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Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of the early New Testament Assembly.

This publication is made possible through the tithes and offerings of those who desire to see the truth of Scripture restored in our day.

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COVER:

Looking towards the Dead Sea from the Masada Fortress. The desolated city of Gomorrah is visible.

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Taste the Coming Kingdom

by the late Donald R. Mansager



Yahweh's Feast days did not end with ancient Israel. They are as important for us today as they will be in the coming millennial Kingdom.

In choosing His apostles, Yahshua was very discerning. He did not go to the pagan community to select His Apostles. Neither did He choose from among those who might be ignorant of Israelite laws. He went rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Consistent with their obedience to the Word, both the Savior and His disciples kept the Feasts of Yahweh. We read that the Messiah kept the Passover and the days of Unleavened Bread with His parents, Luke 2:42-46. Before He died, our Redeemer observed the Passover with His disciples, Luke 22:15. John 7:10 tells of our Savior joining His brethren to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Not only was Passover observed in the New Testament, but Passover will also be kept in the coming thousand-year Kingdom, Matthew 26:29. The same with the Feast of Tabernacles, Zechariah 14:16-17.

A December Mystery

Yahweh knew man would periodically need to stop, rest, and step off the

treadmill of life – allowing time to consider what's truly important in life.

He gave us the Sabbath on which to rest and reflect on the special course we have chosen. Sad to say, most of the world keeps another day, Sunday, but not even as a day of devotion was commanded to be kept.

And much of the world keeps other annual days as well. Christmas was adopted from rites of heathenism and has become the world's most celebrated holiday of family get-togethers and merrymaking. Churchianity baptized the pagan-based festival of the sun and made this heathen celebration into the birthday of the Savior.

The mistletoe, holly wreath, yule-log, evergreen tree, tinsel, garland, and other customs have no biblical basis. Yet most churches observe this worldly festival. Historians point out that the Savior could not have been born in December, but more likely in late September or early October. The livestock were not taken to the fields after the cold fall rains began (Luke 2:8).

Christmas is even a big bash

in nations such as Japan, which is not known as a "Christian" nation. Countless atheists and agnostics keep Christmas as well.

Churchianity keeps other days thought to be associated with the Bible, such as Easter and Sunday. All are rooted in mystery worship having little to do with the Bible.

Ageless Feasts Are Also for Today

Let's understand. In order to bring heathen worshipers into the gentile church, pagan days and customs were "baptized" by the priests of the church and became a part of its customs and rituals. Yahweh warns us not to accept such customs and practices.

The prophet wrote, "Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the heathen..." (Jer. 10:2). Yahweh shows His understanding of a weakness in human nature, namely, our tendency is not to remember or to ignore certain essential principles.

In His wisdom, He gave us seven annual Feast days that occur in three major periods of the year, which are tied to the agricultural seasons. We

learn spiritual lessons through physical acts. By physically getting involved and doing certain things, as in Feast-keeping, we retain pertinent details and learn the necessary lessons.

Yahshua started His assembly by calling out those who observed Yahweh's annual Feast days. He Himself observed Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread as commanded in Ezekiel 45:21. Zechariah 14:16-18 shows that Tabernacles will be kept by those who survive age-ending events. Isaiah 66:23 states that all Yahweh's Sabbaths will be kept as well in the coming Kingdom on earth:

"And it shall come to pass, [that] from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, says Yahweh."

Three major Feasts are Unleavened Bread, Pentecost (*Shavuoth* or the Feast of Weeks), and Tabernacles, which are known as the "pilgrim Feasts" because the Israelites were expected to journey in order to keep them. Exodus 23:17, 34:23, and Deuteronomy 16:16 all show that it is mandatory for all of the males of Israel to appear before Yahweh at the times of these Feasts. Not only are the males to appear, but also their families. Yahweh declares: "And you shall rejoice in your feast, you, and your son, and your daughter, and your manservant, and your maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within your gates" (Deut. 16:14).

