



Bible Study

Feast!

Matthew Kneisler

September 2006

Leviticus 23:4 " These are the LORD's appointed feasts, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times:

Colossians 2:17 These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

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Emphasis in bold is mine, throughout this document.

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1.0 Introduction to Feast!

What are the Festivals of God? The original Hebrew word was “mowed” (מוֹעֵד) which means “Appointed Time”. Why haven’t I heard of these feasts? Most likely you have heard of God’s feasts, but probably did not know it!

Have you heard of Christ, the Pascal Lamb, or the Passover Lamb? Christ’s death and sacrifice occurred on the precise day of Passover. There is no coincidence that the Exodus Passover and the sacrifice of Christ happened at the same time.

Why was the birthday of the church on Pentecost? Why were Christian believers gathered on Pentecost? Why did they receive the Holy Spirit on that special day?

Why are the Feasts tied to harvest times in the bible lands?



You will find all of God’s Feasts, or His Holy Days have a very deep purpose and are full of symbolism which focuses on Christ and God’s plan of salvation for man.

I hope that you enjoy your study, deepen your knowledge of God, and see how He plans to redeem man from his sins and gather man back to His Eternal glorious Kingdom.

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1.1 Introduction

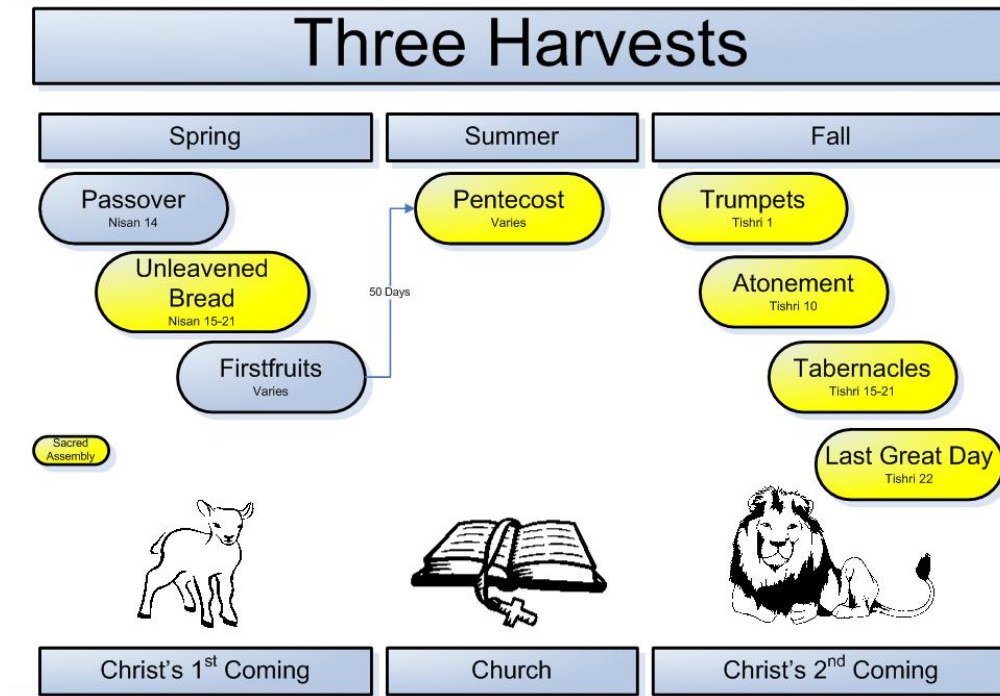
God's command to ancient Israel is to celebrate a series of appointed times or feasts:

Exodus 23:14 "Three times a year you are to celebrate a festival to me.

Leviticus 23:4 "These are the LORD's appointed feasts, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times:

The feasts occur during three periods during the year which are associated with three yearly harvests: spring, summer and fall. Here is a list of all the feasts and some of their Christian meaning:

Feasts of God



Festival Season	Feast	Date	Sacred Assembly	Verse	Description
	Sabbath		Yes 7 th day of each week.	Leviticus 23:3 "There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest , a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a Sabbath to the LORD.	God rested from His work; this is our commanded day to rest.

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Festival Season	Feast	Date	Sacred Assembly	Verse	Description
1 – Spring	Passover (Pesach)	Nisan 14	No	Leviticus 23:5 The LORD's Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month.	Passover symbolize redemption. Messiah the Passover Lamb would be sacrificed for us.
1 – Spring	Unleavened Bread	Nisan 15-21	Yes 1 st and 7 th days.	Leviticus 23:6 On the fifteenth day of that month the LORD's Feast of Unleavened Bread begins; for seven days you must eat bread made without yeast. ⁷ On the first day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. ⁸ For seven days present an offering made to the LORD by fire. And on the seventh day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work.' "	Unleavened Bread symbolizes sanctification. Messiah's body would not decay in the grave.
1 – Spring	Firstfruits	Nisan 16	No	Leviticus 23:11 He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath.	Firstfruits symbolize resurrection. Messiah would rise triumphantly from the grave on the third day.
2 - Summer	Pentecost (Shavuot)	Sivan 6 (Varies)	Yes	Leviticus 23:15 " 'From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, count off seven full weeks. ¹⁶ Count off fifty days up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD.	Weeks/ Shavuot symbolize origination. Messiah would send the Holy Spirit to inaugurate the New Covenant and Church Age.

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Festival Season	Feast	Date	Sacred Assembly	Verse	Description
3 - Fall	Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)	Tishri 1	Yes	Leviticus 23:24 "Say to the Israelites: 'On the first day of the seventh month you are to have a day of rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts. ' ²⁵ Do no regular work, but present an offering made to the LORD by fire.' "	Trumpets/ Rosh Hashanah points to the future day when the Messiah returns to rescue the righteous (Rapture) and judge the wicked.
3 - Fall	Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Tishri 10	Yes	Leviticus 23:27 " The tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. Hold a sacred assembly and deny yourselves, [d] and present an offering made to the LORD by fire." ²⁸ Do no work on that day, because it is the Day of Atonement, when atonement is made for you before the LORD your God.	Yom Kippur/ Day of Atonement points to the future day when Israel repents of her sins and turns to the Messiah for salvation.
3 - Fall	Tabernacles (Sukkoth)	Tishri 15-21	Yes 1 st Day	Leviticus 23:33 The LORD said to Moses, ³⁴ "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's Feast of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days. ' ³⁵ The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. ³⁶ For seven days present offerings made to the LORD by fire, and on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly and present an offering made to the LORD by fire. It is the closing assembly; do no regular work.	Tabernacles/Sukko t points to the future day when the Messiah sets up the messianic Kingdom and tabernacles among men.

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Festival Season	Feast	Date	Sacred Assembly	Verse	Description
3 - Fall	Last Great Day	Tishri 22	Yes	Leviticus 23:33 The LORD said to Moses, ³⁴ "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's Feast of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days. ³⁵ The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. ³⁶ For seven days present offerings made to the LORD by fire, and on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly and present an offering made to the LORD by fire. It is the closing assembly; do no regular work.	The Last Great Day points to the future day when the Messiah shares the Holy Spirit with the rest of mankind.

1.2 History

Jesus and the prophets attended the feasts. Even the early church kept the feasts of God. Here is a little history of the early church and brief description on what happened to the observance of the Feasts of God.

1.2.1 The Feast in Jesus' Day

John 7:1 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life. ²But when the Jewish **Feast of Tabernacles** was near, ³Jesus' brothers said to him, "You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles you do. ⁴No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

John 7:37 **On the last and greatest day of the Feast [Tabernacles]**, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as[c] the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

John 11:54 Therefore Jesus no longer moved about publicly among the Jews. Instead he withdrew to a region near the desert, to a village called Ephraim, where he stayed with his disciples. ⁵⁵When it was almost **time for the Jewish Passover**, many went up from the country to Jerusalem for their ceremonial cleansing before the Passover. ⁵⁶They kept looking for Jesus, and as they stood in the temple area they asked one another, "What

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do you think? Isn't he coming to the Feast at all?"⁵⁷ But the chief priests and Pharisees had given orders that if anyone found out where Jesus was, he should report it so that they might arrest him.

John 13:1 It was just **before the Passover Feast**. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.[a]

1.2.2 The Feast for the Early Church

Acts 2:1 **When the day of Pentecost came**, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 20:16 Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus to avoid spending time in the province of Asia, for he was in a hurry to reach Jerusalem, **if possible, by the day of Pentecost**.

Acts 27:9 Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after **the Fast [Day of Atonement]**. So Paul warned them, ¹⁰"Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also."

1 Corinthians 5:7 Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸Therefore let us **keep the Festival [Unleavened Bread]**, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 16:8 But I will stay on at Ephesus **until Pentecost**, ⁹because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

1.2.3 The Feast in Church History

Since Jesus kept the feast and the early church kept the feast, and Jesus commanded us to obey everything He commanded, why don't Christians keep the Feasts of God today?

Matthew 4:4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, **but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.**'[a]"

Matthew 28:20 and teaching them to **obey everything I have commanded you**. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Hebrews 5:9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation **for all who obey him**

1 John 2:3 We know that we have come to know him **if we obey his commands**.

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Here is a summary from The Heart of Wisdom website which summarizes this history: [<http://biblicaholidays.com/Excerpts/What%20happened.htm>]

First Century Church

In the first century there were literally hundreds of thousands of believing Jews (Acts 2:41, 47, 4:4, 6:7, 9:31, 21:20). Scripture tells us the apostles and the early church continued to celebrate the holidays with the new realization of the symbolism of Christ.

Very few Gentiles converted before Peter and Paul were sent out. When God miraculously showed the believing Jews that Jesus was the Messiah for both Jew and Gentile alike, then Gentiles from every nation began to pour into this Jewish faith. The followers of Christ, whether Jewish or Gentile, were seen as one family. Both considered themselves part of Israel. The Gentiles saw themselves as grafted into Israel (Romans 11), not replacing Israel. The word Christian was not used until a.d. 42 in Antioch (Acts 11:26). Later it was adopted to set apart Jews believing in Jesus and unbelieving Jews. Ultimately it became an identity for the entire Church.

Paul makes it clear that Gentiles who trust in Jesus become children of God, are equal partners with believing Jews in the Body of the Messiah, and are declared righteous by God without their having to adopt any further Jewish distinctives (Rom. 3:22-23, 29-30; 4:9-12; 10:12; 11:32; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 2:11-22; 3:6; Col. 3:11) (Stern, 1992).

Second Century Church

By the second century the Gentiles had taken control of the church, and there started the process of removing Jewish influences referred to as de-Judaizing. There was a growing spirit of resentment of the non-believing Jews and all Jewish customs. The first seeds of anti-Semitism were sown. As the church grew, it became increasingly Hellenized (Greek) and Latinized (Roman). The Gentile-dominated Church celebrated the Lord's resurrection, but to distance Christianity from Judaism they changed the resurrection date from the Jewish calendar from the third day of Passover, to Sunday this is how Easter became separated from Passover.

Fourth Century

By the time of the Council of Nicea (325 a.d.), Constantine, Emperor of Rome, claimed conversion to Christianity and considered himself the leader in the Christian church. Things changed drastically for the Gentile believers. Gentile believers were no longer persecuted. It became an economic advantage to be a Christian. Constantine also supported paganism with Christianity. In 314 he placed the symbol of the cross on his coins with the marks of Sol Invictus and Mars Conservator. Constantine retained the title of chief priest of the state cult until he died.

Under Constantine things got better for the believing gentiles; however, now the Christians persecuted the Jews. The Jews who accepted Jesus as the Messiah were forced to give up all ties with Judaism, Jewish practices, Jewish friends and anything Jewish. Constantine issued laws forbidding Jewish believers to keep Saturday as Sabbath, circumcise their children, celebrate Passover, etc. The punishments included imprisonment and even death. Constantine replaced the Biblical Holidays with alternative forms of celebrations adopted from other religions.

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The Jewish New Testament Commentary reports that the Jewish believers were told to ignore the way commanded by Moses or they could not be saved! "You Messianic Jews should not separate yourselves from us Gentile Christians by having Messianic synagogues! Don't you know that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek? So be like us, give up your Jewish distinctives, stop observing the Torah and the Jewish holidays, put all that behind you; and worship with us in our Gentile-oriented congregations, living our Gentile lifestyle. The misuse is in concluding that because there is no distinction in God's sight between the forensic righteousness of believing Gentiles and of believing Jews, therefore Jews are prohibited from observing God-given commandments. Such a conclusion defies both logic and the practice of the early believers.

The anti-Semitic attitude toward the Jews flourished. During the Middle Ages, bands of Crusaders destroyed many Jewish communities. The raiders demanded the Jews convert but the majority preferred to die for their faith. In the late thirteenth century half of the world's Jewish population were living in Western Europe, over five hundred thousand. By 1500 there were no more than 150,000 Jews in this region due to riots, plagues and expulsions.

1.3 Time

To understand God's timetable, we must forget ours! The method of reckoning time has changed by worldly politics since the time of Christ. As such, we can not understand times and months in the bible if we retain the concepts of our current system.



1.3.1 A Day

Our modern world starts each new day in the middle of the dark of night known as "midnight". At this time, our clocks indicate 12:00 AM or 00:00 on a 24 hour clock.

However, God's design for the start of a new day starts at sunset!

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Genesis 1:5 God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." **And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.**

God repeats this cycle for a total of seven days. If you notice the consistency, you will see: **And there was evening, and there was morning—the “_____” day.** Fill in the blank with the day of the week.

In each case, the beginning of darkness preceded the end of daylight to complete one day. So a day in the bible is reckoned from sunset to sunset!

This same type of reckoning is used by Jewish [Hebrew] households. They hold true to this method of time keeping since God gave it to Moses.

1.3.1.1 Man names the day



In the bible, each day of the week does not have a name! It is only known by its numerical sequence also as indicated by the first chapter of Genesis.

Today, the names for days of the week originate from Greek, Roman or Germanic gods.

The Greeks named the days week after the sun, the moon and the five known planets, which were in turn named after the gods Ares, Hermes, Zeus, Aphrodite, and Cronus. The Greeks called the days of the week the *Theon hemerai* "days of the Gods".

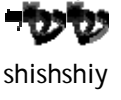
The Romans substituted their equivalent gods for the Greek gods, Mars, Mercury, Jove (Jupiter), Venus, and Saturn. (The two pantheons are very similar.)

The Germanic peoples generally substituted roughly similar gods for the Roman gods, Tiu (Tiwia), Woden, Thor, Freya (Fria), but did not substitute Saturn.

Bible	Hebrew	Old English	Middle English	Latin	Ancient Greek
First	 'echad	<i>sun(n)andæg</i> "day of the sun"	<i>son(e)(n)day</i> or <i>sun(nen)day</i>	<i>dies solis</i> "day of the sun"	<i>hemera heli(o)u,</i> "day of the sun"
Second	 shenyi	<i>mon(an)dæg</i> "day of the moon"	<i>monday</i> or <i>mone(n)day</i>	<i>dies lunae</i> "day of the moon"	<i>hemera selenes</i> "day of the moon"

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Bible	Hebrew	Old English	Middle English	Latin	Ancient Greek
Third	 sh@liyshiy	<i>tiwesdæg</i> "Tiw's (Tiu's) day"	<i>tiwesday</i> or <i>tewesday</i>	<i>dies Martis</i> "day of Mars"	<i>hemera Areos</i> "day of Ares"
Fourth	 r@biy`iy	<i>wodnesdæg</i> "Woden's day"	<i>wodnesday</i> , <i>wednesday</i> , or <i>wednesdai</i>	<i>dies Mercurii</i> "day of Mercury"	<i>hemera Hermu</i> "day of Hermes"
Fifth	 chamiyshiy	<i>thursdæg</i>	<i>thur(e)sday</i>	<i>dies Jovis</i> "day of Jupiter"	<i>hemera Dios</i> "day of Zeus".
Sixth	 shishshiy	<i>frigedæg</i> "Freya's day" composed of <i>Frige</i> (genitive singular of <i>Freo</i>) + <i>dæg</i> "day" (most likely)	<i>fridai</i>	<i>dies Veneris</i> "Venus's day"	<i>hemera Aphrodites</i> "day of Aphrodite"
Seventh (Rest)	 sh@biy`iy שבת shabath	<i>sæter(nes)dæg</i> "Saturn's day"	<i>saterday</i>	<i>dies Saturni</i> "day of Saturn"	<i>hemera Khronu</i> "day of Cronus"

NOTE: The Romance languages, Old High German and German, and the Slavic languages have words for Saturday that are derived from the Hebrew [Sabbath](#), via late Greek *Sambaton*.

1.3.2 Parts of a Day

To understand the reckoning of the "time of day" we need to consider how it was viewed back then. The time of day, known as an hour, is similar to our word, but the start with the "first hour of daylight" which is at 7AM.

Bible - Hour	Today	Verse
First	7 AM	
Second	8 AM	
Third	9 AM	Mark 15:24 And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. ²⁵ It was the third hour when they crucified him.

