



The Lighted Way

"Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

Psalm 119:105

May-June, 2009
Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Counting the Omer – *With Our Lamps Trimmed and Burning*
- 3** Highlights from **Unleavened Bread** - *Spring Retreat '09*
- 5** Our Current Ministry Schedule
- 5** World News and Liberty Threats
- 6** Daniel's Prophecies – *New Study Aids from LWM*

Also Enclosed...

Order Form Including Our New Unleavened Bread DVD's and Materials



Acts 2:1-4 "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Counting the Omer

With Our Lamps Trimmed and Burning

What does the term "counting the omer" mean? And what is its significance in preparing for Pentecost? These are vital questions. But, before we can address the spiritual significance of this process, we must understand the physical counting, beginning on First Fruits and ending on Pentecost.



"These (144,000) were redeemed from among men, being the First Fruits unto God and to the Lamb." Revelation 14:4

The day of First fruits is a special holy day falling within the Week of Unleavened Bread. As it says in Leviticus 23:10-11 "...Ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest. And he shall

wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it."

Many believe that First Fruits is Abib/Nissan 16 (the day following the first Sabbath of Unleavened Bread). But the original Hebrew word for a feast Sabbath is not used in this verse. The word for a feast Sabbath is Strong's number 7677. But, the Sabbath in Leviticus 23:11 is Strong's number 7676 (*Shabbath* – or Seventh-day Sabbath). It is the same word used in Exodus 20:8-11 (the Commandment to keep the Seventh-day Sabbath holy). While *Shabbath* almost without exception refers solely to the weekly Sabbath, there are two exceptions: the first is the reference to the land Sabbath, the second is a single reference to the annual Sabbath of Atonement. With exceptions to the terminology rule of annual Sabbaths (Strong's #7677) being different from the word for the weekly Sabbath (Strong's #7676), we cannot prove that First Fruits falls on the day after the Seventh-day Sabbath (Sunday) during Unleavened Bread week from Leviticus 23:11 alone.

To be certain that First Fruits takes place on the first day of the week (the day after the Seventh-day Sabbath) during the Unleavened Bread week, we need to look at the Bible instructions for calculating Pentecost (also called Shavuot or the Feast of Weeks). For this, we turn to Leviticus 23:15-16.

Continued on page 2



“...Our only safety is in being ready for the Heavenly Refreshing, having our lamps trimmed and burning”.
Last Day Events, p. 194

Highlights From Unleavened Bread – Spring Retreat ‘09

The retreat was held Pitchford Boys’ Ranch again. Passover turned out to be a lovely and meaningful service attended by nearly 70 people. About 1/3 of the Passover attendees were first-timers.

The Week of Unleavened Bread was a powerful and spiritually rich time (all praise to our Heavenly Father). Attendance dropped significantly throughout the week as many worked and only came on the Sabbaths. But, the talks and workshops were timely and a great blessing just the same.

Speakers included: Richard Drake, Mark and Shauna Manfredine, Lou and Danette Davis, Dr. Chittick, Danon Taylor and Christopher Manfredine.

If you missed the retreat and would still like to get in on the messages, the retreat DVD’s are all now available. See the enclosed order form for a description of each.

Counting the Omer - continued from page 1

“And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath (7676), from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **seven Sabbaths (7676) shall be complete.** Even **unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath** (7676) shall **ye number fifty days**” (Leviticus 23:15-16).

This year is an unusual one in that *Nissan/Abib* 16 (the day following the first Sabbath of Unleavened Bread) also happened to be Sunday (or the morrow after the Seventh-day Sabbath). Rarely does it align like this. As a result, most feast-keeping groups are aligned in their timing for calculating *Shavuot* – Pentecost - this year. On a calendar, the “Counting of the Omer” from First Fruits (as Day 1) to Pentecost (Day 50) looks like this:

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sabbath
					April 10 Passover	April 11 UB Sabb
April 12 First Fruits	April 13 Day 2	April 14 Day 3	April 15 Day 4	April 16 Day 5	April 17 UB Sabb	April 18 Sabbath 1
April 19 Day 8	April 20 Day 9	April 21 Day 10	April 22 Day 11	April 23 Day 12	April 24 Day 13	April 25 Sabbath 2
April 26 Day 15	April 27 Day 16	April 28 Day 17	April 29 Day 18	April 30 Day 19	May 1 Day 20	May 2 Sabbath 3
May 3 Day 22	May 4 Day 23	May 5 Day 24	May 6 Day 25	May 7 Day 26	May 8 Day 27	May 9 Sabbath 4
May 10 Day 29	May 11 Day 30	May 12 Day 31	May 13 Day 32	May 14 Day 33	May 15 Day 34	May 16 Sabbath 5
May 17 Day 36	May 18 Day 37	May 19 Day 38	May 20 Day 39	May 21 Day 40	May 22 Day 41	May 23 Sabbath 6
May 24 Day 43	May 25 Day 44	May 26 Day 45	May 27 Day 46	May 28 Day 47	May 29 Day 48	May 30 Sabbath 7
May 31 Pentecost						

