

PENTECOST

THE FEAST OF WEEKS

SHAVUOT

THE PLAN WAS REVEALED

To Israel belong “the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;” (Romans 9:4). Yes! The LORD chose Israel to be His messengers. He entered into covenant with Abraham, then with Isaac, and then with Jacob - whose name was changed to Israel. At Mount Sinai, the LORD renewed “the covenant” with the “children of Israel.” But why? They were no more worthy or special than any other people.

They were simply a people chosen for a purpose. And the LORD had a wonderful purpose. He had a prophecy to give. He would reveal “the plan.” And He would clearly state the terms of covenant - His law. In return, He would richly bless Israel, but only if they remained faithful to that covenant.

The ancient Tabernacle of the LORD, its services and ceremonies - all revealed the plan for the salvation of mankind. The lamb sacrificed for sin foreshadowed the Lamb of God. The grain offering, the wine poured out, the anointing oil - all revealed Messiah to come. The high priest acting his part in the earthly Temple, portrayed the role of Christ our High Priest in Heaven above. Day after day, year after year - priests and citizens acted out the prophecy.

In the cycle of appointed feast days, Sabbaths, planting years and Jubilees - the plan was foretold.

THE WEEKLY CYCLE

Exodus 20:8-11 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

Exodus 16:26 In the wilderness, no manna fell on the 7th day – the Sabbath.

SYMBOLISM: Christ was & is THE Bread from Heaven (John 6:31-33).
There can be no presence of Christ on the earth during the Sabbath (7th) millennium.
The earth must rest - and desolation IS REST (2 Chron. 36:21).

THE YEARLY CYCLE of FEAST DAYS: The plan was foretold!

At the Feast of Tabernacles, Jesus Christ (Yeshua Messiah) was born.
He would “tabernacle” with us.

(For a study on the birthday of Jesus, go to www.prophecyviewpoint.com.)

In the Spring:

Passover - (Death of the Lamb - Deliverance of Israel)

Feast of Unleavened Bread - (Yeshua, the Bread of Heaven was without sin.)

Firstfruits - (The Resurrected Christ was presented in Heaven before the Father)

Pentecost - (The Spirit is poured out. Christ begins to write the Law on the heart.)

In the Fall:

Feast of Trumpets - (A final warning is sounded.)

The Day of Atonement - (Judgment Day)

Feast of Tabernacles - (We will tabernacle with Him.)

(Leviticus Chapter 23, Numbers Chapter 24)

The 8th Day - following the Feast of Tabernacles

- They NO LONGER DWELT IN BOOTHS!

Shavuot means weeks in Hebrew. Pentecost means 50 in Greek.

Let's read through the commands in the Torah:

NKJ **Leviticus 23**:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.

THE SABBATH

3 `Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation. You shall do no work on it; it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

NOTE: The Sabbath was inscribed on the tables of stone by God Himself. It is part of the covenant. The other Festival Days were commanded by the LORD through Moses. They were not spoken to Moses on Mt. Sinai.

4 `These are the feasts of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

PASSOVER

5 `On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the LORD'S Passover.

FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

6 `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. 7 `On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall

do no customary work on it. 8 `But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it."

FIRSTFRUITS

9 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 10 "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. 11 `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. 12 `And you shall offer on that day, when you wave the sheaf, a male lamb of the first year, without blemish, as a burnt offering to the LORD. 13 `Its grain offering shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the LORD, for a sweet aroma; and its drink offering shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin. 14 `You shall eat neither bread nor parched grain nor fresh grain until the same day that you have brought an offering to your God; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

THE FEAST OF WEEKS

15 `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. 16 `Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD. 17 `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. 18 `And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD. 19 `Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering, and two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of a peace offering. 20 `The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21 `And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations. (Lev 23:1 NKJ)

Exodus 34:22-23 "And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end. 23 "Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord, the LORD God of Israel. (NKJ)

Numbers Chapter 28

Deuteronomy 16:9-10 "You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain. 10 "Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you. (NKJ)

All Israelite males were to “appear before the LORD” three times in the year. Pentecost was the second of the three great pilgrimage feasts.

For 50 days - from First Fruits (of barley) to Pentecost - the farmers watched their fields. They were not to put the sickle to the crop UNTIL after they had presented two loaves at the Temple, along with their thank offerings, their tithes and of course their sin offerings and their peace offerings. Other crops besides the wheat were ripening at this time. PG 71 from “The Feasts of Adoni”

One could not simply write out a check to his favorite charity and put it in the mail, or better yet - go on their website and make a donation. One must travel to Jerusalem, to the Temple - in order to present ones tithe and offerings.

TWO LOAVES - WITH LEAVEN

The two loaves were waived before the LORD. They were not burned on the alter, because the LORD had commanded:

Leviticus 2:11 "Every grain offering you bring to the LORD must be made without yeast, for you are not to burn any yeast or honey in a food offering presented to the LORD. (NIV)

Jesus was the bread “without leaven.” He was sinless. We - the harvest which followed His Passover death, are NOT sinless.

Some say the two loaves represent Judah and Israel (Ephriam).

Some say the two loaves represent Jews and Gentiles (non-biological descendants).

ACTS Chapter 1 and 2

The great outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

NOTE: Speaking in tongues, was really - hearing in tongues - at least in the account of Peter.

THE TIMING

Jesus (Yeshua) remained on earth with His disciples for 40 days from His resurrection.