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Bible - Hour	Today	Verse
Fourth	10 AM	
Fifth	11AM	
Sixth	12 PM	<p>Mark 15:32 Let this Christ,[b] this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him. ³³At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour.</p> <p>John 4:6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.</p> <p>John 19:14 It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.</p> <p>Acts 10:9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: [KJV]</p>
Seventh	1 PM	<p>John 4:50 Jesus replied, "You may go. Your son will live." The man took Jesus at his word and departed. ⁵¹While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. ⁵²When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, "The fever left him yesterday at the seventh hour."</p>
Eight	2 PM	
Ninth	3 PM	<p>Mark 15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"</p> <p>Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. [KJV]</p> <p>Acts 10:2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. ³He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. [KJV]</p>
Tenth	4 PM	<p>John 1:38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹"Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour.</p>
Eleventh	5 PM	<p>Matthew 20:9 The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. ¹¹When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.</p>
Twelfth	6 PM	
First of night	7 PM	

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Bible - Hour	Today	Verse
Second of night	8 PM	
Third of night	9 PM	Acts 23:23 And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night; [KJV]

Another designation of time was called a “watch” and it consisted of 3 hours.

Old Testament - Watch	New Testament - Watch	Today	Verse
First	First	6PM – 9PM	
	Second	9PM - midnight	Lamentations 2:19 Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin ; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street.
Middle	Third	Midnight – 3AM	Luke 12:38 It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. ³⁹ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."
Last or Morning	Fourth	3AM- 6AM	Exodus 14:24 During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. Matthew 14:25 During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

1.3.3 Calendar

To reckon the time of the bible, you will need to know the difference between our modern calendar and that of the bible. Here is a discussion on the Gregorian and Hebrew calendars.

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1.3.3.1 Gregorian Calendar

The calendar we use to day is known as the Gregorian calendar. Here is an excerpt from Wikipedia on the subject [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gregorian_calendar]:

The **Gregorian calendar** is the [calendar](#) that is used nearly everywhere in the world. A modification of the [Julian calendar](#), it was first proposed by the [Calabrian](#) doctor [Aloysius Lilius](#), and was decreed by [Pope Gregory XIII](#), for whom it was named, on [24 February 1582](#) via the [papal bull Inter gravissimas](#). Its years are numbered per the perceived birth year of [Jesus Christ](#), which is labeled the "[anno Domini](#)" era. This era was created in the [6th century](#) by [Roman monk Dionysius Exiguus](#).



Used with permission from Wikipedia

The Gregorian Calendar was devised both because the mean [year](#) in the Julian Calendar was slightly too long, causing the [vernal equinox](#) to slowly drift backwards in the [calendar year](#), and because the lunar calendar used to [compute the date of Easter](#) had grown conspicuously in error as well.

The Gregorian solar calendar is an arithmetical calendar. It counts days as the basic unit of time, grouping them into years of 365 or 366 days. The calendar repeats completely every 146,097 days, the cycle consisting of 400 years, of which 303, the "common years", have 365 days, and 97, the leap years, have 366 days. This gives an average year length of exactly 365.2425 days.

A Gregorian year is divided into twelve "months". Despite the name these are not synchronised with the phases of the Moon; the terminology derives from the Roman calendar that preceded the Julian calendar. The twelve months are of irregular lengths:

Number	Name	Days
1	January	31
2	February	28 or 29
3	March	31
4	April	30
5	May	31
6	June	30

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Number	Name	Days
7	July	31
8	August	31
9	September	30
10	October	31
11	November	30
12	December	31

1.3.3.2 Hebrew Calendar

The calendar of the bible is the Hebrew Calendar. It is based upon the lunar cycle. Here is an excerpt from Wikipedia on the subject

[\[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebrew_calendar\]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebrew_calendar):

The Hebrew calendar (Hebrew: **ירבעה חולה**) or Jewish calendar is the annual calendar used in Judaism. It determines the dates of the Jewish holidays, the appropriate Torah portions for public reading, Yahrzeits (the date to commemorate the death of a relative), and the specific daily Psalms which some customarily read. Two major forms of the calendar have been used: an observational form used prior to the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE, and based on witnesses observing the phase of the moon, and a rule-based form first fully described by Maimonides in 1178 CE, which was adopted over a transition period between 70 and 1178.



The "modern" form is a rule-based lunisolar calendar, akin to the Chinese calendar, measuring months defined in lunar cycles as well as years measured in solar cycles, and distinct from the purely lunar Islamic calendar and the almost entirely solar Gregorian calendar. Because of the roughly 11 day difference between twelve lunar months and one solar year, the calendar repeats in a Metonic 19-year cycle of 235 lunar months, with an extra lunar month added once every two or three years, for a total of seven times every nineteen years. As the Hebrew calendar was developed in the region east of the Mediterranean Sea, references to seasons reflect the times and climate of the Northern Hemisphere.

#	Name	Hebrew	Agriculture	Feast	Days	Aproximate Month
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#	Name	Hebrew	Agriculture	Feast	Days	Aproximate Month
1	Nisan	ניסן	Barley harvest begins in sub-tropical plain of Jericho and in the Jordan Valley; wheat coming into ear. Uplands brilliant with short-lived verdure and flowers.	Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits	30	March - April
2	Iyar	אייר	Principal harvest month in lower districts. "Barley harvest" general. Wheat and apricots ripen. In Jordan valley, hot winds burn up vegetation.		29	April - May
3	Sivan	סיון	Wheat harvest begins in upland districts. Almonds ripe. Grapes begin to ripen. Honey in Jordan valley collected in May-June.	Pentecost	30	May - June
4	Tammuz	תמוז	Wheat harvest in highest districts. Various fruits ripe. Elsewhere the country is parched, dry, and hard, with withered stalks and burnt grass.		29	June - July
5	Av	אב	Main fruit month. Grapes, figs, walnuts, and olives, etc. (Lev 26:5).		30	July - August
6	Elul	אלול	Harvest of doura and maize. Cotton and pomegranate ripen.		29	August - September
7	Tishrei	תשרי	Plowing and sowing begin (Prov 20:4; Eccl 11:4) Cotton harvest. Ever-flowing streams	Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles	30	September - October
8	Cheshvan	חשוון	Wheat and barley planted. Rice harvest. Fig tree full of fruit. Orange and citron blossom. Almost all vegetation has gone.		29 or 30	October - November
9	Kislev	כסלו	The plains and desserts gradually become green pastures.		30 or 29	November - December
10	Tevet	טבת	Mild winters support the growth of such crops as dates, bananas, and citrus fruits.		29	December - January
11	Shevat	שבט	In warmer and sheltered localities almond and peach trees blossom. Oranges ripen.		30	January - February

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#	Name	Hebrew	Agriculture	Feast	Days	Aproximate Month
12	Adar I	אָדָר			30	February - March
13	Adar / Adar II	אָדָר			29	

Each of the Hebrew months starts with a “new moon”. Review the following table and graphic help to illustrate this important relationship. Remember that this represents the view from the northern hemisphere.




Used with permission from Wikipedia

Moon Phase	Image	Description	Lunar Day
Dark		Not visible	0
New		Not visible, or traditionally: first visible crescent of the Moon	1
Waxing Crescent		Right 1-49% visible	3-4
First Quarter		Right 50% visible	8
Waxing gibbous		Right 51-99% visible	11-12
Full		Fully visible	15
Waning gibbous		Left 51-99% visible	18-19
Third Quarter		Left 50% visible	22

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Moon Phase	Image	Description	Lunar Day
Waning Crescent		Left 1-49% visible	25-26
New		Not visible	30

So, by viewing a full moon, you will know it is the middle of the month! This is the calendar that God designed.

See God's Holy Days website for a Gregorian to Hebrew calendar converter:
[<http://www.godsholydays.com/>]

Here is a list of the feast dates for our calendar!

Feast	God's Holy Days, High Sabbaths - Gregorian Calendar									
	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
Passover	Apr 12	Wed	Apr 2	Mon	Apr 19	Sat	Apr 8	Wed	Mar 29	Mon
Unleavened 1st	Apr 13	Thu	Apr 3	Tue	Apr 20	Sun	Apr 9	Thu	Mar 30	Tue
Unleavened 7th	Apr 19	Wed	Apr 9	Mon	Apr 26	Sat	Apr 15	Wed	Apr 5	Mon
Pentecost	Jun 4	Sun	May 27	Sun	Jun 8	Sun	May 31	Sun	May 23	Sun
Trumpets	Sep 23	Sat	Sep 13	Thu	Sep 30	Tue	Sep 19	Sat	Sep 9	Thu
Atonement	Oct 2	Mon	Sep 22	Sat	Oct 9	Thu	Sep 28	Mon	Sep 18	Sat
Tabernacles	Oct 7	Sat	Sep 27	Thu	Oct 14	Tue	Oct 3	Sat	Sep 23	Thu
Last Great Day	Oct 14	Sat	Oct 4	Thu	Oct 21	Tue	Oct 10	Sat	Sep 30	Thu









Each feast day starts the previous evening at sunset.

1.3.4 The Feasts

Now that we more clearly understand the time reference of the bible, we can more clearly understand the time element of God's Feasts. Here is another look at the Feasts with some word comparison and pronunciation. It is also important to note which days are sacred assemblies.

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Festival Season	English	Date	Moon	Sacred Assembly	Bible	Bible Pronunciation	Today
	Sabbath			Yes 7 th day of each week.	שבת	shabbath	Shabbat
1 - Spring	Passover	Nisan 14		No	פסח	Pecach	Pesach
1 - Spring	Unleavened Bread	Nisan 15-21		Yes 1 st and 7 th days.	מצה	matstsah	Hag HaMatzah
1 - Spring	Firstfruits	Nisan 16 (Varies)		No	בכור יום	yowm bikkuwr	Yom HaBikkurim
2 - Summer	Pentecost	Sivan 6 (Varies)		Yes			Shavuot
3 - Fall	Trumpets	Tishri 1		Yes	רועה יום	yowm teruwah	Rosh Hashana
3 - Fall	Atonement	Tishri 10		Yes	כפר יום	yowm kippur	Yom Kippur
3 - Fall	Tabernacles	Tishri 15-21		Yes 1 st Day	סכה	cukkah	Sukkoth
3 - Fall	Last Great Day	Tishri 22		Yes			Shemini Atzeret

1.4 Funding the Feast

Since God commanded that each person was to present themselves “three times” before the Lord, how would they pay for such trip to Jerusalem? Here is a look at God’s command and how to fund the feasts.

Tobit or Tobias is a book from the Apocrypha. There are 7 books in the Apocrypha that are not part of the Protestant bible; however, they are included in the Catholic bible. This is an interesting story from the book of Tobit which describes the tithes of the Old Testament.

Tobit 1:6 ⁴ I, for my part, would often make the pilgrimage alone to Jerusalem for the festivals, as is prescribed for all Israel by perpetual decree. Bringing with me the first fruits of the field and the firstlings of the flock, together with a tenth of my income and the first shearings of the sheep, I would hasten to Jerusalem ⁷ and present them to the priests, Aaron's sons, at the altar. **To the Levites who were doing service in**

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Jerusalem I would give the tithe of grain, wine, olive oil, pomegranates, figs, and other fruits. And except for sabbatical years, I used to **give a second tithe in money, which each year I would go and disburse in Jerusalem.** ⁸ The **third tithe I gave to orphans and widows, and to converts** who were living with the Israelites. Every third year I would bring them this offering, and we ate it in keeping with the decree of the Mosaic law and the commands of Deborah, the mother of my father Tobiel; for when my father died, he left me an orphan. ⁹ When I reached manhood, I married Anna, a woman of our own lineage. By her I had a son whom I named Tobiah. [NAB]

God commands that the 2nd tithe be used to celebrate these feasts!

Deuteronomy 12:11 Then to **the place the LORD your God will choose** as a dwelling for his Name—there you are to bring everything I command you: your burnt offerings and sacrifices, **your tithes** and special gifts, and all the choice possessions you have vowed to the LORD. ¹² And there **rejoice before the LORD your God, you, your sons and daughters, your menservants and maidservants, and the Levites** from your towns, who have no allotment or inheritance of their own.



Deuteronomy 14:22 Be sure to **set aside a tenth** of all that your fields produce each year. ²³ **Eat the tithe** of your grain, new wine and oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the LORD your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always. ²⁴ But if that place is too distant and you have been blessed by the LORD your God and cannot carry your tithe (because the place where the LORD will choose to put his Name is so far away), ²⁵ then **exchange your tithe for silver, and take the silver with you and go to the place the LORD your God will choose.** ²⁶ Use the silver to buy whatever you like: cattle, sheep, wine or other fermented drink, or anything you wish. Then you and your household shall eat there in the presence of the LORD your God and rejoice. ²⁷ And do not neglect the Levites living in your towns, for they have no allotment or inheritance of their own.

1.5 Offerings

Each feast had a series of offerings that were required above and beyond the daily offerings. Here is the list of the animal sacrifices for each feast as listed in Number 29:

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- Burnt Offering: Unintentional sin
- Sin Offering: Mandatory for specific sins
- Grain offering: Voluntary worship and thanks

Feast	Burnt Offering			Sin Offering
	Lambs Year old	Bull Young	Ram	Goat
Sabbath	2			
Passover	1			
ULB each of 7 days	7	2	1	1
ULB Total	49	14	7	7
Pentecost	7	2	1	1
Trumpets	7	1	1	1
Atonement	7	1	1	1
Tabernacles Day 1	14	13	2	1
Tabernacles Day 2	14	12	2	1
Tabernacles Day 3	14	11	2	1
Tabernacles Day 4	14	10	2	1
Tabernacles Day 5	14	9	2	1
Tabernacles Day 6	14	8	2	1
Tabernacles Day 7	14	7	2	1
Tabernacles Total	98	70	14	7
Last Great Day	7	1	1	1

The following offerings were to be included in the meat offerings.

Offering		Lambs Year old	Bull Young	Ram
Grain(Flour and oil mix)	Fine flour	1/10 ephah [2 quarts]	3/10 ephah [6 quarts]	2/10 ephah [4 quarts]
	Oil	1/4 hin [1 quart]	1/2 hin [2 quarts]	1/3 hin [1 ¼ quarts]
Drink	Wine	1/4 hin [1 quart]	1/2 hin [2 quarts]	1/3 hin [1 ¼ quarts]

The number of sacrifices for the feasts was astronomical. Each family or groupings of families meeting the number of sacrifices noted above. This verse compliments the fact with the restoration of Israel in the future:

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Ezekiel 36:37 "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Once again I will yield to the plea of the house of Israel and do this for them: I will make their people as numerous as sheep,
³⁸ **as numerous as the flocks for offerings at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts.** So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD."

1.6 Numerical Symbolism

To study the feast and not study the symbolism, one will miss the deep understanding of God's design. Each of the feasts is rich in meaning and implication. Here are a few things to consider when learning about God's feasts.

Numbers have meaning in the bible. God uses them to convey other concepts or ideas. Here is an excerpt from the website Christ Centered Mall

[\[http://www.christcenteredmall.com/teachings/symbolism/numbers.htm\]](http://www.christcenteredmall.com/teachings/symbolism/numbers.htm)

The simple numbers of 1 through 13 have spiritual significance. Multiples of these numbers, or doubling and tripling, carry basically the same meaning only intensifying the truth. It is important to note that the first use of a number in scripture generally conveys its spiritual meaning throughout the rest of the passage.

Since God is consistent, the meaning of a number in the book of Genesis remains the same all the way to the book of Revelation. Sometimes the spiritual significance of a number is not always stated; it may be hidden or seen by comparison with other scriptures. Finally, since there is good and evil as well as true and counterfeit, both Godly and Satanic aspects can be seen in numbers.

Below is a list of numbers written in the Bible with their meaning:

Number	Meaning
1	Beginning, one
2	Witness, separation
3	The Trinity (Godhead)
4	Earth, creation, world
5	Grace, cross, atonement, life
6	Man, beast, Satan
7	Perfection, completeness
8	New beginning
9	Completeness, finality, fullness
10	Law, government, restoration, perfect holiness
11	Incompleteness, disorganization, disintegration
12	Divine government, apostolic fullness
13	Rebellion, backsliding, apostasy.
14	Passover
17	Spiritual order
24	Priestly courses; governmental perfection
30	Consecration; maturity for ministry
40	Probation, testing, closing in victory or judgment

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Number	Meaning
50	Pentecost, liberty, freedom, jubilee
70	Prior to increase
75	Separation, cleansing, purification
120	End of all flesh, beginning life in the Spirit
144	God's ultimate in creation
153	Revival, the elect
300	Faithful remnant
666	Antichrist, Satan, the damned Triplicate 666

1.7 Questions

1. Where you aware of the different calendars and ways to reckon time?
2. Which calendar would you prefer, Gregorian or Hebrew? Why?
3. Which feast day is most intriguing to you? Why?
4. How does the phase of the moon identify the feast day? [Hint: consider the light reflected verses the lack of light verses the portion illuminated.]
5. How has man's ideas and thoughts influenced the calendar and times? Do you see a satanic influence? Where and why?
6. Do you see a connection to a feast and the season of the year? What do you see?
7. Regarding symbols, what numerical connections are made with the Feast and numbers? [Hint: Consider the feast day number, feast month number, feast duration, etc.]

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2.0 Unleavened Bread

Consider “leavened bread”, which is soft, fluffy, tender and aromatic. What makes the loaf of bread so soft and puffed up? These characteristics are the result of the leavening that was added before cooking. The leavening causes the lump of dough to “rise” or puff up.



Here is the definition of leaven:

leav-en   [Pronunciation Key](#) (lĕv'ən)
n.