Holy Days in 2023

*Passover Memorial - April 4
(evening)*

*Feast of Unleavened Bread - April
6-12*

Pentecost - May 28

Feast of Trumpets - Sept. 17

Day of Atonement - Sept. 26

Feast of Tabernacles - Oct. 1-7

Last Great Day - Oct. 8

The Way and Means

Yahweh has also given His plan to us whereby we are able to finance attendance. Those who are obedient to Yahweh know that He expects us to set aside a second tithe for the Feasts. This second tithe is not collected for the ministry. It is entirely for personal use at His Feasts.

Notice Deuteronomy 14:22-26: "You shall truly tithe all the increase of your seed, that the field brings forth year by year. And you shall eat before Yahweh your Elohim, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of your corn, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks; that you may learn to fear Yahweh your Elohim always. And if the way be too long for you, so that you are not able to carry it; for] if the place be too far from you, which Yahweh our Elohim shall choose to set his name there, when Yahweh your Elohim has blessed you: Then shall you turn it into money, and bind up the money in your hand, and shall go unto the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose: And you shall bestow that money for whatsoever your soul lusts after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever your soul desires: and you shall eat there before Yahweh your Elohim, and you shall rejoice, you, and your household."

This second tithe is separate from the first tithe of Leviticus 27:30-33. The first tithe is holy to Yahweh and used for His worship and to expand the Body of Messiah.

Putting away a regular amount each pay period allows Yahweh's people to really enjoy the Feasts with no burdensome debt. Even if your income is small, a tithe put away regularly will add up over many months, enabling you to truly enjoy His days.

Many times we hear the excuse that a person just can't afford to come to the Feasts. But if Yahweh's precepts were obediently followed, most would

not suffer from a lack at Feast time, but would have enough for themselves and even to share. Faith is a key part of obedience.

What's Important Today

Not only can Yahweh's people enjoy the fellowship of brethren in the faith whom they have not seen for some time, but they are also establishing relationships with fellow, soon-to-be, kings and priests who will be given immortality and will be ruling in the Kingdom under Yahshua!

If you are not keeping the Feasts as did ancient Israel, the Savior, and the Apostles, you must consider the scriptural necessity of joining with others of like faith. The rewards are out of this world!

True Worshipers faithfully tithe to help proclaim the truth of the Bible. The unenlightened spend on vacations each year unaware that Yahweh already has a plan for their rest and relaxation. Yahweh's people take their vacations during His Feast days. There they meet with other brethren and enjoy the fellowship of like faith. It is a way of life, the most rewarding and satisfying on earth. If you have never kept a Feast, you have no idea what you have missed.

We read in Exodus 23:14-17: "Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year. Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:) And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Sovereign Yahweh."

Feasts in the Millennium

We must come to realize that our time spent in this earthly sojourn is really only a training period for ruling with

Yahshua in the millennial Kingdom. We are “going to school,” learning spiritual principles that will enable us to be good representatives of Yahweh even now as we learn. This means we build character and integrity by living Yahweh’s principles and way of life.

Note the promise given: “And have made us unto our Elohim kings and priests [a kingdom of priests]: and we shall reign on the earth” (Rev. 5:10).

In the New Testament our sacrifices are spiritual. It is a matter of obedience from the heart as nearly all the New

Peter concurs with Paul and points out that the Assembly is being constructed with living stones to make a spiritual building:

“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to Elohim by Yahshua Messiah (1Pet. 2:5).

One of the most compelling of all in Yahweh’s Word is found in the Book of Hebrews, which shows that our praise and thanks to Yahweh constitute proper sacrifice:

not say to give glory to His person, or thanks to His goodness or His mercy, but strongly emphasizes giving thanks to His NAME as an important part of True Worship. We do this for eight days at the Feast of Tabernacles.

A Taste of the Kingdom!

During this festive occasion we spend time with brethren of like faith as we fellowship with the family of Yahweh. Upon returning home we cherish the friendships and joyful times, reflecting as well on the deeper truths of Yahweh’s Word.

Suddenly we realize that we have spent a special time with Yahweh and His Son, and have associated with those who will be future priests in the coming Kingdom.

The time spent with dedicated brethren who are also striving to be in the first resurrection becomes more precious and lasting than even a family reunion.