The only way to consistently get just seven Sabbaths AND 50 days is to count only Seventh-day Sabbaths, omitting the annual Unleavened Bread Sabbaths. Thus, First Fruits always falls on the first day of the week, the morrow after the Seventh-day Sabbath (#7676). Counting this way also makes Pentecost fall on the first day of the week (the morrow after the seventh Sabbath (Leviticus 23:16).

But the counting of the Omer, as we have already suggested, isn’t just about calculating the TIMING of Pentecost. It is also about SPIRITUALLY PREPARING to receive the Latter Rain.

The symbolism of the shadow pictures from First Fruits to Pentecost helps us gain insights into their spiritual significance. The grain that was waved at First Fruits was barley. This sheaf of barley grain represented both the Messiah (1 Corinthians 15:23) and the 144,000 (Revelation 14:1-5). Just as the sheaf of grain waved at First Fruits wasn’t the total harvest, so the 144,000 are not the only ones who will be saved from the fields of this world. What makes the 144,000 special then compared to the much larger harvest to come later? Like the grain waved at First Fruits, the 144,000 are the group who spiritually ripens first. This means they will be quickly obedient to *YHWH* on every point of truth, and thereby prepared to carry the last Gospel call to the whole world – bringing about the final harvest.

Continued on page 3



When the sacrifice is acceptable,
YHWH will send the FIRE!

First Fruits Was Not Yeshua's Resurrection!

One of the biggest causes for confusion in understanding the shadow picture of First Fruits is the belief that Yeshua (Who **WAS** First Fruits) was **resurrected** on First Fruits.

But early on the first day of the week (remember that the day begins at sunset, so early isn't after midnight it's near or right after sunset) Mary meets Yeshua in the garden. When she finally recognizes Him, He tells her, "**Touch Me not (detain Me not); for I am not yet ascended to My Father...**" (John 20:17).

Yeshua was waiting in the garden for the precise moment of the waving of First Fruits (barley) grain. At that time, He and those saints who were resurrected with Him ascended to Heaven and were presented before the Throne, just at the moment of the waving of the grain! (Ps. 24:3-10, Matt. 27:52-53)

For more information on this, ask for the [His Sign](#) booklet.

Counting the Omer - continued from page 2

The barley is waved at First Fruits, which falls during the week of Unleavened Bread. This signifies the fact that before we can receive Pentecost, we must first be spiritually unleavened from sin. As Paul states so clearly in 1 Corinthians 5:7-8: "*Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.***"

But, the unleavening from sin that takes place at Passover is not the end of the story for the spiritual barley. The barley must then become LEAVENED with the spiritual leaven of the Kingdom of YHWH. This leavening is referred to in Matthew 13:33. "...*The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.*"

Why is leaven compared both to sin AND to the work of righteousness in our hearts? Because a small amount is sufficient to thoroughly infiltrate the entire lump of dough.

The "Counting of the Omer" is the period of time YHWH has given us to change leavens. We start out in the week of Unleavened Bread, focusing upon becoming fully unleavened from sin. Thus we see the barley sheaf being waved and the unleavened bread being eaten at the beginning of the Counting of the Omer. But, by the end of this important period we are to be unleavened no longer. For while we have been unleavened from known sin (James 4:17), we are now to be leavened with the Kingdom.

This is seen in the fact that two LEAVENED loaves of barley are presented as the offering of Pentecost. "*Ye shall bring out of your habitations **two wave loaves**... they shall be of fine flour; they shall be **baken with leaven**; they are the **firstfruits unto the LORD**" (Leviticus 23:17). The fact that these two loaves are barley loaves is given in 2 Kings 4:42. "*And there came a man... and brought the man of God **bread of the firstfruits**, twenty **loaves of barley**...*"*

Now, let's leave the symbol of the barley for a moment and look at another symbol for Pentecost – fire. An interesting fact is shown in Scripture relating to fire. When Cain and Abel offered sacrifices to YHWH, both were supposedly worshipping Him. Yet only one of them offered a sacrifice in obedience. Cain, angry that YHWH hadn't honored his worship slew his brother. Then YHWH spoke to Cain with a very interesting statement: "*And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? And why is thy countenance fallen? **If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?** and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door*" Genesis 4:6-7.