1. An agent, such as yeast, that causes batter or dough to rise, especially by fermentation.
2. An element, influence, or agent that works subtly to lighten, enliven, or modify a whole.

tr.v. **leav-ened, leav-en-ing, leav-ens**

1. To add a rising agent to.
2. To cause to rise, especially by fermentation.
3. To pervade with a lightening, enlivening, or modifying influence.

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When added to dough, a small amount of leavening will multiply and grow fast causing the dough to expand. While kneading and mixing the dough, the leavening permeates, enters every part of the dough and affects the entire lump.

In 87 of 88 verses in God's word, leavening is a symbol of sin. [Only one time does it represent something "good" Matthew 13:33.]

Leavening

Leavening permeates the entire lump.

Leavening causes the lump to get puffed up.

Leavening is buried or hidden in the lump.

Sin

Sin affects and permeates the entire body [flesh or church].

Sin [pride] causes man to get puffed up.

Satan's deceptions are designed to hide: greed, pride, control, and worldly desires.

Matthew 16:5 Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. ⁶ Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." ⁷ And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread." ⁸ But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?[c] ⁹ Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? ¹⁰ Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? ¹¹ How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?—but to **beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.**" ¹² **Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.** [NKJV]

Luke 12:1 In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, "**Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.**" [NKJV]

Galatians 5:7 You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? ⁸ This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. ⁹ **A little leaven leavens the whole lump.** ¹⁰ I have confidence in you, in the Lord, that you will have no other mind; but he who troubles you shall bear his judgment, whoever he is.

1 Corinthians 5:6 Your boasting is not good. **Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?** ⁷ Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

2.0.1 Removal of the Leavening

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So prior to the feast of Unleavened Bread (ULB) generally completed on or before Passover (Day of Preparation), the household was to be cleaned and all chametz (Hebrew for leavening) removed. This includes “bread crumbs” and other leavening that you can not see. This is the real “spring cleaning” and most likely why it has this name today! For one week, no leavening is allowed in the house and unleavened bread must be eaten each day.

Spiritually, this search is symbolic of our passion to “search high and low” to clean our lives and remove all sin.

Here is an excerpt from Wikipedia [<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover>] regarding the Traditional method of cleaning a house for ULB:

Removal and sale of chametz

In accordance with the [mitzvah](#) of not eating or owning leavened products during Passover, religious Jewish families typically spend the weeks before the holiday in a flurry of housecleaning. The purpose is to remove every morsel of fermented grain products (called [chametz](#)) from all the cupboards and corners in the home. The search for *chametz* is often a thorough one, as children's rooms and kitchens are cleaned from top to bottom and forgotten packages or pieces of cookies or crackers are uncovered under beds and inside closets. Although many ensure that not even a crumb of *chametz* remains, the Halakha only requires the elimination of olive-sized quantities of leavening from one's possession.

...

Formal search for chametz

After dark on the 14th of Nisan, a formal search for leavened products (*bedikat chametz*) is conducted. The head of the house recites a blessing (*עַמֵּחַ רוּעִיב לֵעַ* - *al biyur chametz*, "on the removal of chametz") and proceeds to go from room to room and cupboard to cupboard to make sure that no crumbs remain in any corner. There is a custom to turn off the lights in the room being searched and conduct the search using [candlelight](#), a feather and a wooden spoon. Candlelight effectively illuminates corners without casting shadows; the feather can dust crumbs out of their hiding places; and the wooden spoon which collects the crumbs can be burned the next day with the *chametz*.

Traditionally, 10 morsels of bread are carefully wrapped in aluminum foil or plastic and "hidden" around the house before the search begins. This ensures that the head of the house will find some *chametz* so that his blessing will not be in vain.

Burning the chametz

In the morning, any leavened products that were found during the search, along with the 10 morsels of bread, are burned (*s'rayfat chametz*). The

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head of the household declares any *chametz* that may not have been found to be null and void "as the dust of the earth" (*biyur chametz*). Should more *chametz* actually be found in the house during the Passover holiday, it must be burnt.



2.0.2 Removal of the Sin Nature

During the process of cleaning the house, looking for crumbs, one should consider the “searching of the soul” for hidden sins. We should look for sins that are in our day-to-day lives. But we do not know they are they until we “look”! We need self-reflection, meditation, study of God’s Word, and quiet time to “see” our sins.

The search for the physical bread crumbs, gives us insight and symbolism into that which we can not see: our heart (the deepest part of our mind). A time of contemplation and review of the heart lets one see the hidden sin. Once it is found, it must be removed!

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) [KJV]

Romans 6:1 What shall we say, then? **Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?** ²**By no means!** We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Isaiah 64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

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2.1 Important Events during ULB

Upon a close examination of the bible, you will find several references to the Feast of ULB and the Passover. With a careful and discerning eye, you will notice some amazing parallels!

Feast of ULB Event

The Israelites were set free from Egyptian bondage **after 430 years** on Passover. Joshua enters the promised land **after 40 years** and eats the produce of the land on the 1st day of ULB.

No more manna.

The walls of Jericho fall down during the feast of ULB.

Verse

Exodus 12:40 Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt ^[b] was 430 years. ⁴¹ **At the end of the 430 years, to the very day [Passover], all the LORD's divisions left Egypt.**

Joshua 5:9 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal ^[b] to this day. ¹⁰ On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. ¹¹ **The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain.**

¹² The manna stopped the day after ^[c] they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan.

Joshua 6:2 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. **Do this for six days.** ⁴ **Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day,** march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in."

Flavius Josephus Book V Chapter 1:5 . Now while the Israelites did this, and the Canaanites did not attack them, but kept themselves quiet within their own walls, Joshua resolved to besiege them; so on the first day of the feast [of the passover], the priests carried the ark round about, with some part of the armed men to be a guard to it. These priests went forward, blowing with their seven trumpets; and exhorted the army to be of good courage, and went round about the city, with the senate following them; and when the priests had only blown with the trumpets, for they did nothing more at all, they returned to the camp. And when they had done this for six days, on the seventh Joshua gathered the armed men and all the people together, and told them these good tidings, That the city should now be taken, since God would on that day give it them, by the falling down of the walls, and this of their own accord, and without their labor. However, he charged them to kill every one they should take, and not to abstain from the slaughter of their enemies, either for weariness

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Feast of ULB Event

Verse

or for pity, and not to fall on the spoil, and be thereby diverted from pursuing their enemies as they ran away; but to destroy all the animals, and to take nothing for their own peculiar advantage. He commanded them also to bring together all the silver and gold, that it might be set apart as first-fruits unto God out of this glorious exploit, as having gotten them from the city they first took; only that they should save Rahab and her kindred alive, because of the oath which the spies had sworn to her.

Temple is cleansed by Hezekiah and the nation celebrates for two weeks rather than one!

¹ Chronicles 29:16 The priests went into the sanctuary of the LORD to purify it. They brought out to the courtyard of the LORD's temple everything unclean that they found in the temple of the LORD. The Levites took it and carried it out to the Kidron Valley. ¹⁷ They began the consecration on the first day of the first month, and by the eighth day of the month they reached the portico of the LORD. For eight more days they consecrated the temple of the LORD itself, **finishing on the sixteenth day of the first month.**

¹ Chronicles 29:21 The Israelites who were present in Jerusalem **celebrated the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days with great rejoicing**, while the Levites and priests sang to the LORD every day, accompanied by the LORD's instruments of praise. [a] ²² Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all the Levites, who showed good understanding of the service of the LORD. For the seven days they ate their assigned portion and offered fellowship offerings [b] and praised the LORD, the God of their fathers. ²³ **The whole assembly then agreed to celebrate the festival seven more days; so for another seven days they celebrated joyfully.**

Jesus is resurrected!

See details below.

2.2 Passover

Technically, the day of Passover (Nisan 14) is not part of the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Nisan 15-21). The directions in Exodus 12 are very clear and the days are identified without question. However, you will see that the names of these days are used interchangeably. Also, Passover is not a High Sabbath or Holy Day. It was known as the “Day of Preparation” to prepare for the 1st holy day during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

The day of Passover requires the sacrifice of an unblemished, perfect lamb. The blood of the lamb is painted over the door frame. Likewise through the sacrifice of Christ our Holy and Perfect Lamb, His blood covers our sins.

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Exodus 12:7 Then they are to **take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses** where they eat the lambs.



2.2.1 Christ in Passover

The symbolism of Christ in the Passover is replete with examples. The number of parallels is far too many for this bible study and could fill several books. However, we will examine just a few and then look at the life of Christ in His final and amazing week during the Feast here on this earth. When we review this period of time, you will see the amazing parallels with Christ and the Passover Lamb.

This is not a coincidence the Christ was to be our sacrifice, but carefully planned by God before the creation and from the very foundations of the beginning of earth!

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴ just as **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, [NKJV]

¹ Peter 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰ **He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you [NKJV]

¹ Peter 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ **He was chosen before the creation of the world**, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. [NIV]

Luke 2:41 **Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover.** ⁴² **When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom.** ⁴³ After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look

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for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." ⁴⁹"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

2.3 Unleavened Bread

The entire Feast of Unleavened Bread is also rich in meaning. The early Israelites knew the “physical” process of preparing and sacrificing for the Feast. However, as Christians, we can see the spiritual impact and understand more deeply the design of this Feast. This imagery and symbology comes alive when we study the last week of Christ and what He did for us. This is explained in more detail below in the Day-To-Day section.

Regarding the physical effort, leavening is to be removed from the home. This means you need to look everywhere for “crumbs”, little pieces of bread that are hidden in the home!

Exodus 12:14 "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD -a lasting ordinance. ¹⁵ For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. **On the first day remove the yeast from your houses**, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel. ¹⁶ On the first day hold a sacred assembly, and another one on the seventh day. Do no work at all on these days, except to prepare food for everyone to eat—that is all you may do. ¹⁷"Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. ¹⁸ In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. ¹⁹ For **seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And whoever eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the community of Israel, whether he is an alien or native-born.** ²⁰ **Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread."**

2.4 Firstfruits (Spring Harvest)

Consider the Spring Feast and how it coincides with the first harvest. God commands the very first of the harvest, the first fruits are offered to Him. This is the meaning of the Feast of Firstfruit. It is a presentation of the first grain harvest for the year.

The symbolism comes from the resurrection and presentation of Christ. This will be explained in more detail below. The Firstfruit offering had to have these characteristics:

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- Unblemished
- Presented at the tabernacle

You will soon see in this study that Christ fulfilled these requirements. However, Christ presented Himself to the very throne of God and in His heavenly tabernacle!

Another interesting note is the Hebrew word to describe Firstfruit and its root word. Was Christ the first born among many brethren? Is this the meaning of “born again”?

Hebrew	Pronunciation	Meaning	Verse
בְּכֹר	bekhor [root of bikkurim]	first born	John 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." ^[a] ⁴ "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" ⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit." ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit ^[b] gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You ^[c] must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."
בְּכֹר ב	bikkurim	firstfruit	¹ Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits ; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

However, like other events in the Old Testament, there are two ways to determine the Feast of Firstfruits.

1. The day after the 1st Holy Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, this will always be Nisan 16.
2. During the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the day after the weekly Sabbath, this will always be the first day of the week.

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2.5 Day-by-day

So what makes Christ our “Passover”? What did Jesus do to fulfill scriptures? In order to “see” this, we will look at a day-by-day presentation.

2.5.1 Nisan 10 – Lamb Selection Day

As indicated, a specific lamb was chosen five days before the Passover. Notice what happened with the lamb and with Christ five days before the Passover.

Exodus 12:2 "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that **on the tenth day of this month** each man is to take a lamb [a] for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ **Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight.**

John 12:1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.



John 12:12 **The next day** [five days before Passover] the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! [c]" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" [d] "Blessed is the King of Israel!"

Notice in the following verses they “knew” what this meant after Jesus died and was resurrected. Many at the time, who were practicing, faithful Jewish families

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selected the Passover lamb year after year. But at the time Jesus came to town on Nisan 10, they were blind and did not see it or comprehend the significance of His arrival. They were selecting their Passover Lamb, their Savior. Hosanna means “save us!”

^{John 12:16}At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him.

2.5.2 Nisan 14 – Passover Start [4th Day of week]

As the sun set on the evening of Nisan 13, the day changed to Nisan 14 and the Passover began. At the start of this evening, Jesus met with his apostles and celebrated the last supper.

Christ instituted the symbols of His soon to be sacrifice for us:

^{Luke 22:7}Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "**Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.**"



^{Luke 22:13}They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. **So they prepared the Passover.** ¹⁴When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵And he said to them, "**I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.**" ¹⁶For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

^{Luke 22:17}After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "**This is my body given for you;** do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.**"

The new covenant indicates “newness” and a replacement of the old. The sacrifice of the lamb was no longer needed. However, as Christians we are

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commanded to annually celebrate this event with bread and wine symbolizing Christ body and blood.

Traditionally, there are two ways to celebrate Passover. Here is a paraphrase from the Biblical Holidays website: [http://biblicaltholidays.com/Passover/messiah_in_passover.htm]

The Sadducees and Pharisees disagreed on the day of Passover.

1. The Sadducees (more conservative group) believed the Feasts of Passover and Unleavened Bread were separate feast days. They held Passover on the fourteenth as God decreed in Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers.
 - That is, prepare the Lamb on Nisan 13, Passover, at 3PM through the beginning of the 14th.
2. Those of the majority opinion, including the Pharisees, held Passover on the fifteenth.
 - That is, prepare the Lamb on Nisan 14, Passover, at 3PM through the beginning of the 15th.

Jesus may have been following both dates by having Passover with the disciples on the fourteenth and becoming the Passover lamb on the fifteenth. [The 1st Day of Unleavened Bread.]

Thousands of people would come to Jerusalem to have their lambs ritually slain in the Temple. If they only had one day in which to prepare for the Passover, it would have been extremely difficult to have slaughtered all the lambs brought in to be sacrificed.

Therefore, they worked on two different time scales. The northern part of the country went with the old way of dating (starting from morning and going to the following morning). The southern part of the country followed the official dating method (from evening to evening). Thus, there were two times when lambs were being killed in the Temple for sacrifice.

2.5.3 Nisan 14 – Passover Crucifixion [4th Day of week]

Mark 15:24 And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. 25 **It was the third hour [9AM] when they crucified him.**



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Mark 15:32 Let this Christ, [b] this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him. ³³ **At the sixth hour** [noon] darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour.

2.5.4 Nisan 14 – Passover Death [4th Day of week]

After six hours on the cross, Jesus our Passover Lamb dies.

Mark 15:34 **And at the ninth hour** [3 PM] Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Mark 15:37 With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

Luke 23:44 It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth [3 PM] hour, ⁴⁵ for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Tradition states that at the temple on Passover between 2:30-3:30 in the afternoon, the Passover lambs were sacrificed. It is at this time that Christ died for us.

Tradition states that Israelites would name their Passover lamb and put a sign around its neck for the five day period prior to the sacrifice. Christ had His sign placed above His head on the cross:

Matthew 27:37 Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

2.5.4.1 The Temple Curtain

When Christ died, the curtain which separated the Holy of Holies tore in two pieces. This is a major item that is rich in symbolism. From Xenos.org here is a description of the Temple Curtain: [<http://www.xenos.org/teachings/topical/essentialjesus/gary/essential-15.htm>]

The temple curtain was no ordinary curtain (60 feet long, 30 feet high, and about 4 inches thick; composed of 72 squares sewn together; so heavy that it required 300 men to lift it). For it to be torn suddenly from top to bottom (rather than gradually fraying from bottom to top) would indeed be a noteworthy event—especially for Jewish people.

Here is what happened physically and spiritually:

Mark 15:38 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and [d] saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son[e] of God!"

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Hebrews 9:2 A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. ³Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, ⁴which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.

Hebrews 9:7 But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. ⁸The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing.

Hebrews 9:11-13 But when the Messiah arrived, high priest of the superior things of this new covenant, he bypassed the old tent and its trappings in this created world and went straight into heaven's "tent"—the true Holy Place—once and for all. He also bypassed the sacrifices consisting of goat and calf blood, instead using his own blood as the price to set us free once and for all. [The Message]

2.5.5 Nisan 14 – Passover, Day of Preparation [4th Day of week]

The day of Passover is also called the “Day of Preparation”. This is the day in which people would prepare for the First Day of Unleavened Bread which was a High Sabbath or Holy Day.

In order to “rest” on the High Sabbath, one would have to complete all their work. Since the Jews ordered the crucifixion of Jesus, they needed to rush and complete all their work before sunset. **Jesus had to be in the grave and all work complete by sunset which was about 6PM.**

This is where people get confused, because this is not a 7th day Sabbath, but rather a High Sabbath that actually occurred on the 5th day of the week!

John 19:31 Now **it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath.** Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³²The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

Mark 15:42 **It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath).** So as evening approached, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.

Luke 23:53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. ⁵⁴**It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.** ⁵⁵The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. ⁵⁶Then they went home and

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prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

2.5.5.1 Blood Covering

After the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb, the lamb's blood was to cover the house. This is symbolic of Christ's blood covering our sins and allowing us to be at one with God!

Exodus 12:6 Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to **take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses** where they eat the lambs.

Hebrews 9:22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

2.5.5.2 Must be eaten

The Passover lamb must be eaten!

Exodus 12:8 That same night **they are to eat the meat** roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast.

John 6:53 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.** ⁵⁵For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever."

2.5.5.3 No Broken Bones

When the Passover Lamb was to be prepared, it was not to have any broken bones.

