

How Jesus Fulfills the 7 Feasts of Israel – Unleavened Bread & First fruits (25 Nov 2012)

Introduction to Unleavened Bread -

1. We've already looked at the Passover, here's the order of all 7 Feasts.
2. The Jewish calendar
 - a. First month 15th thru 21st day
 - b. Started the evening of the Passover
 - i. Interlinked with the Passover

You will understand how Jesus fulfills the Feast of Unleavened Bread from examining these four aspects of it.

The 1st aspect is to know what unleavened bread is –

1. It's a symbol of perfection, truth, nothing fake or flawed.
 - a. In Exo 29:2 it's used to consecrate the priests.
 - b. There could be no leaven in an offering...w/ one notable except that we'll take about when we get to the Feast of Weeks of Pentecost. (Lev 23:17)
 - c. Did Jesus tell us what it is? Yes, Luke 12:1 – “Beware of the Leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.”
 - i. “To make seem like what it is not in reality”
 - d. Principle of first Use? Righteous Lot fed U.B. to the 2 angels in Sodom.
2. What is Yeast?
 - a. A fungus that causes fermentation (reproduction by fission) of the carbohydrates in wheat, changing it into alcohol and carbon dioxide.

The 2nd aspect is to know what Israel commemorated from the past – They commemorated God's deliverance from Egypt by a strong hand, full of power, nothing diluted; perfection.

1. Read Exo 13:5-10
 - a. Vs 9 - “...for with a strong hand hath the Lord brought thee out of Egypt.”
2. Read Exo 23:14-15
 - a. Vs 15 – “...for in it thou camest out of Egypt.”
 - b. This showed removing the sin from Israel. Moving all the unleavened bread (Egypt's sin) away from Israel.
3. Read Deut 16:3-8
 - a. Vs 3 – “bread of affliction” – separation unto holiness is hard...but will be blessed

The 3rd aspect is to know how Israel celebrated Unleavened Bread

1. Read Lev 23:6-8 – First and last day could do no work
 - a. Pictures that the work is already done, nothing we can add, it's perfect.
2. Num 28:17-25 – Tells us of the sacrifice – 2 bulls, 1 ram & 7 lambs
3. Remember the Affikoman we discussed last week (The search for it)

The 4th aspect is to know how Jesus Christ fulfills the Feast of Unleavened Bread

1. The unleavened bread was baked or bruised with fire – Isa 53:5 – Wounded just like the Matzah bread.
2. I John 1:5-7 – Jesus is light and no darkness at all
3. Heb 4:15 – Jesus was tempted, yet without sin
4. I Cor 5:6-8 – Christ is our Unleavened Bread
5. **This is bigger than a Jewish celebration...JESUS wanted to tell us of His perfection since the beginning of time.**

Now you understand how Jesus fulfills the Feast of Unleavened Bread from examining its four aspects; the feast's unleavened bread, the feast's commemoration, its celebration and its NT substance in Jesus.

Introduction to Firstfruits –

1. The Jewish calendar - First month 16th day
2. Firstfruits mean “the best & first part of something” & it's to be given to the Lord.
 - a. Read Prov 3:9, Rms 8:22-23, Rms 16:5

You will understand how Jesus fulfills the Feast of Firstfruits from examining these three parts of it.

The 1st part is to know what Israel commemorated from the past – They commemorated God’s **redeeming** of the firstborn Israelite males **to the Lord**.

1. Read Exo 13:1-2, 11-16 – Firstborn of all were dedicated to the Lord
2. Read Num 3:12-13 – God replaced the firstborn with the Levites
3. The principle here is that the firstfruits or firstborn would be totally set aside to the Lord.

The 2nd part is to know how Israel celebrated Firstfruits

1. Read Lev 23:9-14 – The celebration was to remember the redemption of the firstborn by redeeming the firstfruits of their Harvest. They sanctified it unto the Lord.
2. The harvest has 3 parts, Firstfruits, main Harvest & Gleanings....we’ll get into more of this later.

The 3rd part is to know how Jesus Christ fulfills the Feast of Firstfruits

1. Just as the Firstborn, the Levites and the Firstfruits were pictures of ‘the best first part’ being offered wholly to God. **Jesus Christ, the God-man, is the ‘best first part’ of all resurrected people being offered back to God.**
2. Read Rev 1:5, Col 1:14-15, I Cor 15:12-23
 - a. I Cor 15:23 – The main harvest is at the Rapture, called ‘His Coming’ here.
 - b. Notice that I Thess 4:15 calls the Rapture ‘His Coming’.
3. Read Matt 22:23-33 – “He IS the God the Abraham...”
 - a. He is RIGHT NOW the firstfruits of the harvest and WE are the harvest.
4. Read I John 3:2-3 – We shall be like Him!!
5. Remember Prov 3:9 – Firstfruits was the promise of the Harvest, Jesus Resurrection is the promise of our resurrection at the “Harvest”!

BONUS: Israel is the Firstfruits nation (Jer 2:3 then I Pet 2:9) – We have the Firstfruits of the Spirit (Rms 8:23)

Now you understand how Jesus fulfills the Feast of Firstfruits from examining its three parts; the feast’s commemoration, its celebration and its NT substance in Jesus.