

**The Feast of Tabernacles**  
**“The Truth As We Know It”**  
**10/11/15**

This week I want to talk about the Feasts of the Lord. We have just celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles. This is an annual meeting that I have attended for the past fifty years. I have always been restored and strengthened for having attended. It is a joyous time of great ministry and fellowship. It is also One of God's appointed times that God said for us to get together in celebration and worship.

The Final Feast of the year was the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles was the (thanksgiving) feast. It was also called the "feast of ingathering" It was celebrated by building booths out of branches and what ever they had and camping out in them for a week to remind their children how they lived in tents for forty years while they wondered in the wilderness.

We believe that Jesus was born during the feast of Tabernacles, in October, and not in the middle of winter as is commonly believed. A careful study of the scriptures and history will tell us that.

Also, we believe Jesus will return during this season of the year. What would be a better time for this to occur than at the Feast of Ingathering! In Mat 24:31 Jesus taught His disciples, "And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

All of these Feasts are listed in Leviticus 23rd chapter. I recommend that you do your own research and discover for yourselves the significance of these feasts. Jesus was born at the Feast of Tabernacles, Crucified on the Day of Passover, The Holy Ghost was poured out on the day of Pentecost, What better time for Him to return with the saints than on the Feast of Ingathering, called Tabernacles!

Here is a list of some other things that took place at the time of Tabernacles. Noah's ark settled on the mountains of Ararat at Tabernacles. The story is told in Geneses 8:3-4 where we read, "And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat."

Solomon dedicated the temple on the Feast of Tabernacles and the glory of the Lord filled the house so that they could stand to minister. This story is told in 1Ki 8:2-4 where we read, "And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. (Feast of Tabernacles) And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. And they brought up the ark of the LORD, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that *were* in the tabernacle, even those did the priests and the Levites bring up."

And in 1Ki 8:10-11 quoting, "And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy *place*, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD."

The Feast of Tabernacles was a time of great celebration and thanksgiving. It came at the end of the harvest year and their crops were in. Now it was time to thank the Lord and celebrate. That is why it is also called the "Feast of Ingathering" I believe our Thanksgiving Day was a direct product of the original Feast of Tabernacles.

The Feasts of the Lord are "Eternal" feasts that will be celebrated throughout eternity. In Zec 14:16 we read, "And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles." I believe that that will apply to all the Feasts of the Lord.

In the general Christian community, we have forsaken these Feasts and replaced them with Easter, Halloween and Christmas. All of these holidays are of pagan origins and will not be celebrated in eternity. There will not be an Easter bunny, or a Santa Clause or a Christmas tree or Halloween costumes in Heaven!

What does the Bible say about these things? In Jer 10:1-4 we read, "Hear ye the word which the LORD speaks unto you, O house of Israel: Thus says the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not." This sounds very much like the Christmas trees of today. Notice the term, 'Learn not the way of the heathen' This was part of the worship of the sun god and other stars and the moon.

In Deu 12:29-32 we read, "When the LORD thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou go to possess them, and thou succeed them, and dwell in their land; Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise. Thou shall not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hates, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods. What thing so ever I command you, observe to do it: thou shall not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

God hates idolatry in any form. I ask this question now. Are not our Christmas trees, Easter Bunny Rabbits, Santa Clause and Halloween Costumes a form of idolatry? Take the myth of Santa Clause as an example. We are told he knows when we are sleeping, he knows when we are awake, he knows when we have been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake. He is able to visit every home worldwide on Christmas eve. Surely we can see that this is very offensive to God. Should we as Christians continue to participate in these practices? You must choose for yourselves, but I cannot.

Thank God for the grace of God! It is not our status that God is concerned about when we first give our hearts to Him. He accepts us as we are and forgives us, and we start a new life in Christ. But it is our responsibility to grow in Christ. In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus tells us, "Come unto me, all *ye* that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light." Jesus asks us to take His yoke upon ourselves and learn of Him.

As a minister of the Gospel, I have an obligation to teach the truth, regardless of how difficult it sounds to some. I am not asking you to blindly believe what I am teaching. I am challenging you to check for yourselves and see what the Bible and history tell us about these things. Remember, God does not change!

What He hated yesterday, he still hates. He is not worshiped in a lie regardless of how good we make it sound.

Listen again next week.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we might be saved. Atheism is a temporary condition, for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until next week, God bless.