Exodus 12:46 "It must be eaten inside one house; take none of the meat outside the house. **Do not break any of the bones.** ⁴⁷ The whole community of Israel must celebrate it.

John 19:31 Now **it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath.** Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³²The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

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2.5.5.4 Pierced

Another prophecy is fulfilled when Christ is pierced by the soldiers spear. The mix of blood and water symbolizes the blood sacrifice covering and the Holy Spirit.

Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit [a] of grace and supplication. **They will look on [b] me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him** as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

John 19:33 But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴**Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.** ³⁵The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," [b] ³⁷and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced." [c]

2.5.6 Nisan 15 – 1st Day of Unleavened Bread [5th Day of week]

The bible is quiet about the 1st day of Unleavened Bread during the week Jesus was crucified. It is a High Holy Day and High Sabbath, so no work was to occur.

However, at the end of this day, near sunset, Jesus is in the grave one day.

2.5.6 Nisan 16 – 2nd Day of Unleavened Bread [6th Day of week]

At the end of this day, near sunset, Jesus is in the grave two days.

2.5.7 Nisan 17 – 3rd Day of Unleavened Bread [7th Day of week]

If one counts 3 days from the end of the Passover, Nisan 14, when Jesus was buried and in the grave, then you will end up on the end of Nisan 17 or the end of the 7th day Sabbath.

Just before sunset on Nisan 17 and about to change to Nisan 18, the 1st day of the week is when Jesus is resurrected from the grave.

Notice this comment from the NIV translation:

((The most reliable early manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20.))

Mark 16: 9 When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

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Here are the prophecies of the 3 day and night burial:

Jonah 1:17 But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and **Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.**

Matthew 12:38 Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you." ³⁹He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so **the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**

John 2:18 Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "**Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.**" ²⁰The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" ²¹**But the temple he had spoken of was his body.** ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

It is also important to know that the body of Jesus did not decay.

Psalm 16:10 because you will not abandon me to the grave, [c] **nor will you let your Holy One [d] see decay.**

Acts 13:36 "For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed. ³⁷But **the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.**

2.5.8 Nisan 18 – 4th Day of Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits [1st Day of week]

On this day, early in the morning, the disciples were shocked to learn that Jesus' body was gone. Once it is explained to them, they make the connection that Christ was only to be buried for 3 days and was resurrected. Jesus was our Firstborn or Firstfruit, the first of many to be resurrected!

Luke 24:1 **Now on the first day of the week**, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, [a] came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ And it happened, as they were greatly [b] perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵ Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" ⁸ **And they remembered His words.**

John 2:22 After he was raised from the dead, **his disciples recalled what he had said.** Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

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But as the Firstfruit, Jesus had to do something special. He had to be presented as an acceptable offering before God, the Father, on this feast day! Nothing else could take place until this presentation was complete.

Leviticus 23:11 He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD **so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath.** ¹² On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the LORD a lamb a year old without defect, ¹³ together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah [a] of fine flour mixed with oil—an offering made to the LORD by fire, a pleasing aroma—and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin [b] of wine. ¹⁴ You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, **until the very day you bring this offering to your God.**

John 20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said, "**Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father.** Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" "

Further more, on that same day of Firstfruits, Christ returned and did something amazing. By breathing on them, He shared the Holy Spirit with the disciples; another part of the early spiritual first fruit was beginning! (Note: This happened before Pentecost!)

John 20:19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² **And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.** ²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

2.6 Week Overview

Most people do not know:

- God's Feasts, His "Appointed" days.
- Reckoning a biblical day from sunset to sunset.
- Reckoning a biblical time of day.
- The difference between the first day of the week and Sunday.
- The difference between a weekly Sabbath, or a High Sabbath, or God's Holy day.
- The difference between a solar cycle (equinoxes, solstices) and a lunar cycle (new moon, full moon).
- The difference between the Hebrew, Gregorian or Julian calendar.

As a result, there is much confusion over which day Christ died!

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Since we have studied and compared God’s [Hebrew] calendar and the Gregorian calendar, Passover, the feast of Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits, you can now see and understand the week of Christ’s death when compared to the Gregorian calendar! (Note: Hebrew to Gregorian calendar reconciliation is achieved through a calendar conversion. See God’s Holy Days website for this Gregorian to Hebrew calendar converter: [<http://www.godsholydays.com/>])

Year	Month	Week Day							
		4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
3790	Nisan	14 Passover	15 1 st day ULB	16 2 nd day ULB	17 3 rd day ULB	18 4 th day ULB	19 5 th day ULB	20 6 th day ULB	21 7 th day ULB
			High Sabbath		Weekly Sabbath	Firstfruits			High Sabbath
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Last Supper 9 PM Christ betrayed 9AM Christ crucified 3PM Dies 6PM Buried before sunset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Christ in the grave 1st day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 PM Christ in the grave 2nd day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christ in the grave 3rd day 6 PM Resurrected before sunset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 AM Mary notices grave is empty at sunrise. Christ goes to the Father as wave sheaf offering. 			
30 AD	April	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10
		Tue PM - Wed PM	Wed PM - Thu PM	Thu PM - Fri PM	Fri PM - Sat PM	Sat PM - Sun PM	Sun PM - Mon PM	Mon PM - Tue PM	Tue PM - Wed PM

2.7 Questions

1. Before this study on the Feast of Unleavened Bread, did you understand the connection with the Passover, the Lamb and the Feast? Why or why not?
2. What part of this study helped you see more clearly the symbolism of the Old Testament? What was it?
3. Can you consider searching for leavening in your home? Would you find all of it?
4. Think of the Israelite family who chose their Passover Lamb and had to keep it for five days. How would you feel when you had to sacrifice it on the Passover?
5. When you consider the Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits, why is it confusing to know the exact days of each feast with today’s calendar?
6. Think of the other important events that happened during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Which one stood out to you?
7. Why do you think God chose other important events for this feast season?

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8. What other areas of symbolism of the Passover Lamb were not covered in this study?

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3.0 Pentecost

The Feast of Harvest, Feast of Weeks, Feast of Firstfruits, and Feast of Pentecost all describe the same “appointed time”.

For the past 2000 years, the Catholic Church still recognizes Pentecost as the birth of the church and celebrates it on the proper Hebrew day. This is the only feast of God which many Christians celebrate on a yearly basis.

Strangely enough, most Protestant churches which often celebrate “speaking in tongues” or carry the namesake “Pentecostal” do not know the day nor celebrate the birth of the Church.

So, what is the Feast of Pentecost and why should it be important to us today?



3.1 Feast of Weeks

All of the feasts of God are determined by a specific day of the month. One can look at the moon and know feast is near. This can not be accomplished with the Feast of Pentecost. This feast must be counted 50 days, starting with the Feast of Firstfruits which is the start. Once counted, you will always end up on the 1st day of the week.

The word Pentecost (**ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΣΤΗ**) is Greek and means “the fiftieth day”.

Leviticus 23:15 " 'From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, count off seven full weeks. ¹⁶ **Count off fifty days** up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD.

Fifty represents: liberty, freedom, and jubilee and is seen in other areas of the bible. Other than the common numerical relationship, is there a connection to the Year of Jubilee and Pentecost?

Leviticus 25:8 " 'Count off seven sabbaths of years—seven times seven years—so that the seven sabbaths of years amount to a period of forty-nine years. ⁹ Then have the trumpet sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. ¹⁰ **Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty** throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each one of

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you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan. ¹¹ The fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you; do not sow and do not reap what grows of itself or harvest the untended vines. ¹² For it is a jubilee and is to be holy for you; eat only what is taken directly from the fields. ¹³ "In this Year of Jubilee everyone is to return to his own property.

Through the salvation of Christ, the symbol of Pentecost, are we “liberated” from Satan’s oppression and bondage to sin?

The calendar below illustrates the method to determine the feast of Pentecost.

Week Day						
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
Nisan 11	Nisan 12	Nisan 13	Nisan 14 Passover	Nisan 15 ULB 1 st Day	Nisan 16 ULB 2 nd Day	Nisan 17 ULB 3 rd Day
Nisan 18 ULB 4 th Day Firstfruits Day 1	Nisan 19 ULB 5 th Day	Nisan 20 ULB 6 th Day	Nisan 21 ULB 7 th Day	Nisan 22	Nisan 23	Nisan 24 Sabbath 1
Nisan 25 Day 8	Nisan 26	Nisan 27	Nisan 28	Nisan 29	Nisan 30	Iyar 1 Sabbath 2
Iyar 2 Day 15	Iyar 3	Iyar 4	Iyar 5	Iyar 6	Iyar 7	Iyar 8 Sabbath 3
Iyar 9 Day 22	Iyar 10	Iyar 11	Iyar 12	Iyar 13	Iyar 14	Iyar 15 Sabbath 4
Iyar 16 Day 29	Iyar 17	Iyar 18	Iyar 19	Iyar 20	Iyar 21	Iyar 22 Sabbath 5
Iyar 23 Day 36	Iyar 24	Iyar 25	Iyar 26	Iyar 27	Iyar 28	Iyar 29 Sabbath 6
Sivan 1 Day 43	Sivan 2	Sivan 3	Sivan 4	Sivan 5	Sivan 6	Sivan 7 Sabbath 7
Sivan 8 Pentecost Day 50	Sivan 9	Sivan 10	Sivan 11	Sivan 12	Sivan 13	Sivan 14
High Sabbath						

3.2 Counting the Omer

In Hebrew tradition, this time period from the Feast of Firstfruits (Spring Harvest) is counted Pentecost (Summer Harvest). This is called “counting the omer”.

Here is an excerpt from Wikipedia which describes the 50 days

[\[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counting_of_The_Omer\]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counting_of_The_Omer):

“As soon as it is definitely night (approximately 30 minutes after sundown), the one who is counting the Omer recites this blessing:

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"Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam asher kidishanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al Sefirat Ha'omer"

("Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to count the Omer.")

Then he or she states the Omer-count in terms of both total days and weeks and days. For example, on the 23rd day the count would be stated thus: "Today is twenty-three days, which is three weeks and two days of (or "in"[2]) the Omer." The count is said in Hebrew.

According to the Halakha, a person may only recite the blessing while it is still night. If he or she remembers the count the next morning or afternoon, the count may still be made, but without a blessing. If one forgets to count a day altogether, he or she may continue to count succeeding days, but without a blessing.

"Omer-counters" are typically offered for sale during this time, and are displayed in synagogues for the benefit of worshippers who count the Omer with the congregation at the conclusion of evening services. Omer-counters range from decorative boxes with an interior scroll that shows each day's count through a small opening; to posters and magnets in which each day's count is recorded on a tear-off piece of paper; to calendars depicting all seven weeks and 49 days of the Omer (a small pointer is advanced from day to day); to pegboards that keep track of both the day and the week of the Omer. Reminders to count the Omer are also produced for hand-held computers and via SMS services for cell phones."

3.3 Feast of Firstfruits (Summer Harvest)

Remember in the study of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and that there was a Feast of Firstfruits? Yes, there are two different Feast of Firstfruits! The 1st occurrence represented the **spring harvest**, the resurrection of Christ and the "firstfruits" to receive the Holy Spirit.

Leviticus 23:11 He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD **so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath.** ¹² On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the LORD a lamb a year old without defect, ¹³ together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah [a] of fine flour mixed with oil—an offering made to the LORD by fire, a pleasing aroma—and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin [b] of wine. ¹⁴ You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, **until the very day you bring this offering to your God.**

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John 20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).¹⁷ Jesus said, "**Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father.** Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "

Romans 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that **He might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

And here are the firstfruits of the church:

John 20:19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."²² **And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."**²³ If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

However, the 2nd occurrence happens during the Feast of Pentecost represents a larger harvest, the **summer harvest.**

Acts 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, **he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised,** which you have heard me speak about.⁵ For John baptized with[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 1:8 **But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit** comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

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Acts 2:1 **When the day of Pentecost came**, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

The Feast of Firstfruits illustrates a spiritual harvest from His church.

Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter,[c] and on this rock **I will build my church**, and the gates of Hades[d] will not overcome it.[e]

3.4 Two Loaves

Notice that it is required to present two “leavened loaves” as an offering on Pentecost.

Leviticus 23:15 “From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, count off seven full weeks. ¹⁶ Count off fifty days up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD. ¹⁷ From wherever you live, **bring two loaves made of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour, baked with yeast, as a wave offering** of firstfruits to the LORD.

Consider some characteristics of the wave offering:

Feast	Firstfruit Wave Offering	
	Unleavened Bread	Pentecost
Offering	A sheaf of grain.	Two loaves.
Characteristic	1 st grain of harvest.	Leavened bread.
Symbolism	Christ resurrected.	The Church comprised of 2 parts: Jew and Gentile.

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Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: **first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.**

Romans 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: **Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.** ²⁶And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷And this is [f] my covenant with them when I take away their sins." [g]

Notice the comment that “all Israel will be saved”. Are the Jews, “all of Israel”? No. As indicated in Genesis 35, here are the tribes of Israel:

Son's of Jacob (Tribes of Israel)			
Number	Son (Tribe)	Mother	Rev 7 (Sealed)
1	Reuben	Leah	12,000
2	Simeon	Leah	12,000
3	Levi	Leah	12,000
4	Judah	Leah	12,000
5	Issachar	Leah	12,000
6	Zebulun	Leah	12,000
7	Joseph	Rachel	12,000
	Manasseh	Son of Joseph	12,000
8	Benjamin	Rachel	12,000
9	Dan	Bilhah (Rachel's maidservant)	
10	Naphtali	Bilhah (Rachel's maidservant)	12,000
11	Gad	Zilpah (Leah's maidservant)	12,000
12	Asher	Zilpah (Leah's maidservant)	12,000
			144,000

Notice the tribe of Judah; this is the family which is termed Jewish. It is interesting to note that the promise of the 144,000 Israelites in the book of Revelation are different. Also, does the 144,000 represent “all of Israel”? (We will learn more on this later.)

The Pentecost wave offering symbolizes the future resurrection of the Church, waved as Christ was presented before the Father. The leavening represents the sin within the Church. And the loaves are waved in the air, symbolic of the Christians leaving the earth, resurrected and meeting their Savior in the air.

¹ Corinthians 15:20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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¹ Corinthians 15:23 But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

3.5 The Church Age

The Feast of Pentecost represents the church age, the time of the church. After 2,000 years, we are privileged to be a part of this ongoing, amazing time. We have been invited, called out and are now part of God's much bigger plan.

3.5.1 The Holy Nation

From the very beginning, God wanted a Holy priesthood that would represent Him. A Holy Nation that would live His lifestyle, and be blessed. God wanted Israel to be this Holy Nation.

^{Exodus 19:5} Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ **you [a] will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.** These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

However, Israel did not fulfill this. They would not obey. Why? They did not have God's Holy Spirit. They were rebellious and worshipped other gods.

^{Isaiah 1:2} Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I reared children and brought them up, but **they have rebelled against me.**" ³ The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner's manger, but **Israel does not know, my people do not understand.**" ⁴ Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! **They have forsaken the LORD;** they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

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The Adoration of the Golden Calf' by Nicolas Poussin

Isaiah 2:6 You have abandoned your people, the house of Jacob. They are **full of superstitions** from the East; they **practice divination** like the Philistines and **clasp hands with pagans**.⁷ Their land is full of silver and gold; there is no end to their treasures. Their land is full of horses; there is no end to their chariots.⁸ Their **land is full of idols**; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made.

Jeremiah 3:6 During the reign of King Josiah, the LORD said to me, "Have you seen what faithless Israel has done? **She has gone up on every high hill and under every spreading tree and has committed adultery there**."⁷ I thought that after she had done all this she would return to me but she did not, and her unfaithful sister Judah saw it.⁸ **I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries**. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.⁹ Because Israel's immorality mattered so little to her, she defiled the land and committed adultery with stone and wood.

Hosea 2:2 "Rebuke your mother, rebuke her, for **she is not my wife, and I am not her husband**. Let her remove the adulterous look from her face and the unfaithfulness from between her breasts.

Isaiah 50:1 This is what the LORD says: "**Where is your mother's certificate of divorce with which I sent her away?** Or to which of my creditors did I sell you? Because of your sins you were sold; because of your transgressions your mother was sent away.

Isaiah 48:1 I foretold the former things long ago, my mouth announced them and I made them known; then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.⁴ For **I knew how stubborn you were; the sinews of your neck were iron, your forehead was bronze**.⁵ Therefore I told you these things long ago; before they happened I announced them to you so that you could not say, '**My idols did them; my wooden image and metal god ordained them.**'

Genesis 6:3 Then the LORD said, "**My Spirit will not contend with [a] man forever, for he is mortal [b]** ; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

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There is a spiritual blindness that keeps them from seeing and living the truth.