So priceless is this experience that once we have attended a Feast with others of like faith we never want to miss another. We have a growing desire to attend them all,

knowing that Yahweh will bless those who obediently follow His command to observe His annual festivals in convocation with other sincere Bible believers.

If you have not attended a Feast of Tabernacles, determine to observe it with us this year (Oct. 1-8, 2023). Prepare to attend the marriage supper of the Lamb, wearing a robe of righteousness and a crown when Yahshua returns and rewards the saints: “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward [is] with me, to give every man according as his work shall be” (Rev. 22:12).



Testament writers point out. Notice Paul’s letter to the Romans:

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of Yahweh, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto Yahweh, [which is] your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be you transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of Yahweh.” (Romans 12:1-2)

Paul undoubtedly speaks of obedience in mind and spirit, which he refers to in Romans 6:11-13. He himself said he dies daily, 1Corinthians 15:31.

“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to Yahweh continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his Name” (Heb. 13:15).

One can give thanks and praise at all times. Especially on the Sabbaths and Feasts we gather to sing praises and give honor to Yahweh and His Son. We study the Word and hear uplifting sermons, all the while endeavoring to imbed the laws of Yahweh in our mind. Today, ceremonial offerings and ritual are not what Yahweh is looking for. He seeks a change in our hearts while giving glory to His Name. He does

Feast Observance: Choosing Between Yourself and Yahweh

by Alan Mansager



As in every facet of a believer's devotion, motives for what we do are not just anything, they are everything. The right reasons and attitudes will lead to right worship. If we live to please Yahweh, then everything we do in our lives will reflect and support that desire.

Zachariah chapter 14 is a synopsis of all that will happen just before Yahshua returns to earth. When I read it again in preparing this discourse, I was taken aback by the importance of one remarkable requirement.

This legendary passage details the final culmination of end-time events that are centered at and on Jerusalem.

"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, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith Yahweh will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the

punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles," Zechariah 14:16-19.

Out of all the cataclysmic events surrounding the returning of Messiah to conquer the nations, including the metamorphosis of the earth and the setting up of Yahshua's throne on earth, Yahweh puts one priority ahead of all else, which is that the nations of the earth must attend the Feast of Tabernacles.

Soon everyone will be required to attend Tabernacles in the seventh biblical month; and if they refuse they will suffer dire consequences. One day in the near future billions will be celebrating this same Feast.

The number one reason you attend should be to worship and serve Yahweh. It is a joy-filled observance, a time to realign our spirit while building lifelong memories.

Regular, consistent Feast and Sabbath observance with the same body of Messiah is critical to spiritual stability.

Decades of experience have shown a risk for families who bounce from group to group for Sabbaths and Feasts. Their children often will lack the grounding in the faith that they get with long-term friends who are solid in the

Truth. Without this stabilizing influence many will bolt from the faith as adults.

I asked a brother years ago why his adult children never came to services and he said he pulled his son and daughter in and out of so many groups that they became disillusioned. If it didn't matter to dad and mom to become committed members in good standing, why should it matter to them? Children learn by their parents' examples.

The Idolatrous Me

What is the number one reason most people don't serve Yahweh today? Because of "number one" – the idolatrous "me" over Yahweh.

Self-serving comes before all else in this self-indulgent, self-centered, self-absorbed culture. For most, Yahweh is somewhere down on their list, until they happen to need Him for something. Then only briefly does He have priority.

A *Newsweek/Beliefnet* poll showed that a shocking number of people who call themselves evangelical and born-again think that exclusive obedience to Yahweh is irrelevant. The question in the poll asked: "Can a good person who isn't of your religious faith attain salvation?"

The results of more than 1,000 adults 18 years of age and older revealed that

68 percent of evangelical Christians believe “good” people of other faiths can also be saved. Nationally, 79 percent of those surveyed said the same thing, with an astounding 91 percent agreement among Catholics.

“Evangelicals are among the most churchgoing and religiously attentive people in the United States,” one writer writes. “But how could so many of them toss aside such a basic biblical teaching as following only the Bible?”

Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:4-5: “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Master, one faith, one baptism, One El and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

We see the growing politically correct generation and their wholehearted acceptance of diversity, which is a leading cause of apostasy. And those ideologies are entering church doors and sitting in the pews at a rapid rate.

The culture says don’t discriminate regarding truth, there are no absolutes anyway, so don’t make anyone uncomfortable with your convictions. Accept everything. It is all valued “truth” anyway—just different ways of getting there, they believe.

We are in the throes of the great falling away, which will only accelerate in the years ahead as the drumbeats of secularism get louder.

We observe the Feasts because they are just as binding as the weekly Sabbath. Leviticus 23 introduces them to us by saying these are the Feasts of Yahweh, commencing with the weekly Sabbath. The feasts are connected with the institution of the Sabbath through the commandment of the seventh day and the continuing number 7.

A caller said, “We keep the Sabbath but don’t know anything about the Feasts.” Yahweh instructed that all are equally significant. The Sabbath is a Feast kept weekly. The Feasts are Sabbaths kept yearly. Same basics were required: cessation from work,

worshiping with others, learning the Word, offerings given to Yahweh.

The Feasts, like the weekly Sabbath, provide spiritual rejuvenation.

Do I Have the Dedication?

A question all of us need to answer is, am I dedicated enough? Do I really have what it takes to be Yahshua’s bride? Do I give Him my all? Will He find me and my life acceptable when He hands out His everlasting rewards?



The Sabbath is a Feast kept weekly. The Feasts are Sabbaths kept yearly.

We read in 1 Peter 4:18-19, “And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the unrighteous and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of Elohim commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.”

Religious extremists are hard to stop because little will stand in their way. They are totally dedicated and committed to their cause. They will die for their convictions.

Being willing to take our convictions that far—to the ultimate sacrifice of our lives—is the exact point to which we as Yahweh’s people must be willing to go if we hope to be considered one of His. It is clear from the Scriptures that we must be prepared for the ultimate sacrifice in serving Him.

If you are not prepared to stand up for your faith now, to overcome a few trials and inconveniences now,

how will you ever stand in the day you may be called to choose between your convictions and your life? Revelation 20 shows us that this very scenerio looms directly ahead in the last days.

Revelation 20:4: “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Yahshua, [note that execution is by beheading] and for the word of Yahweh, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years.”

Yahweh is looking for righteous people. The cream of the crop for high positions of priesthood in the coming Kingdom. Priests must be highly skilled and knowledgeable in conducting right worship. He wants the best of the best.

Locked into Their Moment

If you took a survey of 100 people on the street and asked them whether they had ever heard of the Feast of Tabernacles, how many “yes” responses would you get? Five? Three? You might encounter one Bible reader in 100 people today who has looked into it. Now, how many observe it?

I’m sure that those who drive by our sign at this time wonder, what is this FOT? “What are tabernacles and do they stay in them,” they wonder. Most know nothing about even of the culture’s celebrations.

The TV news at the end of September will report that the holiday madness has already begun as department stores are rolling out the promotions. (Halloween trappings appear already at the middle of August, more than 2 months early.) It’s all about conditioning for uninhibited spending as retailers lick their chops and fill their coffers.

Ask a hundred people if they ever heard of keeping Sunday as a day of rest and worship and all 100 would say they have. Many would say Sunday

is *their* day of worship. Ask them for scriptural validation and not one would be able to give a single verse. Not one passage in the Bible teaches, commands, or entreats us to observe Sunday.

What a remarkable phenomenon! Here's the largest religion in the world professing the Bible as its authority while worshiping on a day that has no biblical support. Keeping annual celebrations entirely missing from the Word that they claim to teach and follow is also irrational. While the Feast of Tabernacles is found 10 times in Scripture, it is completely ignored in today's worship.

Besides this, the popular observances are even denounced in the Word as being rooted in ancient mystery worship.

More Theft of Truth

We hear a lot of warnings about identity theft. Savvy thieves can steal your identity, meaning your name, your good credit, and your assets.