Why was Cain's sacrifice not accepted, while Abel's was consumed? Because Cain was disobedient! And when the sacrifice is acceptable (given in obedience to YHWH's expressed will) the fire will come! This is a vital point for all who truly seek the fire of Pentecost. For while the sacrifice of the Lamb certainly pointed Yeshua, there is another layer. As Paul wrote in Romans 12:1-2 "...*present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God... And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*"



The sealing process doesn't change fruit from peaches to pears. Nor does it take rotten fruit and make it good.

The Sealing process PRESERVES what IS!

This is spiritually true as well...

Counting the Omer - continued from page 3

And how are we to be transformed and living obediently? By knowing and prayerfully doing the will of YHWH as given so plainly in *Torah* (Genesis – Deuteronomy). It is especially timely to re-read the whole *Torah* during this time from First Fruits to Pentecost. And as we read it, we prayerfully seek to know where our lives are out of harmony with it. As it says in Psalm 119, *With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from Thy Commandments. Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not (have the strength not to) sin against thee. Blessed art Thou, O LORD: teach me Thy statutes*" (vs 10-12). This is how we become spiritually leavened with the Kingdom. And it is only when we are unleavened with sin and completely leavened with the Kingdom can we be acceptable living sacrifices.

But why has this period of time come to be called the "Counting of the Omer?" After all, this term isn't used in Scripture, at least not exactly in this way. The measurement for the barley was the omer (also spelled homer). And since it is the barley (the followers of YHWH who "ripen" first) that are being spiritually measured by Pentecost, the barley measurement system is being referenced. In Matthew 23:32, we see the term "measure" used in judgment. Thus, "Counting the Omer" refers to measuring the barley for 50 days. And in the end, if the barley loaves (represented also as YHWH's two saved candlesticks – Philadelphia and Smyrna) are acceptable, they can be spiritually presented to YHWH at *Shavuot* and will receive His gift of the Holy Spirit.

This is also known as the sealing process. In Isaiah 8:16 we are told that the Law (*Torah*) plays a vital part in the sealing process. "*Bind up the testimony, **seal the Law among My disciples.***" The process of sealing people is a bit like the process of sealing a jar of canned fruit. The sealing process doesn't change the fruit from peaches to pears. Nor does it take rotten fruit and make it good. The sealing process PRESERVES what IS!

In the same way, YHWH is looking for a people who will become fully obedient to His Law, so that He can seal the Law in their hearts for all eternity. As it says in 2 Chronicles 16:9 "*For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...*" See also Zechariah 4:10.

YHWH longs to bestow upon us the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:9-13). He has promised to send the Heavenly Fire, also known as the Latter Rain. He says, "*I will give you the rain... in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain*" Deuteronomy 11:14.

But there is a problem in our being able to fully receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit. We haven't fully counted the omer in our spiritual experience. As it says in Jeremiah 5:25, "*Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you.*"

Now the time of Counting the Omer is upon us again, and another Pentecost is coming "not many days hence..." Let's heed the instruction of Hosea 10:12 "*Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till He come and rain righteousness upon you.*" Only then can we "*Ask... of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain...*" (Zechariah 10:1).

Our Current Ministry Schedule

May-June, 2009 (calendar online also)

Sabbath Afternoon, May 2, 2009 - We will have a meeting from 1-5 PM in our home. We will enjoy a fellowship lunch (potluck style). The Bible study will be a Biblical archaeology DVD on the Sodom and Gomorrah find followed by a study on Colossians 2 by Mark Manfredine.

Sabbath Eve, May 8, 2009 - We will welcome in the Sabbath from 5:30-8:00 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a potluck supper of vegan soup, bread and salad. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study on the significance of the Sanctuary courtyard.

Sabbath Afternoon, May 16, 2009 - We will have a meeting from 1-5 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a fellowship lunch (potluck style). The Bible study will be a Biblical archaeology DVD on the Noah's Ark find followed by a study on the End Time significance of the Elisha (who follows Elijah) Message by Shauna Manfredine.

Sabbath Eve, May 22, 2009 - We will welcome in the Sabbath from 5:30-8:00 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a potluck supper of haystacks. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study on the significance of the Sanctuary Holy Place.