Matthew 23:26 **Blind Pharisee!** First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. ²⁷Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. ²⁸In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but **on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.**

Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but **you were not willing.**

Romans 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: **Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.** ²⁶And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. ²⁷And this is [f] my covenant with them when I take away their sins." [g]

As we have seen before God had other plans. From the foundation of the world God desires His sanctified group, His "called out ones" to live a life that reflects His Spirit:

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since **we live by the Spirit**, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but **a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.**

3.5.2 The Called Out Ones

The word church comes from the Greek ecclesia (ἐκκλησία) meaning "called out ones". When we felt that stirring, that irresistible urge to come to Christ, or that calling, we answered the Lord with our response. We invited Him into our lives and we began our new life in Him. This is what God desires! Here Peter restates God's original desire:

1 Peter 2:9 But **you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God**, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

And here we see God's plan to "call" or "choose" His called out ones:

Acts 15:13 When they finished, James spoke up: "Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simon [a] has described to us how **God at first showed his concern by taking from the Gentiles a people for himself.** ¹⁵The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written: ¹⁶"After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and

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I will restore it, ¹⁷that the remnant of men may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who bear my name, says the Lord, who does these things ^[b] ¹⁸that have been known for ages. ^[c]

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴ just as **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, [NKJV]

Revelation 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. **If anyone hears my voice and opens the door**, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Ephesians 1:11 In him **we were also chosen, [e] having been predestined according to the plan of him** who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

2 Timothy 1:8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, **by the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,**

James 1:18 **He chose to give us birth** through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

Consider the trip to the grocery store. Buying produce, you would handle, examine, and test before you purchased the items. God has examined you and as the called out ones of God, we have been specially hand picked by Him! Here are other examples of how God selected various priests and prophets:

1 Samuel 16:1 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. **I have chosen one of his sons to be king.**"

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. **The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.**" ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "**The LORD has not chosen this one either.**" ⁹ Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "**The LORD has not chosen these.**" ¹¹ So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down [a] until he arrives." ¹² So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "**Rise and anoint him; he is the one.**" ¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on **the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power.** Samuel then went to Ramah.

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Here is another fascinating story of the “calling” of Samuel. God calls Samuel three times:

¹ Samuel 3:1 The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions. ² One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple [a] of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ **Then the LORD called Samuel.** Samuel answered, "Here I am." ⁵ And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. ⁶ **Again the LORD called, "Samuel!"** And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." ⁷ **Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD : The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.** ⁸ **The LORD called Samuel a third time,** and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then **Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy.** ⁹ So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" **Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."** ¹¹ And the LORD said to Samuel: "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears of it tingle. ¹² At that time I will carry out against Eli everything I spoke against his family—from beginning to end. ¹³ For I told him that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons made themselves contemptible, [b] and he failed to restrain them. ¹⁴ Therefore, I swore to the house of Eli, 'The guilt of Eli's house will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering.'" ¹⁵ Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the LORD. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision, ¹⁶ but Eli called him and said, "Samuel, my son." Samuel answered, "Here I am." ¹⁷ "What was it he said to you?" Eli asked. "Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything he told you." ¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, "He is the LORD; let him do what is good in his eyes." ¹⁹ The LORD was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the LORD. ²¹ The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.

Likewise, the church is hand selected by God! You were hand selected by God for a very high purpose!

3.5.3 Holy Spirit

Books upon books have been written to describe the characteristics of Holy Spirit. But what is it about the Holy Spirit that allows us to be with Christ? Without God's Holy Spirit, it is impossible to please Him! Holy Spirit is the helper we need to please God and be a part of His Kingdom. We received the Holy Spirit when we give our lives to the Lord and this is symbolized at baptism. The Feast of Pentecost physically and spiritually reflects baptism.

The Spirit of the Lord was with Jesus. Here are the characteristics of the Spirit and the verse in Isaiah 11 on how the Holy Spirit helped Him:

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- Wisdom
- Understanding
- Counsel
- Power
- Knowledge
- Fear of the Lord

Isaiah 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him— the **Spirit of wisdom and of understanding**, the **Spirit of counsel and of power**, the **Spirit of knowledge and of the fear** of the LORD - ³ and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, **you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit**, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

John 4:13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, **the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.**" ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

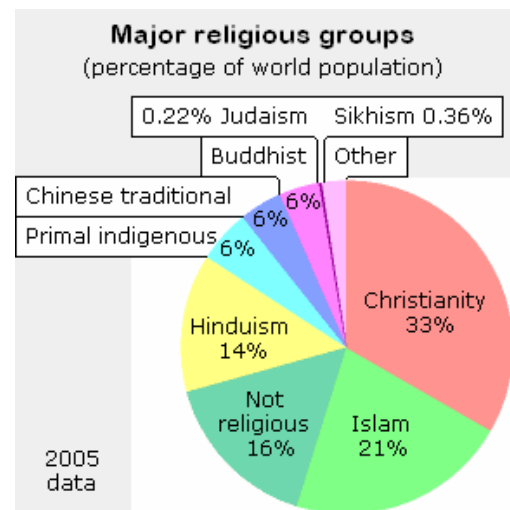
John 4:23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when **the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.** ²⁴God is spirit, and his **worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.**"

2 Corinthians 5:20 **We are therefore Christ's ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

3.6 The Numbers

If we looked at the world's religions in 2005, we will find that 33% claim to be Christian. This is roughly 2.1 billion people. This list includes: Catholics, Protestants and several others from the 33,280 different Christian denominations. These statistics are provided by the Wikipedia website. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_world_religions]

If we consider the history of the church and the number of people who claim to be Christian from the start, you will find some staggering numbers. Carl Haub, a demographer for the Population Reference Bureau, produced a report which "guesstimated" the accumulative population of the world up through the year 2002.



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Mr. Haub’s research is intriguing; however, when examined in light of biblical information, his research needs the following biblical corrections:

- The date should not start from 50000 B.C. but rather from 4000 B.C. which is considered the biblical date for the creation of Adam.
- Does not account for the flood in 2500 B.C. in which all life was destroyed except Noah and his family: eight persons repopulate the earth.

Finally, if we take today’s percentage of Christians (33%), apply it to Carl’s analysis, and extrapolate, we get a rough idea of the number of Christians throughout time. (Note: These numbers are all rough approximations and are used for illustration only.)

Carl Haub Data Creation to 2002				Extrapolated Data	
Year	Population	Birth Rate Per 1000	Accumulative Change in Population	% Christian	Christian
50000 B.C.	2	80	0	0	0
8000 B.C.	5,000,000	80	1,137,789,769	0	0
1 A.D.	300,000,000	80	46,025,332,354	0	0
1200	450,000,000	60	26,591,343,000	33	8,775,143,190
1650	500,000,000	60	12,782,002,453	33	4,218,060,809
1750	795,000,000	50	3,171,931,513	33	1,046,737,399
1850	1,265,000,000	40	4,046,240,009	33	1,335,259,203
1900	1,656,000,000	40	2,900,237,856	33	957,078,492
1950	2,516,000,000	31-38	3,390,198,215	33	1,118,765,411
1995	5,760,000,000	31	5,427,305,000	33	1,791,010,650
2002	6,215,000,000	23	983,987,500	33	324,715,875
Total			106,456,367,669		19,566,771,030

As you see, this rough estimate shows 20 billion Christians since the time of Christ. What will happen to the 87 billion non-Christians? Continue your study of God’s feasts in the next few sections and learn this amazing answer.

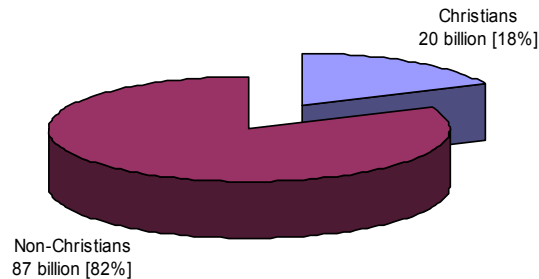
^{John 14:6} Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

^{Romans 11:32} For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

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Human Population
Creation to 2002 AD



3.7 Questions

1. Describe the difference between the first and second harvest. The first and second “firstfruits”.
2. Now that you have heard more about the second harvest, have you considered a third harvest? When do you think that will occur?
3. Who would be in the 3rd harvest?
4. Consider the Holy Nation God desired. Why would Israel, not be that Nation? What did they need?
5. In this lesson, what did you learn about the ecclesia that you did not already know?
6. As you came to know Christ, what stirring caused you to pledge your life to His and follow Him?
7. When you became a Christian, what “fruits” could be seen in you by other people? Describe them.
8. How were you able to bear these fruits?
9. Describe your thoughts on the “numbers” section. What is most intriguing and why?

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4.0 Feast of Trumpets

A trumpet gains attention! When we hear it, we must stop. Consider a car horn. If you are close to the horn, can you ignore it? When we examine the biblical reason for trumpets blasts we will see a pattern of warning and gaining attention. Let's see what the bible says about the use of a trumpet.

¹ Samuel 13:3 Jonathan attacked the Philistine outpost at Geba, and the Philistines heard about it. Then **Saul had the trumpet blown** throughout the land and said, "Let the Hebrews hear!" ⁴ So all Israel heard the news: "Saul has attacked the Philistine outpost, and now Israel has become a stench to the Philistines." And the people were summoned to join Saul at Gilgal.

² Samuel 2:28 So **Joab blew the trumpet**, and all the men came to a halt; they no longer pursued Israel, nor did they fight anymore.

Joshua 6:20 **When the trumpets sounded**, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

Psalms 150:2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. ³ **Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet**, praise him with the harp and lyre,

Psalms 81:2 Begin the music, strike the tambourine, play the melodious harp and lyre. ³ **Sound the ram's horn** at the New Moon, and when the moon is full, on the day of our Feast;

Ezekiel 33:2 "Son of man, speak to your countrymen and say to them: 'When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman, ³ and he sees the sword coming against the land and **blows the trumpet** to warn the people, ⁴ then **if anyone hears the trumpet** but does not take warning and the sword comes and takes his life, his blood will be on his own head. ⁵ Since **he heard the sound of the trumpet** but did not take warning, his blood will be on his own head. If he had taken warning, he would have saved himself. ⁶ But if the watchman sees the sword coming and **does not blow the trumpet** to warn the people and the sword comes and takes the life of one of them, that man will be taken away because of his sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for his blood.'



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Jeremiah 4:5 "Announce in Judah and proclaim in Jerusalem and say: '**Sound the trumpet throughout the land!**' Cry aloud and say: 'Gather together! Let us flee to the fortified cities!' ⁶ Raise the signal to go to Zion! Flee for safety without delay! For I am bringing disaster from the north, even terrible destruction."

4.1 The Timeline

The Feast of Trumpets herald a soon coming Kingdom. Repeatedly in the bible, you will find the theme and timeline of the return of Christ. There is a consistency throughout several books: Joel, Jeremiah, Daniel, Psalms, Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Peter, and Revelation all share this common theme and timeline. However, contained in one book, Revelation illustrates the chronology of the return of Christ and the establishment of His kingdom here on earth.

The word Apocalypses is the Greek word for Revelation and it does not mean war. Additionally, this is not the revelation of John, but rather the revelation of Christ!

Revelation 1:1 **The revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ²who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

The timeline and the theme graphically illustrate the removal of one evil kingdom and the establishment of another Holy Kingdom. The trumpet blasts indicate the very strong announcement of this major universal shaking event. Remember these verses when reading Revelation:

Luke 4:5 **The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.** ⁶And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to." ⁷So if you worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'[b]"

John 14:30 I will not speak with you much longer, for **the prince of this world is coming**. He has no hold on me,

2 Corinthians 4:4 **The god of this age** has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

It is said that Satan took a third of the angels with him. Revelation illustrates this by using stars as symbols of angels. Now on the earth, Satan rules with his perverted angels known as demons.

Revelation 12:4 **His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky** and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born.

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Revelation 12:7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸**But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.** ⁹The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called **the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray**. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Seal	Trumpet	Verse	Comment
1		Revelation 6:1 I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!" ² I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.	White Horse – False Christ
2		Revelation 6:3 When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" ⁴ Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.	Red Horse - War
3		Revelation 6:5 When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart[a] of wheat for a day's wages,[b] and three quarts of barley for a day's wages,[c] and do not damage the oil and the wine!"	Black Horse - Famine
4		Revelation 6:7 When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" ⁸ I looked, and there before me was a pale horse! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.	Pale Horse - Sickness
5		Revelation 6:9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained.	Martyrdom
6		Revelation 6:12 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, ¹³ and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. ¹⁴ The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.	Heavenly Signs
7	1	Revelation 8:1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.	Third of the earth destroyed.
	2	Revelation 8:7 The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up. Revelation 8:8 The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood, ⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.	Third of the oceans destroyed.

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Seal	Trumpet	Verse	Comment
	3	<small>Revelation 8:10</small> The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water— ¹¹ the name of the star is Wormwood.[a] A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.	Third of fresh water destroyed.
	4	<small>Revelation 8:12</small> The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.	Third of the heavens darkened.
	5	<small>Revelation 9:1</small> The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss.	1 st Woe
	6	<small>Revelation 9:6</small> During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them. <small>Revelation 9:13</small> The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns[b] of the golden altar that is before God. ¹⁴ It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind.	2 nd Woe
	7	<small>Revelation 10:7</small> But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets. <small>Revelation 11:15</small> The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."	3 rd Woe

Notice that Satan has dominion over the world and that he “took a third of the stars”. A third of the earth, sea and heavens are destroyed, possibly paralleling the third of the power of the fallen angels which Satan leads. As the trumpets sound, Satan’s kingdom falls apart piece by piece!

4.2 Day of the Lord

Consider what a day is to the Lord:

2 Peter 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: **With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.**

This verse is mentioned when describing of the day of the Lord. As a result, current thinking leads many to say that the “day” of the Lord will last 1000 years. This is more fully illustrated during the Feast of Tabernacles. But the “day” starts with the Feast of Trumpets!

This day will start with much pain as this world’s evil kingdom is removed and Satan is dethroned. God always provides a witness and warning before He does

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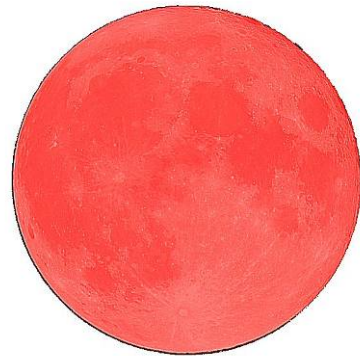
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anything. This witness is seen through several very unusual and very concerning things!

² Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. **The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.[a]**

Joel 2:1 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand- ² **a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness.** Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was of old nor ever will be in ages to come.

Matthew 24:26 "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. ²⁷For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather. ²⁹"Immediately after the distress of those days " **the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;** the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.^[c]



Luke 21:20 "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. ²²For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. ²³**How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people.** ²⁴They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. ²⁵**There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.** ²⁶Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.

Acts 2:20 The **sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood** before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

4.3 Second Coming

4.3.1 The Timing

When considering the Feast of Trumpets and the phase of the moon, you will note that this is the only Feast coinciding with a "new moon". In order to determine which day to start the Feast of Trumpets (Tishri 1), one must "watch"

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for the new moon. And no one is certain which day the Feast will start. So some celebrate two days just to be safe!

Likewise, it is clear that no one will know exactly when Christ returns. But we are commanded to “watch”!

Matthew 24:36¹ **No one knows about that day or hour**, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,^[f] but only the Father. ³⁷As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

1 Thessalonians 5:2^f for you know very well that **the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.**

Luke 21:34¹ **Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.** ³⁵For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. **Be always on the watch,** and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."



Leviticus 23:23 The LORD said to Moses, ²⁴ "Say to the Israelites: '**On the first day of the seventh month** you are to have a day of rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts. ²⁵ Do no regular work, but present an offering made to the LORD by fire.'"

4.3.2 The Arrival

Six of the seven trumpets have blown. Finally, the last trump, the seventh trumpet is blown and Christ returns! The foundation of Satan's world has collapsed, Jesus returns to establish His.

Zechariah 14:5 You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake [a] in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. **Then the LORD my God will come,** and all the holy ones with him.

Matthew 24:30¹ At that time the sign of **the Son of Man will appear in the sky**, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see **the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.** ³¹And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Mark 8:38¹ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him **when he comes in his Father's glory** with the holy angels."

Luke 21:27¹ At that time they will see **the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.** ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know

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that summer is near. ³¹Even so, when you see these things happening, you **know that the kingdom of God is near.**

Acts 1:⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? **This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.**"

1 Corinthians 15:²³But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, **when he comes**, those who belong to him.

Hebrews 9:²⁸so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and **he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.**

4.3.3 The Resurrection

As the last trumpet is blown, Christ returns and the dead in Christ are resurrected. Then those alive are transformed from physical to spiritual. Christ the Firstfruits will resurrect His “called out ones”.

Notice when the “change” occurs. Can you find a point in the Revelation timeline when Christ returns? Find the verse.

Matthew 22:³²I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob[a]? He is **not the God of the dead but of the living.**"

1 Corinthians 15:⁵⁰I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—** ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet.** For the trumpet will sound, **the dead will be raised** imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." [g] ⁵⁵"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" [h] ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:⁴²So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. **If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.**

1 Thessalonians 4:¹³ Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. ¹⁴We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that **God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep** in him. ¹⁵According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and **the dead in Christ will**

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rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.
¹⁸Therefore encourage each other with these words.

Revelation 20:4¹ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. **They came to life** and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ⁵(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) **This is the first resurrection.** **Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them,** but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

4.3.3.1 King David

We know through the scriptures that King David a man after God's heart is still in his grave to this day. He has not been resurrected but is waiting for this special day.

¹ Samuel 16:12 So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "**Rise and anoint him; he is the one.**" ¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on **the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power.** Samuel then went to Ramah.

John 3:13¹ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.[d]

Acts 13:22¹ After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him: 'I have found **David son of Jesse a man after my own heart;** he will do everything I want him to do.'

