

The Difference Between Feasts and Holidays

Many people use the words *feasts* and *holidays* as if they mean the same thing. In Scripture, they are **not** the same at all.

Understanding the difference helps beginners see **why YAHUAH's appointed times matter**, and why man-made holidays feel so different.

Feasts are commanded and covenant-based.
Holidays are cultural, man-made, and optional.

Feasts come from **YAHUAH**.
Holidays come from **people, cultures, or institutions**.

That difference alone explains everything.

Why Feasts Are Different

The feast days were established by YAHUAH as **appointed times** (*moedim*).
They exist to teach His people:

- When to gather
- When to rest
- When to remember
- When to reflect on redemption

They are tied directly to **obedience, identity, and covenant relationship**.

Why Holidays Are Different

Holidays develop over time through:

- Culture
- Religion
- Government
- Tradition

They are not commanded in Scripture and carry **no covenant requirement**.
Participation is optional and often centered around celebration, memory, or social custom.

Feasts vs Holidays

| <u>Category</u> | <u>Feasts (Moedim)</u> | <u>Holidays</u> |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Who Instituted It | YAHUAH | People, culture, or institutions |
| Why It Exists | Covenant instruction and remembrance | Tradition, culture, or history |
| What It Produces | Obedience, rhythm, identity, alignment | Celebration, nostalgia, social unity |
| Scriptural Command | Yes | No |
| Connection to Covenant | Direct | None |
| Required or Optional | Commanded | Optional |

A Gentle Clarification for Beginners

Keeping feast days is **not about rejecting people** or attacking traditions.
It is about **choosing alignment** when understanding grows.

Learning the difference is part of growth, not condemnation.

Feasts teach **how to walk with YAHUAH**.
Holidays reflect **human culture**.

One is covenant-based.
The other is optional tradition.

Understanding the difference brings clarity not pressure.