

Lighted Way Ministries

Study Guide

God's Holy Days: Past, Present, Future...



Sabbath *Through* *the* Ages



KEY POINT



God's Law (*Torah*) is the first five books of the Bible, which are: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, & Deuteronomy. God's Law is made up of parts (Psalms 19:7-8). These include:

- The Commandments (the 10 Commandments of Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5).
- The Statutes (the 613 Statutes give "fineprint" details which deepen our understanding of the Ten Commandments).
- The Testimony (the stories of the patriarchs who were obedient to *Yahweh's* Torah).
- The Judgments (the blessings or cursings - contained in the *Torah* - for obedience or disobedience to the *Torah*.)

The Feasts of *Yahweh*, listed in Leviticus chapter 23, are among the Statutes of the *Torah*. (See Leviticus 16:31; Leviticus 23:14, 21, 31 and verse 41.)

It is often believed that keeping the Feasts of *Yahweh* ended when Christ died on the Cross. After Calvary, it is no longer God's Will for His people to keep the Feasts, which are also known as the annual Sabbaths. When Christ died, putting an end to animals sacrifices, most think that it was *Yahweh's* Will for Feast-keeping to be nailed to the Cross as well.

Now, Feast-keeping is largely viewed as a "Jewish" thing. With such a classification, the annual Sabbaths - and even the Seventh-day Sabbath - seem to have no place in post-Calvary Christianity. After all, the Jews have not embraced *Yahshua* as their Messiah. Thus, they cannot be expected to understand that His Death put an end to "sacrificial" activities like Feast-keeping.

This commonly held belief seems Scripturally justified, through the

writings of Paul. But, as we addressed in our previous lesson, Paul's writings have been terribly twisted and horribly misunderstood. They can only be rightly interpreted by viewing them through the "lens" of the Law, by which all Truth must be tested (Isaiah 8:20).

Prior to that, in lesson 2, we also saw that just because an idea is popular doesn't make it right. So what is the Truth about the Feasts of *Yahweh*? Are they Jewish? Were they done away with at the Cross with the Sacrificial system? Or is this yet another commonly-held, Christian myth, which goes against the Will and Word of *Yahweh*? To Scripturally respond to these questions, we will address them in this lesson one by one.

Why Keeping the Feasts Cannot be "Jewish"

First, the Scripture does not refer to the annual Sabbaths as "Jewish". The title of ownership over them is one that *Yahweh* claims Himself:

"And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the Children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the Feasts of Yahweh, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are My Feasts,"

Leviticus 23:1-2

Restoring God's People to keeping the Feasts - and all the Statutes of Torah - is the End-time Elijah Message!

"Remember ye the Law of Moses (*Torah*) My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the Statutes (*Feasts are listed among the Statutes*) and Judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of *Yahweh*..."

Malachi 4:4-6



Next, in order for the Feasts to be “Jewish” (and thereby only meant for “Jews”), there needs to be Scriptural proof that they were given exclusively to the “Jews”. But, this simply isn’t the case. The term “Jew” came from the name Judah. Thus, for something to be “Jewish” it had to have come from Judah or his descendancy. But, actually the Feasts of *Yahweh* were given long before Judah was even born. And, as we will see in the Scriptures, all the righteous Patriarchs kept the Feasts of *Yahweh* from Creation onward.

When the Children of Israel were in the Wilderness, Moses not only kept the Commandments and Statutes, he also instructed *Yahweh*’s people to always keep them.



“Therefore thou shalt love Yahweh thy God, and keep His Charge, and His Statutes, and His Judgments, and His Commandments, always.”

Deuteronomy 11:1

Since the Commands to keep the Feasts were first written by Moses, many have assumed God’s Divine Appointment Days were first given at Mount Sinai. But Scripture records them being kept long before Israel camped at Mount Sinai. Notably also, there is evidence that God’s people were teaching non-Hebrew people to keep them.

Consider the story of Joseph, who lived in Egypt some 430 years prior to the Mount Sinai experience.



