

Bible Mini-course

Lesson 10 — Feast of Tabernacles

Tabernacles, as well as the other Feasts and Sabbaths, points the way to salvation. Those who do not keep Yahweh's *moedim* do not really know Him. When an apostate Israel repented and returned to Yahweh, they immediately went back to keeping His Holy Days, Nehemiah 8:2, 14, 18. Obeying Him brings us close to Him and results in His blessings, Deuteronomy 28:1-14. Obey your Father—and be blessed accordingly! (The answers to the questions below are on the reverse.)

1. The Feast of Tabernacles is a commanded assembly, whether we wish to assemble or not.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. For seven complete days during the Feast of Tabernacles Yahweh directs His people to live in temporary dwellings.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. The Feast of Tabernacles portrays the summer wheat harvest.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. The Last Great Day is technically a Feast in its own right and is separate from the Feast of Tabernacles.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. What does the Hebrew phrase *hag hasukkot* mean?
 - a. Feast of the ingathering
 - b. Feast of the booths
 - c. Feast of the harvest
 - d. Feast of Yahweh
6. We are to read the book of Deuteronomy every _____ year at the Feast of Tabernacles.
 - a. sabbatical
 - b. jubilee
 - c. leap
 - d. None of the above
7. Which Old Testament king established a feast in the eighth month to mimic the Feast of Tabernacles?
 - a. Ahaz
 - b. Rehoboam
 - c. Hezekiah
 - d. Jeroboam
8. Who kept the Feast of Tabernacles in the New Testament?
 - a. Yahshua the Messiah
 - b. the twelve disciples
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. No one, the Feasts were done away by that time
9. Yahshua told his half-brothers that it was not necessary for them to observe the Feasts anymore, as He Himself fulfilled them.
 - a. True
 - b. False
10. Those who do not observe the Feast of Tabernacles during the Millennial Kingdom will receive what?
 - a. a plague of darkness
 - b. a plague of drought
 - c. a plague of death
 - d. grace
11. What most likely does the Feast of Tabernacles foreshadow?
 - a. Yahshua's Second Coming
 - b. the resurrection of the saints
 - c. the Millennial Kingdom
 - d. the Great White Throne Judgment
12. What does the Last Great Day most likely foreshadow?
 - a. Yahshua's Second Coming
 - b. the resurrection of the saints
 - c. the Millennium
 - d. the Great White Throne Judgment



Score Yourself

1. **a.** Yahweh commands us in Exodus 23:15-17 to gather at three times (*pa'am*—seasons) of the year: for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, and Tabernacles. See also Exodus 34:22-23. During Tabernacles we are directed to rejoice, Deuteronomy 16:14-15. As we will see, Tabernacles pictures a soon-coming time when people everywhere will be forced to obey Yahweh and as a consequence will find joy.
2. **a.** We are commanded to dwell in booths or temporary dwellings for seven complete days during the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:42). The word booth is from the Hebrew word *sukkah*, which means a “temporary shelter.” Anciently these booths were constructed with boughs of olive, palm, pine, myrtle, and trees of thick foliage. The *sukkah* represents the dwelling used by the Israelites during their wilderness journey (Lev. 23:43).
3. **b.** Also known as ingathering, Tabernacles concludes the general fall harvest, often called the fruit harvest. At the end of September grapes, figs, and other fruits are harvested and wines, raisins, and molasses are produced from the harvest.
4. **a.** The Last Great Day is technically separate from the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:34-36). The Last Great Day concludes the annual feasts for the biblical year. Servile work, buying, and selling are prohibited on the first and eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:35-36, Neh. 10:31). The word servile is from the Hebrew *abodah*, which means, “work of any kind.” The restriction against buying and selling on the Sabbath and High Days includes dining at restaurants.
5. **b.** The Hebrew phrase *hag hasukkot* is translated in English as “Feast of booths.” The word *hag* is usually translated “Feast.” However, *hag* can also be translated “sacrifice,” as in the sacrificial victim for Passover (Ex. 34:25). The word *hasukkot* is translated “of booths.” The Feast of Tabernacles is also called the Feast of the harvest (Ex. 34:22) and the “Feast unto Yahweh” (Lev. 23:39).
6. **a.** We are to read the book of the Law or Deuteronomy every sabbatical year at the Feast of Tabernacles (Deut. 31:10-13; Neh. 8:17-18).
7. **d.** King Jeroboam established a Feast in the eighth month in Samaria to mimic the Feast of Tabernacles at Jerusalem (1Kings 12:32). He did this so that the northern tribes of Israel would not rejoin with King Rehoboam and Judah in the south. Yahweh’s prophet for this direct defiance and rejection of the Law harshly condemned Jeroboam. By this we know that there can be no man-made substitutes for Yahweh’s Feast days.
8. **c.** The New Testament shows Yahshua the Messiah along with all twelve disciples keeping the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7). With the exception of the Feast of Trumpets, all other appointed times and Feasts that are found in the Old Testament are also referenced in the New Testament (Mark 14:12; Luke 22:8; John 7:2; 13:1; Acts 2; 12:3; 20:6, 16; 27:9; 1Cor 5:7; 16:7-8). The Feast of Trumpets can prophetically be seen in the New Testament in the trumpet-announced return of Yahshua (1Thes 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52).
9. **b.** In John 7, Yahshua clearly told His fleshly half-brothers, “Go up unto this feast” of Tabernacles, verse 8. After they left to go, He Himself also went to keep the Feast, albeit clandestinely because the Jews wanted to kill Him, v.v. 10-11. What better excuse to stay home! Yet, Yahshua was faithful in ALL things and obeyed His Father’s command to keep all the Feasts (Lev. 23), even as He taught us to do the same—without excuse and both gladly and willingly, knowing that to do so pleases Yahweh and returns blessings to us.
10. **b.** Those who do not observe the Feast of Tabernacles during the Millennium will receive no rain (Zech. 14:16-19). In addition, all the other Feast days found in the Law will be enforced in the Millennium under the rule of the Messiah (Ezek. 45-46). Their importance could not be more clear.
11. **c.** Yahweh’s appointed times represent future events (e.g. Yahshua’s death and resurrection at Passover and Unleavened Bread, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost). The Feasts revolve around three main harvest times in the year, which symbolize the souls “harvested” for Yahweh’s Kingdom. Yahshua is portrayed by the firstfruits spring barley wave sheaf (at Unleavened Bread), and the saints are represented by the firstfruits wheat harvest starting at the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) as well as the general harvest at Tabernacles in the fall. Tabernacles is also known as the Feast of Ingathering, with seven days that symbolically span the Millennial Kingdom (Ex. 23:16). During the Millennium people will be converted and “ingathered” to Yahshua. During this period Yahshua will rule with a rod of iron and restore righteousness and morality to this earth, including the complete restoration of Yahweh’s Law and Feasts planet-wide (Micah 4:1-2; Exek. 45:21-25; Isa. 66:23).
12. **d.** The Last Great Day typifies the Great White Throne Judgment of mankind. If Yahweh’s appointed times (Heb. *moedim*) represent His plan for mankind (Col. 2:16), then the Last Great Day denotes the conclusion of Yahweh’s initial plan for mankind, i.e. the Great White Throne Judgment. After this event death will be eliminated and a new chapter will be revealed (Rev. 20:11-15).