But by far the greatest identity theft was the stealing away of the true Name of the Father and Son from mainstream worship as well as their teachings.

The Father and Son were subject to identity theft millennia ago by the religious establishment with an agenda to supplant truth with a bogus set of beliefs and practices that have been followed and taught as gospel ever since.

We dedicate much of our outreach at YRM in trying to right these wrongs and re-teach the truth of the Scriptures. The fulfillment of 2Timothy 4:3, spoken 2,000 years ago, has held true for millennia and only the sincere seekers of Yahweh will not be blinded by the sheer magnitude of conventional error and will ultimately find the essential truths of the Scriptures.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having

itching ears."

When did churchianity stop enduring sound doctrine? When did they dispense with the Bible's holy days and start making their own? Pretty much right after Yahshua's death. The wheels of identity theft began turning nearly from the start of the New Testament Assembly.

Paul warned Timothy in 1Timothy 5:15 that even in Paul's day some were already turning aside to follow haSatan. And then we read of the specific warning in 2Peter 2:1 about how it



Yahweh expects more sacrifice from His people at Tabernacles than at any other time of the year.

will be accomplished: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Master that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

How to Keep the Feasts

Why is there complete, universal ignorance when it comes to the only days Yahweh ever commanded people to keep?

Those who break free of ignorance—in a desire to taste for the first time the amazing truth of the Feasts—sometimes ask, how am I supposed to keep these observances?

The seven annual *moedim* or appointed times are the only annual religious holidays commanded in the Bible and most people know nothing

about them.

The truth of what the Bible teaches is like a map to a treasure. You give the people the map with an arrow pointing to the treasure and you watch as they take off in a completely opposite direction, even though anyone can clearly read and understand the map if they want to! Is this not bizarre?

Worldly Push Back

A believer who commits to the observance of all the annual feasts gets Yahweh's approval as he and she adhere to Yahweh's command. They don't resist it or find excuses. It may not always be easy, but observing the annual festivals is part of the faithfulness Yahweh expects.

His Feast commands are not optional. Sadly, some fear their employer or non-believing spouse more than Yahweh. They shrink from the push-back.

Some allow the schools to decide whether their children should take a week to worship in Truth.

Our children went to public school. And one year when we asked for excused absences for Tabernacles, the principal called and tried to convince us that missing five days of school was very inadvisable. We told him that the schools don't regulate our faith. We conveyed that our children will be keeping these mandatory Feasts long after they leave school and for the rest of their lives. Therefore don't bother trying to convince us to violate our faith over a few days of attendance.

Unlike nominal worship, True Worship mandates dedication. One Feast of Trumpets we were visited by a nursing instructor. She happened to be one of our member's nursing school instructors at the local university.

She told us that school policy was that if you missed a week of school, you were automatically dropped from the program. But when this member came well in advance to the school administrators with total openness about needing time off for Tabernacles

in the fall, they granted his request.

She said it was his honesty and candidness about the importance of his faith that won him the excused absence.

The world cares little about your spiritual well-being. If you want to obey the One you worship, then YOU must take the initiative and make the stand.

Stand with Joshua, son of Nun, and say, as for me and my family we will serve Yahweh over any human authority on earth. Man has no say in our salvation. But Yahweh does. And He has made His requirements clear in His Word.

Yahweh is forever. He will always be there. And so will the record of your choices made now. He comes before our jobs, our schools, our families and spouses. Even the federal courts have ruled in favor of taking feast days off from school or work if we are convicted to do so. If we still find an excuse to neglect them, then it is entirely on us.

We find the command in Leviticus 23:34, 37, 40-43: “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: “The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to Yahweh. . . . These are the feasts of Yahweh which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. . . . And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before Yahweh your Elohim for seven days. You shall keep a feast to Yahweh for seven days in the year. [Not just two high days]. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month. You shall dwell in booths for seven days [not just the two high days]. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your Elohim.”

Interestingly, the command to “rejoice” appears for the first time in the Scriptures imbedded in the instructions for the Feast of Tabernacles.