“Blow the trumpet in the New Moon, in the Time Appointed, on our solemn Feast Day... This He ordained in Joseph for a testimony when he went out through the land of Egypt.” Psalms 81:3-5

After being appointed as second-in-command under Pharaoh, Scripture tells us that Joseph not only kept *Yahweh*’s Feasts, but that he proclaimed them throughout Egypt, to the heathen Egyptians!

Clearly the Feasts are older than Sinai and they were meant for everyone, not just the literal descendants of Abraham.

Abraham, the Father of the Faithful, kept God's Commandments and Statutes. Doing so was what it meant to be a keeper of *Yahweh's* Covenant.

"Because that Abraham obeyed My Voice, and kept My Charge, My Commandments, My Statutes, and My Laws." Genesis 26:5

Yahshua Himself once said that the true mark of Israel - those who are the saved "Seed of Abraham" and will inherit the ultimate Promised Land - was to do the "works of Abraham". Clearly, by God's Grace, these faith-demonstrating "works" include *Torah* obedience.

It is interesting to find suggestions of *Yahweh's* Feasts in the Bible story of Sodom and Gomorrah. Scripture tells us that Lot fed his angel-visitors unleavened bread (Genesis 19:3). This was a food eaten during the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Exodus 13:6-10).

Unleavened Bread was not normally eaten, making it necessary for *Yahweh* to command His people to change their eating habits during



KEY POINT



The Seventh-day Sabbath is the FIRST of *Yahweh's* Feast Days. This is why it appears first in the holy Days, listed in Leviticus Chapter 23. All of the Holy Days are shadows of prophetic events, including the Seventh-day - which foreshadows the ultimate Jubilee.

this holy week. Notably, this suggests that the Fire of Judgment fell upon Sodom and Gomorrah during *Yahweh's* Feast of Unleavened Bread.

But the *Torah* - including His holy Feasts - wasn't just known and kept in the time of Abraham. God's Laws and holy Days were known and kept all the way back to Creation itself, which is where *Yahweh* first gave every one of His holy Sabbaths, both weekly and annual.

The Sabbaths and Feasts were Given Before Sin!







What Scriptural proof can we find to show the Sabbaths (annual included) being given at Creation - before sin? Genesis 1:14 is where *Yahweh* tells us His Purpose in making the heavenly lights (sun, moon, and stars). Here we find that *Yahweh* made the heavenly lights to herald His “seasons”.

This is not a reference to winter, spring, summer and fall. The word “seasons” in this verse is translated from the Hebrew word “*mo-edim*”. This is the same Hebrew word, which is translated as “feasts” in Leviticus chapter 23. In fact, this meaning is made very clear in many Bible translations of this verse:









“Let them (the heavenly lights) be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and for years.” Genesis 1:14 (KJV)

“...for festivals, and for seasons, and years.” Genesis 1:14 (New English Version)

The Feasts

SPRING FEASTS			
FEASTS of LEVITICUS 23	Passover	Unleavened Bread (UB)	First Fruits
			
	14 th Day of <i>Abib</i> <i>Lev. 23:5</i>	15 th -21 st Days of <i>Abib</i> <i>Lev. 23:6-8</i>	Day after 7 th Day during UB <i>Lev.23:10-11</i>
			
CHRIST'S WORK	Christ, our Passover is Sacrificed	Christ, our Living Bread (<i>the Word</i>)	Christ, our Resurrection & Life
LESSON	Salvation	Examination	Reformation
	Accept <i>Yahshua's</i> Sacrifice	Turn from darkness unto Light	New Life in Christ - 144,000
FUTURE	<i>Yahshua</i> will keep Passover with us in His Kingdom - <i>Luke 22:15-16</i>	Unleavening - the Sanctification of the Saints - 1 Corinthians 5:7-8	The 144,000 are the First Fruits in <i>Yahshua's</i> Pattern - <i>Revelation 14:3-5</i>