NEW MOON EVE, May 25, 2009 - We will welcome in the New Moon from 5:30-8:00 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a potluck supper of haystacks. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study on Matthew 15, Rabbinism and the Papal Template.

Pentecost Weekend, May 30-31, 2009 - We will be meeting in our Roseburg home starting at 10 AM on Sabbath, May 30. Please bring items for a potluck lunch (vegan) AND supper for both days. We will be spending a great deal of time in prayer throughout the two days as we ask for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We will have a morning Bible study with discussion, lead by Mark Manfredine; and an afternoon talk on the template in Acts and getting back to this primitive godliness. We'll also enjoy testimonies, praying, singing and seriously seeking the Latter Rain!

Ministry Schedule continued...

Sabbath Eve, June 5, 2009 - We will welcome in the Sabbath from 5:30-8:00 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a potluck supper. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study on the significance of the services and sacrifices of the Sanctuary.

Sabbath Afternoon, June 13, 2009 - Meeting from 1-5 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a fellowship lunch (potluck style). The Bible study will be a Biblical archaeology DVD on the Ark of the Covenant find followed by a study on the Priest of the Home role by Mark Manfredine.

Sabbath Eve, June 19, 2009 - We will welcome in the Sabbath from 5:30-8:00 PM in a location to be announced. We will enjoy a potluck supper. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study to conclude our study on the Sanctuary.

NEW MOON EVE, June 23, 2009 - We will have a meeting from 5:30-8:00 PM in our Roseburg Home. We will enjoy a potluck supper. The meal will be followed by song service and a Bible study titled: "Pack Your Bags, We're Moving to Jerusalem! – When?" by Shauna Manfredine

There will be no local meeting on the weekend of June 27.

World News & Liberty Threats

So much is happening in the world right now that we really can't do justice to it all in this small newsletter. For this reason, we have added this information to our website. This information can be found at www.lightedway.org (select **NEWS** from the top menu bar). Vital information on this page includes: End Game (full video), The Obama Deception (full video) and a recorded interview on Swine Flu as a lab-created bio-weapon. Visit this part of our website often as we'll keep adding things we think you'll want/need to know.

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Daniel's Prophecies – New Study Aids from Lighted Way Min.

At the Unleavened Bread Retreat this past April, Shauna Manfredine shared some final fulfillments of the prophetic timelines in Daniel. The material shared showed that ALL of the timelines would have a final fulfillment, based upon the following Scriptures:

The 1290 and 1335 Timelines Have an End-Time Fulfillment

Daniel 12:8-13 - "...O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end... And from the time that the daily [sacrifice] shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

The 2300 day Timeline Has an End-Time Fulfillment

Daniel 8:17 - "Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision."

The 490 day Timeline (70 Weeks) Has an End-Time Fulfillment

Daniel 9:24 - "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people... to bring in everlasting righteousness..."

Thus, these new study aids take the student through all the Daniel timelines, laying them together in a less-than traditional, but Scripturally based sequence of events. **Please note: as Shauna is careful to reiterate several times, these study aids focus on the FINAL fulfillment of these timelines (which is yet future), but is not intended to do away with past applications of these timelines.**

Available NEW Study Aids on Daniel's Timelines Include: a 24"x48" full color, vinyl poster (shown below) – Suggested donation is \$50.00 each (to cover printing costs) and the Daniel Timelines DVD Set (Studies explaining this timeline from this past retreat) – 6 DVD's at a Suggested Donation of \$40.00. Total Suggested Donation for all the New Study Aids on Daniel: \$90.00 + shipping

The infographic is a complex timeline titled "Prophetic Timeline of the Last Days". It features a central horizontal axis with arrows pointing right, labeled "Year 1" through "Year 5" and "18th Century". Key events are marked along this axis with vertical lines and text boxes. Major time periods are highlighted in colored boxes: "1290 Days" (Year 1-2), "1335 Days" (Year 2-3), "490 Days" (Year 4), "2300 Days" (Year 5), and "1260 Days" (Year 5-6). The infographic includes numerous small images, icons, and text boxes explaining specific prophecies and their fulfillment. A section at the bottom left is titled "10 Keys to Identifying the Little Horn - From Daniel 7" and lists ten points. Another section at the bottom right is titled "THE TWO WITNESSES" and includes a quote from Revelation 11:1-6. The overall design is vibrant with various colors and fonts, making it a detailed and visually engaging study aid.