Deuteronomy 16:15 uses an even stronger phrase connecting joy and the feasts: “therefore you shall surely rejoice.” The wording is strong because Yahweh wants us to rejoice in the right spirit and purpose.

So seriously did the Jews take the command to rejoice that even in Auschwitz concentration camps some danced and rejoiced at Feast time!

Why do we put so much emphasis on THIS Feast? (We already noted Zechariah 14 where the observance is key to turning the nations to Yahweh.)

Yahweh required 189 animal sacrifices be made at the Feast of Tabernacles alone—more than all the other *moedim* combined. A sacrifice is a freely given offering and represents the giving of the self (Romans 12:1-2). Yahweh expects more sacrifice from His people at the Feast of Tabernacles than at any other time of the year.

We learn many lessons as we attend services at the Feast of Tabernacles.

Our most persistent, day-to-day trial is to keep this world from getting in our way of fulfilling Yahweh’s great purpose. The men of the Bible achieved that—but not without an almost daily struggle.

Powerful Pull of the World

The Feast of Tabernacles gives us the lessons and practice we need to experience a bit of the Kingdom here in our lives as we literally and spiritually come out of the world and be cleansed in heart and mind by the Spirit.

Peter wrote in 1Peter 2:11 to consider ourselves aliens and pilgrims in this world. A pilgrim is a person passing through a foreign land who does not intend to put down roots there but is heading elsewhere. Thus, his life is always in transition.

Hebrews 11:13-16 depicts all the patriarchs we read about in the Old

Testament in a spiritual passage to something far better:

We may not be wandering nomads. But in a spiritual sense we are not at home anywhere yet. This is the second lesson of Tabernacles.


James writes in 1:27, “Pure and undefiled religion before Yahweh and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” Since we are not literally wandering every day of our lives, this verse is a simple statement of faith’s responsibility.


We must keep at arm’s length society’s customs and unscriptural ways. We do that by not letting it squeeze us into its mold. Romans 12:2 reads, “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of Yahweh.”

So far we’ve learned two lessons from the Feast:

- To come out of the world
- Don’t be at home in the culture of man so that it becomes your reason for living.

A third lesson of this Feast of Booths is that despite their being in the wilderness, Yahweh supplied all Israel’s needs. The *succoth* are a token of Yahweh’s care and protection while on our spiritual pilgrimage. Isaiah 4:6 is a prophecy about Yahweh’s protection in time of distress, symbolized in the *succoth*: “And there will be a tabernacle [booth] for shade in the daytime from the heat, for a place of refuge, and for a shelter from storm and rain” (Isaiah 4:6). The context is Zion as a place of refuge, a secure retreat in time of trouble.

It was an easier task to get Israel out of Egypt to keep a Feast in the wilderness than it was to get Egypt out of Israel. That is what we work on at the Feasts—getting the Egypt of sin out of our lives and to live as if we are in the Kingdom. 



What Happens When We Die?

by Randy Folliard

As Sam sat in his pew listening to His minister explain the afterlife, he was baffled as to why there was such a discrepancy between what he was hearing and what the Bible taught. How was it possible for his minister and the vast majority of ministers to be so wrong?

Even though Sam did not fully comprehend the truth of Scripture about the afterlife, he understood that there was something seriously wrong with the message he was hearing.

If you are also trying to make sense of beliefs about death and the afterlife, rest assured you are not alone.

Most of what we hear today about the life to come clashes with Scripture. Many of these teachings are the result of Greek mythology and centuries of tradition embraced by the church.

It is time to get down to the facts and determine exactly what the Bible says about death. For example, does Scripture really say that the righteous go to heaven while the ignorant or rebellious burn forever in a relentless hell-fire?

No Man Has Ascended

You might be surprised at what your Heavenly Father Yahweh reveals in His Word.

Possibly the most shocking discovery is what our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, says in John 3:13, “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.”

No one but Yahshua Himself has ever gone to heaven regardless what the funeral sermons say. The word “ascended” comes from the Greek *anabaino*, meaning ascend, ***Strong’s Greek Dictionary***. ***Thayer’s Greek Lexicon*** adds, “to rise, to mount, to be borne up, to spring up.”