Then He ascended from the Mt of Olives.

I'm sure there was quite a welcome celebration in Heaven.

THEN He must complete 7 days consecration to become a priest - Our High Priest.

On the 8th day - the Holy Spirit was poured out.

ABOUT THE TIMING OF THE RESURRECTION

I realize there is and will be much disagreement with me on this, but I must teach what I believe is right, based on my study thus far.

There is a large study at the website titled “Three Days and Three Nights” which goes into this in

great detail.

Leviticus 23:15 “You shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath(s), from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed.”

The Septuagint says “the next day of the Sabbaths” (plural).
(First Sabbath) - The Feast of Unleavened Bread.
(Second Sabbath) - The 7th day.

NOTE: A “holy convocation” - a day upon which “no ordinary work” was to be done - was defined as “a sabbath” (meaning a rest). The 1st and 7th days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the 1st and 8th days of the Feast of Tabernacles were commanded to be such special rest days. See Leviticus Chapter 23.

The day after the 7th day Sabbath is the 8th day -
which was the 1st day of the next week -
which was a Sunday.

So - The Feast of Firstfruits always fell on a Sunday (the 8th Day).
So - The resurrection of Christ took place on Sunday.
He WAS “the firstfruits.” (I Cor. 15:23, I Cor. 15:20).
He also presented the firstfruits- those raised on that morning (Matt. 27:52).

From The Feast of Firstfruits to Pentecost - count 50 days (The Omer).
 $7 \times 7 = 49 + 1 =$ the 50th day - from the Firstfruits.

If you start with the “day after the Sabbaths” (a Sunday)
- then Pentecost always falls on a Sunday (the 50th day).

So - I agree with the Sadducees for once - that the Feast of Firstfruits
always fell on a Sunday - making it an 8th day.

In the beginning the LORD finished His work in 6 days and rested the 7th day.

Yeshua “finished” His work on the 6th day (Friday) - rested the 7th day (Sabbath)
- and was raised the 8th day (Sunday).

(Genesis 2:1-2, Exodus 20:11, John 17:4, John 19:30)

THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS A SIGN TO THE DISCIPLES

It was the sign, that Yeshua Messiah had been glorified with the glory He had with the Father before the world was. This was His prayer in John 17:5 - His last public prayer.

What glory did He have with the Father before the world was?

John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

Phillippians 2:6 He was in the form of God.

Hebrews 1:1-3 He was the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Let's go a study at the website.

WHY DON'T THE PEOPLE OF GOD KEEP THE FEASTS TODAY?

The number one reason is Emperor Constantine.

The early Christians celebrated, or commemorated the feasts until Constantine outlawed them.

Sunday has replaced the Sabbath.

Passover has been replaced by Esther (Ishtar - ancient pagan goddess of fertility-you wondered what colored eggs and bunny rabbits had to do with the resurrection of our LORD).

Sakkot we keep today in the celebration of Thanksgiving @ harvest time.

Humans want special times to celebrate, commemorate and congregate.

If we don't keep God's appointed festivals - we will probably make up some of our own.

And Jesus was born at Sakkot - not on December 25th. I'm working on a study for the website on that topic.

SHOULD WE KEEP THE FEASTS TODAY?

Wow - Now we have to talk about the law. You see why this study has so many different aspects to it. It touches on so many different questions.

First: We do not offer sacrifices:

We cannot “keep” them in the way they were originally commanded, because the Temple is destroyed and there is no place to take animal sacrifices.

I personally believe that the “perfect offering,” the “Lamb without blemish” has been offered “once for all.” The “certificate of indebtedness” to the law, was nailed to His cross. We may come boldly before the throne of His grace to ask forgiveness, or pray for blessing. The blood of bulls and goats could not make anyone right in heart. (I personally believe that the symbol has been replaced (and made obsolete) by the reality.

Hebrews - Chapters 7 and 8 .

I need to teach a series on “The Law and Grace.” I think I will do that when we finish with Daniel, on Sabbath mornings. I believe that an understanding of these things is vitally important!

Galatians 4:8-11 But then, indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. 9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years. 11 I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. (NKJ)

The key to this verse is the word translated “observe.”

Colossians 2:16 So let no one judge you in food [meat offerings] or in drink [offerings], or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. (NKJ)

(Eating ostrich or pork or shellfish was NOT a “shadow of things to come.” Dietary was not prophetic. Meat and drink offerings WERE prophetic - of Messiah.)

So - do I celebrate the Feasts of the LORD.

I commemorate them. I remember them. I tell the story of the plan.

They are special worship with rest days for me.

I do NOT say that I observe the feasts.

WE WILL CELEBRATE THE FEASTS IN THE COMING KINGDOM OF MESSIAH

Isaiah 66:22-23 "For as the new heavens and the new earth Which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain. 23 And it shall come to pass That from one New Moon to another, And from one Sabbath to another, All flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD. (NKJ)

Zechariah 14: 16 And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left 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. (NKJ)

Shavuot Shalom
Blessings

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. God’s Festivals in Scripture and History, by Samuele Bacchiocchi (Two Volumes)
2. The Feasts of the Lord, by Kevin Howard and Marvin Rosenthal
3. The Feasts of Adonai, Why Christians should look at the Biblical Feasts, by Valerie Moody

4. The Feasts of the Lord, DVD set by Mark Biltz, El Shaddai Ministries,
www.elshaddaiministries.us

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