

The Feast of the Lord

Leviticus 23

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him and he with Me.” Revelation 3:20

The Feasts of the Lord are appointed times, set by God, and are called “holy convocations” that is, they are intended to be times of meeting between God and man for “holy purposes.”

These Feasts were set by the Lord for men to come together in an appointed time and place and be set apart, or be separated from the world, in a sacred assembly or gathering unto Him.

“These seven feasts are a picture of the significant events in the life of Christ. They began at Calvary, where Christ voluntarily gave Himself for the sins of man (Passover) and will conclude with His triumph second coming to establish His messianic Kingdom (Tabernacles).”¹

“God appointed three feast seasons with seven individual feasts and scheduled them on the Hebrew calendar in such a way that the Jews would have to travel to Jerusalem three times a year to keep them.” (See Exodus 23: 14-17 and Deuteronomy 16:16) “These three feast seasons were known as Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles”¹

How do the three feast seasons apply to the church and individual Christians, you and me? They represent three aspects of our relationship with God. Passover represents His divine peace, Pentecost His power and Tabernacles His divine rest. First, we receive God’s peace at salvation, His power with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and His divine rest when we are received into His presence for eternity. We will never know perfect peace, perfect power, or perfect rest in our lifetime. However, we can have a foretaste of God’s peace, power and rest in our earthly situation. The closer we draw to God, the more we allow Him to be Lord of our lives, the more we will experience His presence, thus His peace, power and rest. This is not a onetime work but the progressive work of sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

Why study the Feasts of the Lord?

As we ask this question, we need to consider why we should study the Bible? This of course includes both the Old and New Testaments. There are a total of 66 books in the Bible, with 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament. The Old Testament includes the parts of the Bible that were written before the birth of Christ. The New Testament includes the four gospels regarding Christ birth, His ministry, His death, His resurrection and ascension. It also includes, the Acts of the Apostles, the Epistles of Paul, James, Peter, John, Jude, the Epistle to the Hebrews and the book of Revelation.

The New Testament is hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is revealed in the New. Even though we have God’s Word we do not have a clear understanding of God, His ways, or where mankind is headed.

So, this brings us back to the question why study Scripture, in other words the Bible? *“The purpose of Scripture is to reveal who God is. God is certainly mysterious. He has chosen to reveal His character clearly through the pages of His Word. Lean in. Listen closely. This is important. We study our Bibles to know God.”*²

How much do you love God? What is your attitude towards God?

“Your attitude toward God’s Word is your attitude toward God Himself. You do not love God more than you love His Word. You do not obey God more than you obey His Word. You do not honor God more than you honor His Word. You do not have more room in your heart and life for God than you have for His Word.”³

“Do you want to know how much God means to you? You can easily find out. Just ask yourself, how much does God’s Word mean to me? The answer to this question is also the answer to the first two questions. God means as much to you as His Word means to you—just that much, and not more.”³

We study the Feasts of the Lord to gain a/an

1. deeper love and renewed passion for Jesus
2. better understanding of the Bible
3. fuller comprehension of God’s plan of redemption
4. understanding of the Jewish roots of Christianity
5. insights into God’s prophetic seasons
6. understanding of the biblical Church calendar
7. love for the Jewish people and understanding of the role of Israel in Bible prophecy and current events
8. increased spiritual growth and a deeper compassion and love for the church and its members

What do you hope to get from this study?

Our Study:

1. Overview of the study
2. Passover
3. Feast of Unleavened Bread
4. Feast of First Fruits
5. Feast of Weeks – Pentecost
6. Comparison and Contrast of the Two Pentecost
7. Feast of Trumpets
8. Day of Atonement
9. Feast of Tabernacles/Booths

Spring Feast	Date	Significance
Passover	Nissan 14	Crucifixion - Redemption
Feast of Unleavened Bread	Nissan 15-21	Body did not decay – Sanctification
Feast of First Fruits	Nissan 16	Christ first to rise from the dead and never die again - Resurrection
Feast of Weeks/Pentecost	Sivan 6	Giving of the Law (OT) Gift of the Holy Spirit (NT) - Origination

The Feast of Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread and Feast of First Fruits occur in the first month of the Jewish Religious calendar, Nissan (Babylonian name). This corresponds to our March/April. The Feast of Weeks or Pentecost occurs in the third month of the Jewish Religious calendar, Sivan (Babylonian name). This is May/June on our calendar.

Fall Feast	Date	Significance
Feast of Trumpets	Tishri 1	Repentance – Rapture
Day of Atonement	Tishri 10	Sanctification – Israel recognizes Jesus as Lord
Feast of Tabernacles	Tishri 15-21	Rest – 1000-year reign of Christ

The three Fall Feast occur during the seventh month of the Jewish Religious calendar Tishri. It occurs during our September – October.

Please join me and commit yourself to this study of the Feasts of the Lord. Listen, study, meditate, and hear God speaking to your heart and mind. You will be amazed what we will discover and be drawn closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

“He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.” Revelation 3:21

Unless otherwise noted all scriptures are from the New American Standard version.

Quotations:

1. The Feasts of the Lord - God's Prophetic Calendar From Calvary to the Kingdom – Kevin Howard and Marvin Rosenthal
2. 7 Feast - Finding Christ in the Sacred Celebrations of the Old Testament – Erin Davis
3. Foundations for Faith – Derek Prince

References:

1. The Feasts of the Lord - God's Prophetic Calendar from Calvary to the Kingdom – Kevin Howard and Marvin Rosenthal
2. 7 Feast - Finding Christ in the Sacred Celebrations of the Old Testament – Erin Davis
3. Foundations for Faith – Derek Prince
4. A Prophetic Calendar – The Feasts of Israel – Jill Shannon
5. Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts – Dr. Richard Booker
6. The Jewish Holidays – A Simplified Overview of the Feasts of the Lord – www.hebrew4christians.com/Holidays/Introduction