Acts 1:29¹ Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch **David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day.**

Acts 1:34¹ For **David did not ascend to heaven,** and yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand ³⁵until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." [g]

King David, like other's who died with God's Holy Spirit, are still awaiting the resurrection.

Matthew 10:28¹ And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; but rather be afraid of Him who can **destroy both soul and body in hell** (Gehenna). [AMP]

Luke 21:27¹ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because **your redemption is drawing near.**"

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4.3.3.2 Daniel

God provides a similar promise to Daniel. Daniel will be resurrected with David and many others. After Daniel's resurrection, he will receive his reward.

Daniel 12:8 I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?" ⁹ He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand. ¹¹ "From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. ¹² Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days. ¹³ "As for you, go your way till the end. **You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise** to receive your allotted inheritance."

4.4 The Kingdom

4.4.1 His Feet

Examine the scriptures when Christ departed the earth and when He arrives a second time. Where is He? The Mount of Olives! Here is an interesting article from Wikipedia on the subject:

"In the [Book of Zechariah](#) the Mount of Olives is identified as the place from which [God](#) will begin to redeem the dead at the [end of days](#). For this reason, [Jews](#) have always sought to be buried on the mountain, and from Biblical times to the present day the mountain has been used as a [cemetery](#) for the Jews of Jerusalem. There are an estimated 150,000 graves on the Mount, including those of many famous figures."

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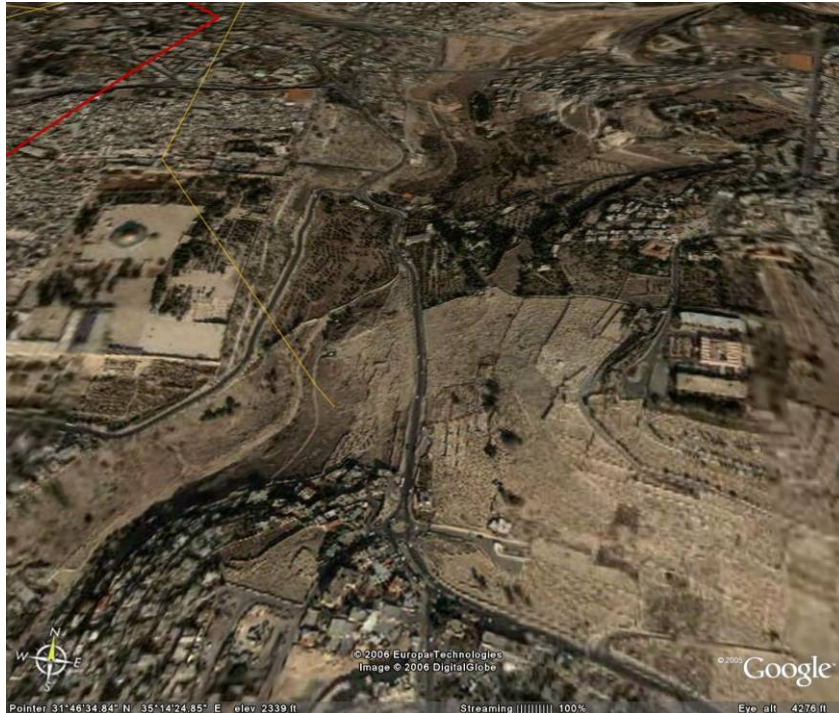


Image Google Earth
Left Temple Mount and Right Mount of Olives

Remember when Christ ascended into heaven and words of the angels:

Acts 1:10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, **will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.**" ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk[b] from the city.

And here is the prophecy of His return:

Zechariah 14:4 **On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives**, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.

4.4.2 The Welcome Committee

The people of the world will not be pleased with Christ as the new leader! As strange as this sounds, they will fight against Him. At first, Christ is not welcome as the new leader of the world.

Zechariah 14:2 I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile,

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but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. ³ Then **the LORD will go out and fight against those nations**, as he fights in the day of battle.

Zechariah 14:12 This is the plague with which the LORD will strike all the nations that fought against Jerusalem: **Their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.** ¹³ **On that day men will be stricken by the LORD with great panic.** Each man will seize the hand of another, and they will attack each other. ¹⁴ Judah too will fight at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the surrounding nations will be collected—great quantities of gold and silver and clothing. ¹⁵ A similar plague will strike the horses and mules, the camels and donkeys, and all the animals in those camps.

4.4.3 Peace at Last

Once Christ has established Himself as the King, the earth will finally experience peace it has never known.

Zechariah 14:9 **The LORD will be king over the whole earth.** On that day there will be one LORD, and his name the only name.

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and **the government will be on his shoulders.** And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, [b] Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace.** ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. **He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.** The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Isaiah 11:9 **They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,** for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and **his place of rest will be glorious.**

Revelation 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "**The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.**"

Now that Christ has established Himself as the King of the earth, established peace, and established His kingdom, He must do some house cleaning! We will see how this happens in the next Feast, the Day of Atonement.

4.5 Questions

1. Consider a trumpet blast you have heard in the past. How did it affect you?
2. Do “trumpets” have a new meaning for you?
3. Is your understanding of the book of Revelation and the Day of the Lord clearer than when you started this study? Why or why not?
4. Consider the moon for the Feast of Trumpets and the return of Christ. How do they compare?

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5. Is the return of Christ as you expected it? Why or why not?
6. Have you considered your resurrection? Will it be when Christ returns or after the millennium? How will you know?
7. When do you think that King David and Daniel will be resurrected?
8. For Christ's Second Coming, why did Christ come to the earth? Rather why don't we all go to heaven for His kingdom?

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5.0 Day of Atonement

What is atonement and how does it relate to me? Why is it a feast of God?

The Day of Atonement, also known as Yom Kippur, occurs on the tenth day of Tishri. The number ten represents: law, government, restoration, perfect holiness. Let's see how the symbolism of this day fits. Here's a story to help set the stage for the importance of this day:

He knew she was wrong. He knew she did this purposely. He reacted swift and strong. His hard mean, biting words and rough actions hurt his wife to her core. She knew this was coming, but had no idea his reaction would be so hurting and so severe.

That night, restlessness set in and neither one of them slept well. It was as if a tall, wide barrier separated them and each one remained in their place, blocked and not reaching for the other. The morning was bitter and both of their hearts were heavy with pride, self-righteousness and sadness. Their thick silence filled the air and neither one lifted their head to look at the other. The morning dragged on and resentment set in: each was correct, the other was wrong.

Later that day, he noticed her crying. She was broken. Then a small crack in his demeanor convicted him and pulled strongly at his heart. As this conviction grew, he looked at his wife, and she softened. He gently lifted her chin, looked her in the eye and humbly said, "I am sorry."

Her eyes welled up with tears and she said, "I am sorry too."

They both sighed deeply, and they talked. They smiled, they laughed and held hands. She stood and embraced him and the tall, wide barrier was destroyed. Both husband and wife were once again, at one. Their mutual repentance brought them together, making atonement for the previous evening.



In a similar way, Jesus Christ is our atonement and the Day of Atonement symbolizes this broken but soon restored relationship.

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Leviticus 16:29 "This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: On the tenth day of the seventh month you must deny yourselves [b] and not do any work—whether native-born or an alien living among you-³⁰ **because on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you.** Then, before the LORD, **you will be clean from all your sins.**³¹ It is a sabbath of rest, and you must deny yourselves; it is a lasting ordinance.³² The priest who is anointed and ordained to succeed his father as high priest is to make atonement. He is to put on the sacred linen garments³³ and make atonement for the Most Holy Place, for the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and for the priests and all the people of the community.

5.1 Afflict Your Soul

Although the day is a sacred assembly, the people are required to perform two duties. The first command is to afflict the soul. The second command will be described later. In the description of the Day of Atonement, the phrase, “afflict your soul” repeats three times in Leviticus:

Leviticus 23:27 “Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; **you shall afflict your souls**, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.²⁸ And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God.²⁹ For any person **who is not afflicted in soul** on that same day shall be cut off from his people.³⁰ And any person who does any work on that same day, that person I will destroy from among his people.³¹ You shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.³² It shall be to you a sabbath of solemn rest, and **you shall afflict your souls**; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your sabbath.” [NKJV]

What does this mean? The word in Hebrew is “anah” (אָנָה) and means “to afflict, oppress, humble, be afflicted, be bowed down”. This occurs through fasting. God requires a fast to be humbled and afflicted on the Day of Atonement.

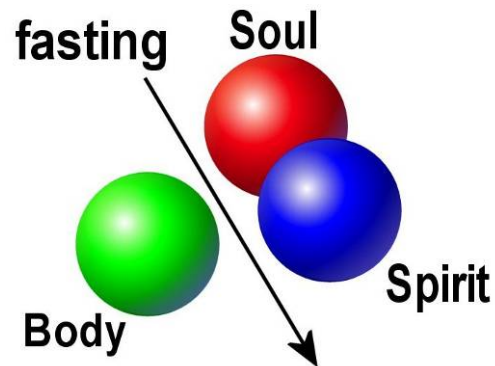
Consider our composition: Spirit, Soul, and Body.

¹ Thessalonians 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole **spirit, soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word soul can also mean: mind or heart.

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Ps 10:17 ...prepare their heart...

Psalm 10:17 LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear,

Those desiring “oneness” with God will desire to be humble before Him. Fasting afflicts the soul and prepares the heart by suppressing the desires of the flesh. On the Day of Atonement, people will fast, no food and no drink, for 24 hours. People will prepare their heart, their mind, their soul to more clearly hear and be lead by the Spirit of God on this important day. This is the first part of the Day of Atonement.

2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **my power is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For **when I am weak, then I am strong.**

5.2 Satan

In order to establish peace, provide atonement and bring two warring parties, man and God, together, the “troublemaker” must be removed. Who is this troublemaker?

2 Corinthians 4:4 **The god of this age** has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Revelation 12:9 The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or **Satan, who leads the whole world astray.** He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. **For the accuser [Satan] of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.**

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Job 1:9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. ¹⁰ "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ **But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face.**"

Zechariah 3:1 Then he showed me Joshua [a] the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and **Satan [b] standing at his right side to accuse him.**

Isaiah 14:13 You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. ^[c] ¹⁴ I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; **I will make myself like the Most High.**"

John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. **He was a murderer from the beginning**, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for **he is a liar and the father of lies.**

2 Corinthians 11:14 And no wonder, for **Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.**

1 John 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Revelation 12:9 The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or **Satan, who leads the whole world astray.** He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

5.3 Removal of Satan

Now that Christ has returned, symbolized in the Feast of Trumpets, He will rule the earth and the old king must be removed. Also He wants an exclusive relationship with His bride as He leads His Kingdom.

From the very beginning in the Garden of Eden, Satan has been a stumbling block to all humans:

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

As we have learned, Israel's history is full of adulterous behavior when considering the pure relationship God desired. Israel, though blinded, could not remain faithful to their God. As a result, they suffered continual hardship as they pursued other gods which were a front for worshipping Satan and his demons.

John 12:40 "He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them."

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Satan's spirit is strong, impatient and forceful and is similar to "tuning in a radio station". His perverse spirit of the air affects our mind and our flesh.

¹ Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience**, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

Today, the church is not blinded, but still struggles in the flesh because of Satan's "power of the air".

Romans 7:22 **For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.** ²³ **But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.** ²⁴ O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

The Day of Atonement also symbolizes the removal of Satan.

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ² **He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.** ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

John 12:31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now **the prince of this world will be driven out.**

Once Satan is removed and bound for 1,000 years, true peace, God's Holy peace will fill the earth. We will learn more about this incredible peace and His Kingdom in the next section on the Feast of Tabernacles.

5.4 Our Atonement through Christ

On this important day, the first command from God was to "fast". The second command from God symbolizes the sacrifice of Christ and His power being alive through animal offerings in Leviticus 16. But to fully understand the offerings, we must learn about the temple.

5.4.1 Holy of Holies

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The Holy of Holies or Most Holy Place is the most respected location within the temple. It is here that God's Glory, His Shekinah Glory radiated when He filled the temple.

Exodus 25:8 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and **I will dwell among them.**⁹ Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.

The word dwell in Exodus 25 is "shakan" in Hebrew (שָׁכַן) and from this word we get Shekinah or "one who dwells" or "presence".

2 Chronicles 7:1 When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and **the glory of the LORD filled the temple.**² The priests could not enter the temple of the LORD because **the glory of the LORD filled it.**³ When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "He is good; his love endures forever."

Leviticus 16:2 The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die, because I appear in the cloud over the atonement cover.

From Wikipedia, here is a reference of the Holy of Holies:

"The *Most Holy Place* was a place where the [high priest](#) would go in, once a [year](#), on the [Yom Kippur](#), to sprinkle the blood of sacrificial animals (a bull offered as atonement for the Priest and his household, and a goat offered as atonement for the people) and offer incense upon the [Ark of the Covenant](#) and the [mercy seat](#) which sat on top of the ark in the [First Temple](#) (The [Second Temple](#) had no ark and the blood was sprinkled where the Ark would have been and the incense was left on the [Foundation Stone](#)). The animal was sacrificed on the [Brazen Altar](#) and the blood was carried into the most holy place. The golden [censers](#) were also found in the Most Holy Place."



Image from <http://www.templemodels.com/>

The Holy of Holies contained the Ark of the Covenant. Contained between the wings of the Cherubim was the mercy seat. It is here that God's Presence, His Shekinah Glory radiated and fill the temple.

Exodus 25:10 "Have them make a chest of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. [b]¹¹ Overlay it with pure gold, both inside

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and out, and make a gold molding around it. ¹² Cast four gold rings for it and fasten them to its four feet, with two rings on one side and two rings on the other. ¹³ Then make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ Insert the poles into the rings on the sides of the chest to carry it. ¹⁵ The poles are to remain in the rings of this ark; they are not to be removed. ¹⁶ Then put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you. ¹⁷ "Make an atonement cover [c] of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. [d] ¹⁸ And make two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. ¹⁹ Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover. ²¹ Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you. ²² **There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.**

2 Kings 19:15 And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD : "O LORD, **God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim**, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

1 Chronicles 13:6 David and all the Israelites with him went to Baalah of Judah (Kiriath Jearim) to bring up from there the ark of **God the LORD, who is enthroned between the cherubim**—the ark that is called by the Name.

Psalms 80:1 Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock; **you who sit enthroned between the cherubim**, shine forth

Psalms 99:1 The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; **he sits enthroned between the cherubim**, let the earth shake.

Isaiah 37:16 "O LORD Almighty, **God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim**, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

Hebrews 9:2 A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. ³**Behind the second curtain** was a room called the Most Holy Place, ⁴which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.

Hebrews 9:7 But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. ⁸The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing.



Image from <http://www.bible-history.com/>

Today, as Christians, God dwells directly within us through His Holy Spirit. We are the temple of the Lord!

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Psalms 51:11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Romans 8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if **the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that **God's Spirit lives in you**? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and **you are that temple**.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Do you not know that your **body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

5.4.2 Lots are cast

A very symbolic act is performed on the Day of Atonement with two goats. A box containing two ballots or two lots is created, one for each of two goats. One lot is selected and applied to one of the goats as illustrated below:

Leviticus 16:6 "Aaron is to offer the bull for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. ⁷ Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. ⁸ He is to **cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the LORD and the other for the scapegoat**. [a] ⁹ Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the LORD and sacrifice it for a sin offering. ¹⁰ But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD to be used for making atonement by sending it into the desert as a scapegoat.

The following is an image of the lottery box for the Third Temple. Here is an excerpt from The Odyssey of the Third Temple:

"This is one of the vessels which the High Priest used on the Day of Atonement. Lots were drawn to determine which goat would be used as a sacrifice to God, and which would be the scapegoat, sent off as an atonement for the sins of Israel. During the era of the First Temple, these lots were fashioned of wood; in the time of the Second Temple, they were made of gold. The lots which have been reproduced by researchers and craftsmen at the Temple Institute are constructed of both wood and gold. The word "I'azazel" appears on one lot, for the goat which is used as the atonement, and on the other, 'I'Hashem", for the service of God."



Image from The Temple Institute

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5.4.3 The Sin Offering

The goat which was the sin offering is symbolic of the sacrifice of Christ. This is an offering for God and is sacrificed in the temple. However, this sacrifice is unique and the blood is sprinkled on the mercy seat once each year and this happens on the Day of Atonement.

Leviticus 16:15 **"He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull's blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it."**¹⁶ In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the Tent of Meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness.¹⁷ No one is to be in the Tent of Meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household and the whole community of Israel.

5.4.4 The Azazel

The other goat is called the Azazel (אֲזָזִיל). This goat is symbolic of the Christ who bears our sins, Christ who was resurrected, and Christ who is now alive.

Translators use the word "scapegoat" which is a mistranslation of "escape goat". Additionally, Satan does not bear our blame. We are guilty of our sins but Christ through His love for us bore our sins on the cross.



American Heritage Dictionary – Cite This Source

scape·goat (skāp'gōt) [Pronunciation Key](#)  

n.

1. One that is made to bear the blame of others.
2. *Bible.* A live goat over whose head Aaron confessed all the sins of the children of Israel on the Day of Atonement. The goat, symbolically bearing their sins, was then sent into the wilderness.

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Leviticus 16:20 "When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the Tent of Meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat.²¹ He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the desert in the care of a man appointed for the task.²² **The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a solitary place; and the man shall release it in the desert.**

The sacrifice of Christ is fully exemplified on the Feast of Atonement. His death is symbolized by one goat and His life is symbolized by the other!

