

Sunday, September 26, 2021
FEAST OF TABERNACLES
Leviticus 23:1-2 (NKJV)

After the Lord took the children of Israel out of Egypt, He began the process of sanctifying them to Himself. He led them to Mt. Sinai, where He called Moses to the mountaintop to give him the Torah – His law. In this revelation, God spoke to the words which we just read. The Israelites were directed to keep 7 feasts throughout their calendar year.

1. Passover
2. Unleavened Bread
3. Firstfruits
4. Weeks
5. Trumpets
6. Atonement
7. Tabernacles

The Lord described these feasts as:

Appointments

The feasts were appointments held at fixed times in which God would meet with His people. They are divine appointments. At the time Moses received this revelation, most of the feasts had yet to be held – they were prophetic. The Israelites had celebrated the first Passover in Egypt but the others were yet to come. As time passed, the Israelites celebrated all the feasts of the Lord. Some still remained mostly prophetic as they awaited their Promised Land. Once in their land, the fulness of their feasts began to be realized as they had built permanent homes for themselves. The feasts were memorials of what God had done for them. They were also times of thanks to God for who He was to them. They were reminders that they were God's people – set apart for a holy purpose.

1. Passover – God delivered them from bondage.
2. Unleavened Bread – They were to be a holy people.
3. Firstfruits – The first to rise from the earth is holy.
4. Weeks – The harvest is a product of God.
5. Trumpets – The harvest ceases and a “great rest” begins.
6. Atonement – The time of repentance begins. The sacrifice for Israel's soul is revealed.

7. Tabernacles – Time to celebrate God's presence with great joy.

All 7 feasts pointed to the ultimate deliverance of Jesus. The first 4 feasts were all fulfilled by Him on the exact days of the appointments. The fall feasts speak of what is yet to come. Tabernacles is what we celebrate today. What does Tabernacles mean for the people of God?

Leviticus 23:39;41-43 (NKJV)

The Israelites traveled in the wilderness after their exodus and dwelled in tents – temporary quarters until the entry into the Promised Land. God wanted them to remember it was He who created this time in their history and He who took care of them. Then, He gave them this instruction:

Exodus 25:8-9 (NKJV)

God's plan was to dwell/tabernacle with His people. This was His permanent desire although the tabernacle was temporary. It took years – even after conquest of the Promised Land for the building of a temple to house God's presence. The first Temple built by Solomon was dedicated at the Feast of Tabernacles:

2 Chronicles 5:1-3 (NKJV)

It was after the Temple was rebuilt that the Israelites gathered at the Feast of Tabernacles to hear Ezra read the Word of God and it was then that the Feast was reinstated for it had not been observed since the days of Joshua (Nehemiah 8). According to Exodus 23, Tabernacles comes at the end of the year after the fields are reaped. What does Tabernacles celebrate?

God dwelling with His people.

When does Tabernacles occur?

At the end – when all labor and harvest has ceased.

Therefore:

Tabernacles prophetically points us to the messianic age known as the Millennium when Jesus will dwell with His people on the Earth bringing joy and peace.

Zechariah 14 tells us that this feast will be celebrated all throughout the Millennium. There is so much more you can learn about this Feast. The Feast of Tabernacles also called Sukkot is the only feast with an 8th day of celebration. This 8th day is a holy gathering. The number 8 in Hebrew symbolizes new beginnings. After the Millennial reign of Christ, Satan's final rebellion is crushed by God and we enter the time of a new heaven and new earth where God makes His dwelling with humanity.

Today's Scriptures:

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