

**“The Truth As We Know It”
"The Feasts of the Lord"**

6/7/15

This week I want to talk about the Feasts of the Lord. We have just celebrated the Feast of Pentecost at Jerusalem Acers, Cleveland, TN. a couple of weeks ago. 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 great Feasts of the Lord are a major part of God's calendar and are still important for us to understand the great spiritual events that have happened in history and that are still to happen.

When the world leaders abandoned the biblical calendar, Satan was able to take away the guide to the great spiritual truths that we need to know as Christians. God's calendar makes sense! Who's idea was is to begin the year in the middle of winter?! On January 1? It makes no sense, The start of the year is in the spring when things begin to grow and turn green! The birds build their nests and have their young, the farmers plant their crops. The winter is past and mothers do their spring cleaning! It's a good time of the year! In Exo 12:1-2 we read, "And the LORD spoke unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you." This month is called Abib on Nisan as is shown in Exo 34:18, "...in the time of the

month Abib: for in the month Abib thou came out from Egypt."

The same is true with the beginning of the day. Why start the day at midnight and not at sundown or sunrise? God started it at sundown which makes good sense.

There are seven feasts of the Lord through-out the Jewish sacred year. Three of which required the men to attend. They were called Holy Convocations, or sacred gatherings. They were Passover, in the spring, Pentecost, which comes in early summer, and Tabernacles which is in the fall.

I want to mention all seven of them and show there significance. In Lev 23:2-3 we read, "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons."

The first of these feasts is Passover. Passover was in memory of the angel of death passing over the children of Israel who had their doors frames covered with the blood of the Passover Lamb. Lev 23:5 tells us, "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even *is* the LORD'S Passover." Passover was celebrated by the Family getting together and having a Seder meal with special ceremony. This was the meal that Jesus had with His disciples the night He was betrayed.

Jesus is our unspotted Passover Lamb! He was crucified on the day of Passover. 1Co 5:7 tells us, "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:"

The second feast is a week long feast of Unleavened Bread in which they cleaned their houses of all leaven and ate unleavened bread. Leaven is a type of sin. Jesus' death on the cross paid for our sin. The first and last day of that feast were High Holy Sabbaths regardless what day of the week they fell on. It was this Sabbath they were preparing for the day they crucified Jesus.

The next feast was the Wave Offering of the first Fruits of the Barley harvest. On the Sunday morning after Passover the priest would take a small sheaf of barley and wave it before the Lord as a prayer for an abundant harvest. This is the morning of the resurrection of Jesus! When Mary Magdalene saw Jesus after the resurrection, Jesus said for her not to touch Him for he had not yet appeared before the Father, yet later that same day He appeared to the Brethren and ate and had them touch his hands and His side. That morning at 9 o'clock he had performed His first act as our High Priest and brought before God those that arose with Him as a prayer that there would millions more!

The next feast is the Feast of Pentecost. The word Pentecost means fifty. The story is told in Lev 23:15-16 and we read, "And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye

brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

Pentecost is one the feasts that required the men to attend. It was a Holy Convocation and a High Sabbath though it fell on Sunday after a weekly Sabbath. This is the day of the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Act 2:1-4 we read, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

The early Church celebrated the Feast of Pentecost as is told by Paul. in Act 18:20-21 where we read, "When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not; But bade them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep this feast that cometh in Jerusalem:... And he sailed from Ephesus." and in Act 20:16, "For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost."

Pentecost is also believed to be the anniversary of Moses' receiving Law on Mt Sinai. God writes the law on our

hearts when we receive the Holy Ghost.

The next feast is the feast of Trumpets. Trumpets was an announcement of the first day of the Jewish civil year. They would blow the trumpets all day, in every city, taking turns. It was a joyous day, a great day of celebration. In Neh 8:9-10 we read, .."This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. .. Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet,.. for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

The next feast is the Day of atonement. This is the one day of the year that the High Priest would go in behind the curtain to offer an atonement for all the people. It was a day of fasting when all the people fasted. Jesus is our atonement! He paid the price once and for all time! Thank God! We do not need to remember our sin year after year and perform special sacrifices to pay for them.

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 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 wandered 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. More on that at a later broadcast.

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.

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.