In the next section we will see the blessings of living completely under God's rule in His Glorious Kingdom in the Feast of Tabernacles.

5.5 Questions

1. What did atonement mean to you before this study? What does it mean now?
2. Why should one fast on the Day of Atonement? What does it do to your flesh?
3. Envision being with Christ and seeing Satan bound by an angel. How would you feel?
4. What do you think life would be like without Satan?
5. Now consider life without the influence of Satan and instead, the influence of God's Holy Shekinah glory. How would you feel? What do you think you would experience?
6. How would you describe the Holy of Holies to someone who has not studied the bible?

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6.0 Feast of Tabernacles

Early in the fall when the air begins to cool from the summer's heat, people begin to prepare for the Feast of Tabernacles or the Feast of Ingathering. They know it is near because they just celebrated the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. The Feast of Tabernacles is one of the most joyous times in Jerusalem. Everyone knows the feast has arrived on the fifteenth day of the month when the moon is full.

Leviticus 23:33 The LORD said to Moses, ³⁴ "Say to the Israelites: '**On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's Feast of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days.**' ³⁵ The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. ³⁶ For seven days present offerings made to the LORD by fire, and on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly and present an offering made to the LORD by fire. It is the closing assembly; do no regular work.

Exodus 34:22 "Celebrate the Feast of Weeks with the firstfruits of the wheat harvest, and the **Feast of Ingathering** at the turn of the year. [b] ²³ Three times a year all your men are to appear before the Sovereign LORD, the God of Israel.

During this fall time, the greatest harvest of the year occurs. As local farmers know, the harvest time is limited and crops must be removed from the fields as soon as possible praying that the weather is good and it does not rain. During this time, they work long, hard hours gathering their crops. Strangely, enough they can harvest the crops at night because the full moon provides sufficient light for their efforts. This is known as the "harvest moon".



The celebration, the joy of the people, and the brightness of the moon all symbolize the establishment of God's Kingdom on earth. What will life be like when Jesus rules the earth for one thousand years? When Jesus was on earth, continually He mentioned His Father's kingdom. Let's examine God's word and see what Jesus meant.

Matthew 6:9¹⁰ This, then, is how you should pray: " 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ **your kingdom come**, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.[a]'

Revelation 11:15¹⁶ The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "**The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.**"

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Revelation 19:13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.
14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 **Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter."**[a] He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

Isaiah 65:17 "Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for **I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.** 19 I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; **the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.** 20 "Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach [a] a hundred will be considered accursed.

Hebrews 13:14 For here we do not have an enduring city, but **we are looking for the city that is to come.**

6.1 A Tabernacle

What is a tabernacle? The Hebrew word for tabernacle is Sukkot (**סוכה**) and it means "temporary booth or shelter."

Leviticus 23:33 The LORD said to Moses, 34 "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's **Feast of Tabernacles** begins, and it lasts for seven days.

Leviticus 23:40 On the first day you are to take choice fruit from the trees, and palm fronds, leafy branches and poplars, and rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. 41 Celebrate this as a festival to the LORD for seven days each year. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come; celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 **Live in booths for seven days: All native-born Israelites are to live in booths**



Image from <http://biblicalholidays.com/>

A tabernacle is symbolic of many different things. We will now review and see some of this symbolism.

This is from the Biblical Holidays website:

"Many Americans, upon seeing a decorated sukkah for the first time, remark on how much the sukkah (and the holiday generally) reminds them of Thanksgiving. The American pilgrims, who originated the Thanksgiving holiday, were deeply religious people. As they were trying to find a way to express their thanks for their survival and for

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the harvest, it is quite possible that they looked to the Bible (Leviticus 23:39) for an appropriate way of celebrating and based their holiday in part on the Feast of Tabernacles.”

6.1.1 Our Temporary Flesh

Our fleshly bodies are symbolic of the temporary booth, the Sukkot. This life is short and we live in our fleshly bodies temporarily.

James 1:10 But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. ¹¹For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its **blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed**. In the same way, **the rich man will fade away** even while he goes about his business.

James 4:13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." ¹⁴Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? **You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.**

Ecclesiastes 9:5 **For the living know that they will die**, but the dead know nothing; they have no further reward, and even the memory of them is forgotten.

Ecclesiastes 12:6 Remember him—before the silver cord is severed, or the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, or the wheel broken at the well, ⁷ and **the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.**

6.1.2 Holy Spirit Tabernacles with Men

John 14:23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and **we will come to him and make our home with him.**

Romans 8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if **the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that **God's Spirit lives in you**? ¹⁷If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and **you are that temple.**

1 Corinthians 6:19 Do you not know that your **body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

6.1.3 Christ Tabernacles with Men

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Zechariah 8:3 This is what the LORD says: "I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD Almighty will be called the Holy Mountain."

Zechariah 8:23 This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In those days ten men from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because **we have heard that God is with you.**' "

John 14:2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I am going there to prepare a place for you.** ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that **you also may be where I am.**

¹ Thessalonians 5:10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, **we may live together with him.**

Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "**Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them.** They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

There are also indications that Christ's first coming, His first dwelling with men, or His birth occurred during the Feast of Tabernacles.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and **made his dwelling among us.** We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, [d] who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The word dwelling is skenoo (σκηνωω) and means "to fix one's tabernacle, have one's tabernacle, abide (or live) in a tabernacle (or tent), tabernacle".

In Matthew Henry's commentary on Leviticus 23:33-44 he indicates that the birth of Christ could have occurred during the Feast of Tabernacles:

"(3.) It was a typical feast. **It is supposed by many that our blessed Saviour was born much about the time of this feast;** then he left his mansions of light above to *tabernacle among us* ([Jn. 1:14](#)), and he dwelt in booths. And the worship of God under the New Testament is prophesied of under the notion of keeping the *feast of tabernacles*, [Zec. 14:16](#). For, [1.] The gospel of Christ teaches us to dwell in tabernacles, to sit loose to this world, as those that have here no continuing city, but by faith, and hope and holy contempt of present things, to *go out to Christ without the camp*, [Heb. 13:13](#), 14. [2.] It teaches us to rejoice before the Lord our God. Those are the circumcision, Israelites indeed, that always *rejoice in Christ Jesus*, [Phil. 3:3](#). And the more we are taken off from this world the less liable we are to the interruption of our joys."

When considering the verse in Luke, the shepherds are in the fields at night. This would normally only occur during the warmer times of the year. This most likely did not happen in the middle of winter.

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Luke 2:8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, **keeping watch over their flocks at night.** ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ[a] the Lord.

Since all were commanded to be in Jerusalem for the Feast, all available “inns” in and around Jerusalem would have been full.

Luke 2:6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and **placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.**

Additionally, Christ was circumcised at the proper time, which might have coincided with the Last Great Day, the eighth day of the Feast.

Luke 2:21 **On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him,** he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

6.2 The Millennium

The millennium is derived from Latin “mille annum” and means one thousand years. This word is not in the bible. It represents a time of physical rest compared to the previous 6,000 years of Satan’s rule. When we consider the verse from Peter:

Psalm 90:1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. ² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, O sons of men." ⁴ **For a thousand years in your sight are like a day** that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

² Peter 3:8 **But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.**

Parallels have been made and the following table reflects the concept of a day for a thousand years.

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Year	4000-3000	3000-2000	2000-1000	1000 BC -0	0 – 1000 AD	1000 – 2000	2000 – 3000 AD
Genesis 1	Light	Land	Vegetation	Heavens	Sea Creatures and Birds	Land Creatures and Man	Sabbath Rest
	Satan’s Rule						Christ’s Rule

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Revelation 20:3 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore **until the thousand years were ended**. After that, he must be set free for a short time. ⁴ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. **They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.**

Revelation 20:7 **When the thousand years are over**, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore.

Like the Sabbath, the millennium will culminate the creation week and represent 1,000 years of rest! Here is a quote from Charles Spurgeon on this subject on 18 October 1857:

“Before Adam’s fall the world kept high and perpetual holiday; but now the world has come to its work-days, now it hath to toil. When Adam was in the garden the world had its Sabbath: and it shall never have another Sabbath till the Millennium shall dawn, and then when all things have ceased to work, and the kingdoms shall be given up to God, even the Father, then shall the world have her Sabbath, and shall rest; but at present all things do work.

Dear brethren, let us not wonder if we have to work too. If we have to toil, let us remember, this is the world’s week of toil. The 6,000 years of continual labor, and toil, and travail, have happened not to us alone, but to the whole of God’s great universe; the whole world is groaning, and travailing.”

6.3 The Kingdom

The Kingdom of God will be peaceful, wonderful, joyful, awesome, fantastic, and incredible. When Christ establishes His Kingdom, people will experience true peace. It will be a wonderful peace that man has never been seen before.

Zechariah 8, 9, and 14, Isaiah 2 and 11, Ezekiel 38 and 39, Amos and Micah all describe God’s coming Kingdom in great detail; however, here are a few verses which illustrate the beauty of God’s Kingdom.

Zechariah 8:4 This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Once again men and women of ripe old age will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with cane in hand because of his age. ⁵ The city streets will be filled with boys and girls playing there."

Zechariah 9:10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. **He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River [a] to the ends of the earth. [b]**

Isaiah 11:6 the wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling [a] together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸

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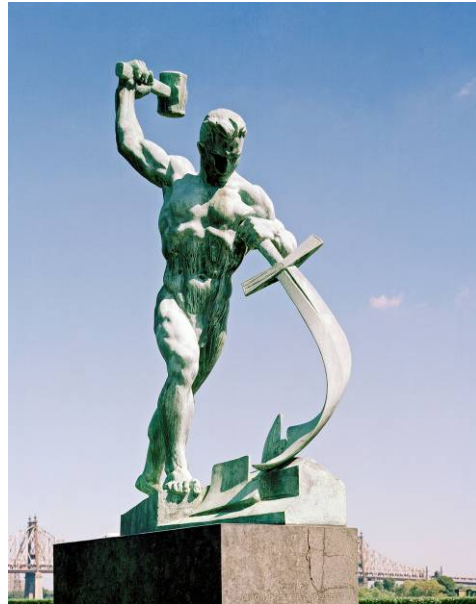
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The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. ⁹ **They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain**, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Ezekiel 38:11 You will say, "I will invade a land of unwalled villages; I will attack **a peaceful and unsuspecting people**—all of them living without walls and without gates and bars. ¹² I will plunder and loot and turn my hand against the resettled ruins and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land."

Amos 9:13 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when **the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes**. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills.

Micah 4:1 In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. ² Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. **He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.**" The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ³ He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. **They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.**



[Image from United Nations "Turn Swords into Plowshares" a gift from the Soviet Union 1959](#)

Isaiah 2:4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. **They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.**

Today, most people do not know about the Feast of Tabernacles, but in God's Kingdom, all people, all nations will know. If they do not attend and celebrate, they will not get rain for their crops!

Zechariah 14:16 Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁷ **If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.** ¹⁸ If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The LORD [d] will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. ¹⁹ This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

6.3.1 No Human or Fleshly Government

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Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall **the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed**: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Daniel 7:27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, **shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High**, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Revelation 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "**The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.**" ¹⁶And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, ¹⁷saying: "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. ¹⁸The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great— and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that **the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

6.3.2 Restoring Israel

Jeremiah 3:14 "**Return, faithless people,**" declares the LORD, "**for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion.**" ¹⁵ Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding. ¹⁶ In those days, when your numbers have increased greatly in the land," declares the LORD, "men will no longer say, 'The ark of the covenant of the LORD.' It will never enter their minds or be remembered; it will not be missed, nor will another one be made. ¹⁷ At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD. No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts. ¹⁸ **In those days the house of Judah will join the house of Israel, and together they will come from a northern land to the land I gave your forefathers as an inheritance.**

Ezekiel 36:22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. ²³ I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD,' declares the Sovereign LORD, when I show myself holy through you before their eyes. ²⁴ " **'For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.** ²⁵ **I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.** ²⁶ **I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.** ²⁷ **And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.** ²⁸ **You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God.** ²⁹ **I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and**

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make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. ³⁰ I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine. ³¹ Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. ³² I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign LORD. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, O house of Israel! ³³ "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: **On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt.** ³⁴ The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. ³⁵ They will say, "**This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.**" ³⁶ Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.'

Isaiah 11:10 In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. ¹¹ **In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people** from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, [b] from Cush, [c] from Elam, from Babylonia, [d] from Hamath and from the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 54:5 For your Maker is your husband—the LORD Almighty is his name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of all the earth. ⁶ The LORD will call you back as if you were a wife deserted and distressed in spirit—a wife who married young, only to be rejected," says your God. ⁷ **"For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back.** ⁸ In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you," says the LORD your Redeemer. ⁹ "To me this is like the days of Noah, when I swore that the waters of Noah would never again cover the earth. **So now I have sworn not to be angry with you, never to rebuke you again.**

Jeremiah 16:14 "However, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when men will no longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,' ¹⁵ but they will say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.' **For I will restore them to the land I gave their forefathers.** ¹⁶ "But now I will send for many fishermen," declares the LORD, "and they will catch them. After that I will send for many hunters, and **they will hunt them down on every mountain and hill and from the crevices of the rocks.**

6.4 The Saints

When we look into God's word, we find that those in Christ, today's Christians are known as the "saints". Once Christ returns, those in Christ are converted from flesh into spirit. We will be converted from corruptible to incorruptible. Once we are spirit we will be able to bless others and creation with our new abilities!

¹ Corinthians 9:25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but **we do it to get a crown that will last forever.**

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¹ 1 Corinthians 15:52, in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the **perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.**

Romans 8:18, I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹**The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.** ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that[i] **the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.** ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

6.4.1 Kings

King David will be the king over all of Israel after he is resurrected and established in the Kingdom.

Jeremiah 30:9 Instead, they will serve the LORD their God and **David their king, whom I will raise up for them.**

The twelve apostles will be the kings over each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Luke 22:29 And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, ³⁰so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Christians in the Kingdom will be kings as well and will reign with Christ, David, and the twelve apostles!

Isaiah 32:1 See, a king will reign in righteousness and rulers will rule with justice.

Daniel 7:21 As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, ²²until the **Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom.**

¹ 1 Peter 5:6 "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that **He may exalt you in due time,** ⁷ casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Matthew 25:21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; **I will put you in charge of many things.** Come and share your master's happiness!'



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Luke 19:17ⁿ "Well done, my good servant!" his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, **take charge of ten cities.**' ¹⁸"The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.' ¹⁹"His master answered, '**You take charge of five cities.**'

Revelation 3:21ⁿ To him who overcomes, **I will give the right to sit with me on my throne**, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Revelation 20:26ⁿ To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, **I will give authority over the nations—** ²⁷**He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery** [b]— just as I have received authority from my Father.

6.4.2 Priests as Teachers

Christians will be the priests in God's Kingdom will help to lead, teach, and convert the nations to God's holy ways during the millennium:

Malachi 2:7 **"For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and from his mouth men should seek instruction—**because he is the messenger of the LORD Almighty.

Jeremiah 3:14 "Return, faithless people," declares the LORD, "for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and **bring you to Zion.**" ¹⁵ Then **I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.**

Ezekiel 44:23 **They are to teach my people the difference between the holy and the common** and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.

Revelation 1:5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. **To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,** ⁶ **and has made us to be a kingdom and priests** to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. ¹⁰ **You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.**"

Micah 4:2 Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. **He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.**" The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isaiah 30:19 O people of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you. ²⁰ Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your **teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them.** ²¹ Whether you turn to the



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right or to the left, **your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."**²² Then you will defile your idols overlaid with silver and your images covered with gold; you will throw them away like a menstrual cloth and say to them, "Away with you!"

Isaiah 2:2 In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.³ Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. **He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.**" The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but **they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.**

The priests will warn of the future release of Satan and teach how to prepare for his return. Since these priests of the future kingdom are today's Christians, they have experienced Satan's deception and can share how the pain of Satan's lies will affect their minds and their lives.

Revelation 20:3 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. **After that, he must be set free for a short time.**

Revelation 20:7 When the thousand years are over, **Satan will be released from his prison⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle.** In number they are like the sand on the seashore.⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

6.4.3 Priests as Judges

Christians will also judge the people and situations in the Kingdom.

Isaiah 1:26 **I will restore your judges as in days of old, your counselors as at the beginning.** Afterward you will be called the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City."

Ezekiel 44:24 "In any dispute, **the priests are to serve as judges** and decide it according to my ordinances. They are to keep my laws and my decrees for all my appointed feasts, and they are to keep my Sabbaths holy.

1 Corinthians 6:2 Do you not know that the **saints will judge the world?** And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases?³ Do you not know that **we will judge angels?** How much more the things of this life!

Revelation 20:4 **I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge.** And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They



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had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. **They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.**

6.5 Questions

1. What does the word tabernacle mean to you?
2. Before this study, did you make the connection between the Feast of Tabernacles and the millennium? Why or why not?
3. What is appealing about the Kingdom of God here on earth?
4. How will God restore Israel to the Kingdom?
5. Why should the saints rule in the kingdom and why not let flesh and blood rule in Christ's kingdom?
6. Have you ever considered yourself a saint before? Why or why not?
7. How would you feel ruling a city? What would make it different from today's influences?
8. How would you feel ruling with Christ?

