I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians,
- (2) I will rescue you from their bondage, and
- (3) I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.
- (4) I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."  
Exodus 6:6-7

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

John 1:29

### The Feast of Unleavened Bread

"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."  
Leviticus 23:6

Celebrated the day after Passover, on the 15th of Nisan, and lasts for seven days. Leaven is a type of sin and corrupts by puffing up, pride. First of the three required feasts (Deut. 16:16).

### The Feast of First Fruits

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "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. 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.'"  
Leviticus 23:9-11

A one day feast celebrated the morning after the Sabbath after Passover. Always on a Sunday morning, the day of the empty tomb. The firstfruits are representative of the entire harvest.

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become (what) the firstfruits of (who) those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.  
1 Corinthians 15:20-23

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.  
Matthew 27:51-53

## THE MIDDLE FEAST THAT SPEAKS OF THE CHURCH

### The Feast of Weeks / Pentecost (*Shavuot*)

"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. Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord."  
Leviticus 23:15-16

Celebrated the day after seven Sabbaths (49+1) or fifty days (Pentecost) from the Feast of Firstfruits, and is always on a Sunday. This is the second of three required feasts (Deut. 16:16) and is the only feast that uses leavened bread — two loaves, for both Jew and Gentile.

"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."  
Leviticus 23:17

When the Day of Pentecost had (what) fully come (or, to fill completely, to the brim), they were all with one accord in one place.  
Acts 2:1

#### **Primary Point**

**Passover / Unleavened Bread**- fulfilled in the Crucifixion of Jesus

**Firstfruits** - fulfilled in the Resurrection of Jesus, on Sunday

**Pentecost** - fulfilled in the Birth of the Church

## FEASTS THAT SPEAK OF JESUS' SECOND COMING

### The Feast of Trumpets (*Yom Teruah*)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "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.'" Leviticus 23:23-24

This is a one day celebration where the Shofar, a ram's horn, is blown as the *Akedah*, the substitutionary ram of Gen. 22:13. The Jews considered the left horn as the "first trump" and the right horn as the "last trump." It consisted of three series of 10 blasts each and then a final blowing of 10 blasts. It is then followed by *Yomin Noraim*, the ten days of affliction, before the Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*).

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

### The Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*)

And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "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.  
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."  
Leviticus 23:26-27, 32

*Yom Kippur* is on the 10th of Tishri and is the national day of repentance where the high priest enters the Holy of Holies and sprinkles blood on the Mercy Seat for the sins of the people.

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn."  
Zechariah 12:10

### The Feast of Tabernacles (*Sucloth*)

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "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.'" Leviticus 23:33-34

This feast takes place 5 days (symbolizing grace) after *Yom Kippur* and is the last of the three required feasts. They were to live in booths or temporary dwellings for seven days until they received their permanent dwellings. It spoke of their wilderness wanderings.

### **Primary Point**

**Passover / Unleavened Bread** - fulfilled in the Crucifixion of Jesus

**Firstfruits** - fulfilled in the Resurrection of Jesus, on Sunday

**Pentecost** - fulfilled in the Birth of the church

**Trumpets** - fulfilled by the Rapture of the Church

**Yomin Noraim**, ten days of affliction - representing the Tribulation

**Day of Atonement** - fulfilled by the Second Coming of Christ

**Tabernacles** - fulfilled by the Millennial Reign of Christ

## **THE REQUIRED FEASTS OF ISRAEL**

"Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the  
(1) Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the  
(2) Feast of Weeks, and at the  
(3) Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed."  
Deuteronomy 16:16

### **Question**

Why are those in Zechariah 14 required to go to Jerusalem and celebrate the Feasts of Tabernacles? Why not the other three feasts?

And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left (or, survives) 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 14:16

### **Question**

What does it mean to have "Holiness to the Lord" engraved on the bells of the horses and what about the pots and bowls? What is the Lord trying to tell us about the Canaanites in the house of the Lord?

In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be engraved on the bells of the horses. The pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the Lord of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.  
Zechariah 14:20-21