(mo-edim) of Yahweh

<p>To rightly determine the timing of Pentecost</p> <p><i>(The Feast of Weeks),</i></p> <p>count 7 weekly Sabbaths from First Fruits</p> <p><i>(the day after the 7th-Day Sabbath which falls during the Unleavened Bread week).</i></p> <p>The day after the 7th Sabbath</p> <p><i>(from First Fruits)</i></p> <p>is the 50th Day - This is Pentecost.</p> <p>Leviticus 23:10-16</p>	<p>3rd MONTH</p>	<p>From the first new moon of the year</p> <p><i>(or first day of Abib, which falls in March-April on a modern calendar),</i></p> <p>count to the 7th New Moon. The day after the 7th New Moon is sighted is the Feast of Trumpets.</p>	FALL FEASTS		
	Pentecost		Feast of Trumpets	Day of Atonement	Feast of Tabernacles
					
	50 th Day from First Fruits <i>Lev.23:15-16</i>		1 st Day of the 7 th Month (New Moon) <i>Lev.23:24-25</i>	10 th Day of the 7 th Month <i>Lev.23:27-32</i>	15 th - 22 nd Days of the 7 th Month <i>Lev.23:34-36</i>
					
	Early Rain - Outpouring in Acts 2		God's Last Call (like Egypt Plagues)	Atonement of the Saints Complete	Yahshua's 2 nd Coming
	Inspiration		Intercession	Restoration	Consummation
	Latter Rain - Outpouring Last Days		The Saints Interceed - Joel 2:17	Judgment Day	Marriage Supper of the Lamb
	Final Outpouring of the Holy Spirit - 1 Corinthians 5:7-8		Trumpet plagues of Leviticus 26 Fall <i>(followed by 7 last plagues)</i> - Leviticus 26:14-18	Probation closes for the world - all are sealed/ marked - Revelation 22:11-12	Yahshua Returns on the 1st day of Tabernacles... 8 th Day Supper - Revelation 19:7-9

*“Let them serve for the time when days, years, and **religious festivals** begin.”* Genesis 1:14 (Good News Bible)

The only “religious festivals” (feast days) which were present when *Yahweh* created the then-sinless earth were *Yahweh’s* holy Festivals - His Feasts. And since *Yahweh’s* feasts pre-date sin, how is it possible to think that *Yahshua’s* Death put an end to them? And there is much more. But before we go any further, let us pause to identify the Feasts of *Yahweh*, which He created the heavenly lights to herald (show the timing of).

What are the holy Feasts of *Yahweh*?

The Feasts of *Yahweh* are all listed in Leviticus Chapter 23. Notably, *Yahweh’s* Feasts have all “been replaced” by “holidays”, which come from the ancient Babylonian, pagan system of sun worship (as is shown in the info-graphic on the next page, and as will be shown, in detail, in the next lesson). *Yahweh’s* Feasts are (in order):

The Seventh-day Sabbath - which is the seventh day in the weekly cycle, paganly named as “Saturday”.

Passover - the 14th day of the first month (Hebrew name *Abib*), which

is 14 days after the night when the first new moon is sighted (after *Tekufah* - the end of the biblical year). Passover is not Biblically called a “Sabbath”, or day of rest.

Unleavened Bread - the first day of Unleavened Bread is the 15th day of *Abib*. Scripture tells us that this Feast lasts 7 days (*Abib* 15-21). The first and last days of Unleavened Bread are Biblically given as days of rest. But Exodus does say that we may cook food on these two Unleavened Bread Sabbaths, which is unusual for Biblical days of rest.

“Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread... And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner

KEY POINT



The word “Armageddon” refers to the supernatural Last Battle between God and His Kingdom and Satan and his kingdom (Rev. 16:16). The word “Armageddon” comes from two words “Har” and “Megiddo”. These words in Hebrew are “*Mo-ed* Mountain”. Since *Yahweh’s* holy Days are called *Mo’edim* (plural for *Mo’ed*), the name Armageddon suggests that the battle lines of this final conflict are drawn by Who we worship and the days we keep.