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7.0 Last Great Day

The Last Great Day, the eighth day or Shemini Atzeret, is technically not a part of the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles. Due to its association, however, when this holy day is mentioned, it is always a part of the Feast of Tabernacles.

It is known as the closing assembly and occurs on the eight day. It is the finale of God's holy Festivals, the last festival of the year, and it has considerable symbolic significance as you will soon see!

Consider God's plan of redemption. We have discussed in great deal, the plan of salvation of Christians and establishment of God's Kingdom here on earth. Once the millennium is finished, what will happen next?

The symbolic significance of the number eight is: "new beginnings". Or the number one "beginnings" and the number seven "perfection" or "perfect beginning" also forms the number eight.

Leviticus 23:33 The LORD said to Moses, ³⁴ "Say to the Israelites: 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month the LORD's Feast of Tabernacles begins, and it lasts for seven days. ³⁵ The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. ³⁶ For seven days present offerings made to the LORD by fire, and **on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly** and present an offering made to the LORD by fire. **It is the closing assembly**; do no regular work.

Ezekiel 43:26 Seven days they shall make atonement for the altar and purify it, and so consecrate it. ²⁷ When these days are over it shall be, **on the eighth day and thereafter**, that the priests shall offer your burnt offerings and your peace offerings on the altar; and **I will accept you,' says the Lord GOD.**"

John 7:37 **On the last and greatest day of the Feast**, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸**Whoever believes in me, as[c] the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.**" ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

7.1 Second Resurrection

The first resurrection occurred with the "righteous" ecclesia (the called out ones) on the Feast of Trumpets. Now on the Last Great Day, the rest of mankind "the wicked" is resurrected on the second resurrection!

Acts 24:14 However, I admit that I worship the God of our fathers as a follower of the Way, which they call a sect. I believe everything that agrees with the Law and that is written in

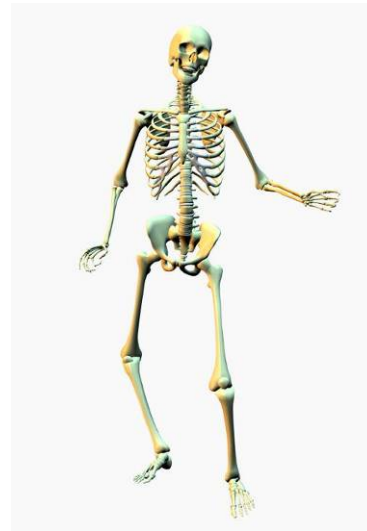
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the Prophets, ¹⁵and **I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.**

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a^[a] thousand years. ⁵ But **the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished.** This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Ezekiel 37:1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: **I will make breath^[a] enter you, and you will come to life.** ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; **I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.**"



Ezekiel 37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.' " ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and **breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.**

Who are these people in the Ezekiel's vision? It is all of Israel! This will be literally billions of humans.

Ezekiel 37:11 Then he said to me: "**Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.** They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, **my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them.**

Isaiah 49:13 Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For the **LORD comforts his people** and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. ¹⁴ But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me." ¹⁵ "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she

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may forget, **I will not forget you!** ¹⁶ See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.

Notice what God does after they are resurrected: He gives them His Holy Spirit! For the first time in their lives, they will not be blinded, they will not be deaf, they will finally know the true God! They will finally have “a circumcised heart”!

Ezekiel 37:14 **I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land.** Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.' "

John 7:37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "**If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as[c] the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.**" ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

² Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**

Consider those in the second resurrection: evil empires, evil kingdoms, all mankind including: Sodom, Gomorrah, Cain, Eve, and Adam. Consider the first family: Adam and Eve. If they did not have the Holy Spirit, then god's opportunity to receive the Holy Spirit is given to them:



Matthew 19:30 But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

² Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**

God's desire is that “everyone to come to repentance”. So let's investigate His plan.

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7.2 Physical Circumcision

If we want to understand some of the deeper meanings of the Last Great Day, we need to study a “strange symbol”: circumcision. Circumcision is a physical symbol of the contract between God and Abraham. The Hebrew word for circumcision is muwl (**מול**) and means to “cut off”.

Genesis 17:10 This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised; ¹¹ and you shall be **circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins**, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you. [NKJV]

Romans 2:25 **Circumcision has value if you observe the law**, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. ²⁶If those who are not circumcised keep the law's requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? ²⁷The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the[c] written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker. [NKJV]

When is this event supposed to occur? It is on the eight day. This day and its timing will mean more as we begin to understand the significance of spiritual circumcision.

Genesis 17:12 **He who is eight days old** among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant. [NKJV]

Luke 2:21 **On the eighth day**, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

7.2.1 Christ's Circumcision

Here is an interesting fact concerning the circumcision of Christ. It is at this time, that Jesus first shed His blood. This is from Wikipedia.

[\[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feast_of_the_Circumcision\]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feast_of_the_Circumcision)

“The Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord is a Feast Day celebrated on January 1 as a holy day of obligation (a day on which Catholics must attend Mass). It is a feast celebrating not only Christ consenting to submit to Jewish Law, but also the first time the Redeemer spilled his blood for mankind.

Traditional Catholics still celebrate this Feast under that name, but most Catholics now, with the revisions of the Mass that followed the Second Vatican Council, celebrate January 1 as the Solemnity of St. Mary, the Mother of God, also a holy day of obligation.”

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7.2.2 Jewish Perspective

Here are some thoughts on circumcision from a Jewish perspective

[<http://www.jewishmag.com/28MAG/bris/bris.htm>]

“Having a baby? If it is a boy, mazel tov, if it is a girl, mazel tov. Even if you aren't having a baby, a "bris" - **the circumcision of the boy baby on the eighth day** is a very important event.

In other societies, the Jews were looked down upon for clipping off that little piece of foreskin that covers the head of the penis. Considered downright barbaric! Sometimes it was downright forbidden to make a circumcision! That was one of the decrees that the ancient Greeks tried to force upon us that eventually led to the miracle of Chanukah. In Stalin controlled Russia, many Jews would risk their lives just to find a "mohel", (a Rabbi who is capable of performing the ritual circumcision) to have their sons circumcised properly.

No matter how competent a doctor may be in performing hospital circumcisions, the circumcision must be done by a qualified "mohel" or the circumcision is invalid. There are differences between the hospital circumcision and the "bris", which for technical reasons, we are not able to elaborate, but these differences meant that the hospital circumcision performed by a competent doctor render the baby Jewish-wise, uncircumcised!”

7.2.3 Muslim Perspective

Many Muslims trace their lineage back to Ishmael. Ishmael was Abraham's son born to Hagar.

Genesis 17:23 So Abraham took Ishmael his son, all who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very same day, as God had said to him. ²⁴ Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁵ **And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised** in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶ That very same day Abraham was circumcised, and his son Ishmael; ²⁷ and all the men of his house, born in the house or bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

So descendants of Ishmael carry on the tradition of circumcision today. Here is a view from the Muslim perspective on this event [<http://www.circlist.com/rites/moslem.html>]:

“Circumcision is not mentioned in the Qur'an, but Muslims everywhere regard it as essential, and the Hadith record it as a practice enjoined by all past prophets. Significantly, it is also known by a euphemism: tahara, meaning "purification." The age at which it is performed varies from region to region and even from family to family, but most often age seven is preferred, although it is known from as early as the seventh day following birth all the way up to puberty. Adult converts to Islam have traditionally been required to undergo the operation, but this practice is not universally considered to be essential, especially if there is a health risk. Of course, in the Bible there are reports of

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circumcisions of adult males and mention of the period of healing that was required afterwards (for example, Gen. 17:9-14,23-27; Josh 5:2-9).”

7.3 Spiritual Circumcision

To help us understand His ways, God always gives us a physical representation of the spiritual. But from the very beginning, God desired man to circumcise his heart to “cut off” the blindness of the mind rather than his flesh.

Deuteronomy 10:16 Therefore **circumcise the foreskin of your heart**, and be stiff-necked no longer. [NKJV]

Deuteronomy 30:6 The LORD your **God will circumcise your hearts** and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

Romans 2:28 A man is not a Jew if he is only one outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. ²⁹No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and **circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit**, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.

Circumcised Heart	
Characteristic	Verse
Humility	Leviticus 26:40 " "But if they will confess their sins and the sins of their fathers—their treachery against me and their hostility toward me, ⁴¹ which made me hostile toward them so that I sent them into the land of their enemies—then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin,
Submissive	Deuteronomy 10:12 "And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? ¹⁴ To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his affection on your forefathers and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations, as it is today. ¹⁶ Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer.
Repentant	Jeremiah 4: 3 "This is what the LORD says to the men of Judah and to Jerusalem: "Break up your unplowed ground and do not sow among thorns. ⁴ Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, circumcise your hearts, you men of Judah and people of Jerusalem, or my wrath will break out and burn like fire because of the evil you have done— burn with no one to quench it.
Loves God's Word	Jeremiah 6:10 "To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? Their ears are closed [a] so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it.

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How does spiritual circumcision happen? It happens through baptism!

Colossians 2:11 **In him you were also circumcised**, in the putting off of the sinful nature,[a] not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the **circumcision done by Christ**,¹² having been **buried with him in baptism** and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

But why is spiritual circumcision needed? Circumcision removes spiritual blindness is removed and now God can offer salvation to others.

Exodus 7:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet.² You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country.³ **But I will harden Pharaoh's heart**, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt,⁴ **he will not listen to you**. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites.⁵ And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it."

Jeremiah 6:10 To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? **Their ears are closed** [a] so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it.

Jeremiah 9:25 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will punish all who are circumcised only in the flesh-²⁶ Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab and all who live in the desert in distant places. [d] For all these nations are really uncircumcised, and even **the whole house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.**"

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has **blinded the minds** of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Romans 11:32 **For God has bound all men over to disobedience** so that he may have mercy on them all.

Acts 26:17 I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. **I am sending you to them¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God**, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Romans 11:25 I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: **Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.**²⁶ And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob."²⁷ And this is [f] my covenant with them when I take away their sins." [g]

What does this mean? Let's take a look at Deuteronomy 30. God tells us His plans:

Deuteronomy 30:1 When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations,² and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and **obey him with all your heart and with all your soul** according to everything I command you

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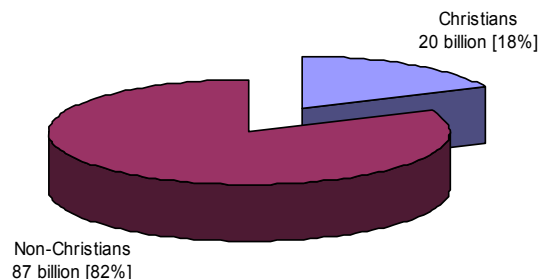
today, ³ then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes ^[a] and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. ⁴ **Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you and bring you back.** ⁵ He will bring you to the land that belonged to your fathers, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers.

Remember Christ's words and notice the words "before you", there is a time element to the salvation of man:

Matthew 21:28 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' ²⁹ He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. ³⁰ Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that **tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you.**

John 7:37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "**If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸Whoever believes in me, as[c] the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.**" ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Human Population
Creation to 2002 AD



Isaiah 25:7 On this mountain **he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations;**

The blindness of **all the nations** will be removed, a circumcision will occur that will allow everyone to spiritually see and hear clearly. Isaiah indicates what happens when this blindness is removed, and will see what happens to all people:

Isaiah 25:8 he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will **wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth.** The LORD has spoken. ⁹ In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

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Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!"
Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**

7.4 Release of Satan

Like man in the second resurrection, Satan has his own resurrection from his prison. However, once released, he returns to his perverted ways and tries again to destroy God's Kingdom.

Revelation 20:3 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. **After that, he must be set free for a short time.**

Revelation 20:7 When the thousand years are over, **Satan will be released from his prison⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations** in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore.⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them.¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Satan is allowed to deceive man again. However, this time, everyone will have access to God's Holy Spirit. However, if man chooses Satan's way, he will pay an eternal price and will take part in the second death.

7.5 The Judgment

The judgment is after the millennium, not after the first death. Notice the sequence of events in this verse:

Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them.¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.¹³ The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and **each person was judged according to what he had done.**

Hebrews 9:27 Just as man is destined to die once, and **after that to face judgment,**

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One of the considerations in the judgment is the personal acceptance as Jesus as their savior and reception of the Holy Spirit. Without Christ and Holy Spirit, then there is no hope of life and no possible eternal life in man!

Matthew 12:31 And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³²Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but **anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.**

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through me.**

Consider this perspective from Henry M. Morris, "The Defender's Study Bible":

"The unforgivable sin of speaking against the [Holy Spirit](#) has been interpreted in various ways, but the true meaning cannot contradict other Scripture. It is unequivocally clear that the **one unforgivable sin is permanently rejecting Christ** ([John 3:18](#); [3:36](#)). Thus, speaking against the Holy Spirit is equivalent to rejecting Christ with such finality that no future [repentance](#) is possible. 'My spirit shall not always strive with man,' God said long ago ([Genesis 6:3](#)). ...In the context of this particular passage ([Matthew 12:22-32](#)), Jesus had performed a great miracle of creation, involving both healing and casting out a [demon](#), but the [Pharisees](#) rejected this clear witness of the [Holy Spirit](#). Instead they attributed His powers to Satan, thus demonstrating an attitude permanently resistant to the Spirit, and to the deity and saving Gospel of Christ".

7.6 Eternal Punishment and Eternal Life

At the very end of all things, God provides eternal punishment and eternal life.

Matthew 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³²**All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.** ³⁴"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' ³⁷"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' ⁴⁰"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' ⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' ⁴⁴"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' ⁴⁵"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you

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did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ⁴⁶"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

7.6.1 Satan's Punishment

During the millennium and prior to the judgment, the Satan and the demons are bound in prison or "Tartarus". This word is Greek (**Τάρταρος**) and is often translated "hell" but means prison is used only one time in the bible.

^{2 Peter 2:4} For if God didn't spare (H) the angels who sinned, but **threw them down into Tartarus** (I) [a] and delivered them to be kept in chains [b] of darkness until judgment; (J) [HCSB]

^{2 Peter 2:4} For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell,[a] putting them into gloomy dungeons[b] to be held for judgment;

However, after the judgment, the eternal punishment for Satan and his demons is clear: eternal torment.

^{Revelation 20:10} And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. **They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.**

Satan and the rebellious demons will be an eternal example to all who look upon them.

7.6.2 Human Punishment

The eternal punishment for man is clear: death. However, before the second death, before they loose their life, before they die, before they are burned in the flame, those perishing will be in torment.

^{Luke 16:23} And in Hades (the realm of the dead), being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴And he cried out and said, Father Abraham, have pity and mercy on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for **I am in anguish in this flame.** [AMP]

^{Matthew 13:41} The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of offense [[m]persons by whom others are drawn into error or sin] and all



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who do iniquity and act wickedly, ⁴²And will cast them into the furnace of fire; there will be **weeping and wailing and grinding of teeth.** [AMP]

Revelation 14:11 **And the smoke of their torment** ascends forever and ever; and they have no respite (no pause, no intermission, no rest, no peace) day or night—these who pay homage to the beast and to his image and whoever receives the stamp of his name upon him.(C) [AMP]

And then their torment is ended with their death in the lake of fire.



Matthew 10:28 **And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; but rather be afraid of Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell (Gehenna).** [AMP]

Revelation 20:14 **Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.** ¹⁵If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, **he was thrown into the lake of fire.**

Revelation 21:8 **But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."**

Contemporary thought makes us think that the eternal punishment for man is life: eternal torment. But God's word is clear. Those rebelling and rejecting Christ, Holy Spirit and God the Father are thrown into the Lake of Fire which is the second death.

7.6.3 Death and the Grave are Destroyed

Notice the word Hades. It is usually translated as hell in all other areas of the bible but in this translation it is left in its original form. Notice that "Hades" is destroyed as well. Hades () is Greek and means: grave. It is equivalent to the Hebrew word Sheol () which also means grave.

1 Corinthians 15:24 **Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.** ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶**The last enemy to be destroyed is death.**

Revelation 20:14 **Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.** The lake of fire is the second death.

7.6.4 Eternal Life

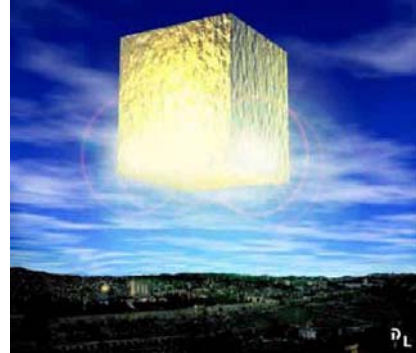
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September 2006
Matthew Kneisler

For those who have the accepted Christ and have the Holy Spirit, they will live with God for ever.

Revelation 21:6⁶ He said to me: **"It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.**
⁷He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Revelation 22:12¹² Behold, I am coming soon! **My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.** ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. ¹⁴"Blessed are those who wash their robes, that **they may have the right to the tree of life** and may go through the gates into the city.



7.7 Questions

1. Did you know there will be two resurrections?
2. Have you considered the second resurrection before? Why or why not?
3. What did you find interesting about circumcision? Why?
4. Have you ever considered "spiritual circumcision" before? Why or why not?
5. Consider the eternal punishment of Satan and of man, why do many think it will be the same punishment?
6. How would you feel when you saw "death and the grave" thrown into the lake of fire?
7. Consider eternal life, what do you see?

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