Peter confirms this truth in his dynamic sermon on the day of Pentecost: “Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day... For David is not ascended into the heavens” (Acts 2:29, 34).

If anyone would have been found worthy of going to heaven don’t you suppose it would have been David? After all, he had a heart after Yahweh’s own. He had a relationship with His Father that few have ever had. And he will be a king in the coming Kingdom right under Yahshua, Ezekiel 37:24.

With all this, any rational person would think that David would have ascended to heaven after he died.

Based on what Peter states, however, this never happened.

What about our Savior’s description of heavenly mansions in the Book of John? Did He not promise a heavenly paradise for the saved? Let’s investigate. We read in John 14:2-3, “In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

On the surface this passage may seem to be describing a heavenly paradise. However, as we often must do, we need to look below the surface. Yahshua here is not speaking of places of dwelling, but of positions within the heavenly family. The word “house” is from the Greek *oikia*, which by extension refers to a family, and the word “mansions” is derived from the Greek root *meno*, meaning “to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy” (***Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance***).

This passage should be better rendered, “In my Father’s [family] are many [positions]: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a [position] for you.” When the

Messiah returns, Scripture states that the saints will receive offices of priests in Yahweh's Kingdom (Rev. 20:6) and they will reign on the earth (Rev. 2:26; 5:10).

Spirit Returns to Yahweh

If we don't go to heaven, then where do we go? What happens to our spirit, what happens to our thoughts, what happens to our consciousness when we go to the grave?

We get the answer from David's son Solomon in Ecclesiastes 12:7. He wrote, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto Elohim who gave it."

When we die our bodies return to dust and our spirit goes back to Yahweh. What is our spirit? Is it an immortal soul? This word is from the Hebrew *ruach* and means, "wind; by resemblance, breath," (*Strong's Concordance*). *The Brown, Driver and Briggs Hebrew Lexicon* defines *ruach* as, "spirit (used of the living, breathing being in man and animals); as gift, preserved by [Elohim], [Yahweh's] spirit, departing at death."

The word *ruach* literally means, "wind," and by extension refers to breath. It represents the life that Yahweh, our Father in heaven, breathes into every living soul or human being. At death, this life returns to the one who gave it, where it is preserved until the resurrection.

It's important to understand that *ruach* here does not refer to an immortal soul, which is a foreign concept that never appears in Scripture, but rather to the life-force that He infuses into each living being.

Perish the Thought

When our spirit returns to the Father we lose all consciousness. Solomon also wrote in Ecclesiastes 9:5, "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their

love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in anything that is done under the sun."

King David verified this concept in Psalm 146:4: "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."

When the *ruach* returns to Yahweh two things happen. First, our bodies return to the earth and, second, our thoughts perish. The word "thoughts" is the Hebrew *eshtonah* which literally means "thinking" (*Strong's*). The word "perish" comes from the Hebrew *abad*, which is a primitive root meaning, "to wander away, i.e. lose oneself; by implication to perish or destroy" (*Strong's*).



***Ruach* does not refer to an immortal soul, which is a foreign concept that never appears in Scripture.**

From the Hebrew we find that when our spirit returns to Yahweh that our thoughts come to an end. We have verified that when we die our physical bodies return to the earth, our life or *ruach* returns to Yahweh, and our consciousness ends.

Critical Condition

What happens after we are placed in the grave depends on us. The Bible speaks of two resurrections. How we live now will determine whether we receive everlasting life in the first resurrection or be judged in the second resurrection.

Daniel 12:2 provides one of the first insights of the resurrection in Scripture:

"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

Death is a type of sleep. Many view death as a permanent state, but death is only temporary. While we lose awareness or consciousness in the grave, this state is temporary.

Only two possibilities exist in the second resurrection. We will either be raised to everlasting life or be condemned to everlasting contempt. Whichever it will be depends on us.

If we strive to live a moral, obedient life according to our Father's Word, we will have an opportunity for everlasting life. For those, however, who know and understand and yet through their own rebellion refuse to obey, they will find themselves in an unfavorable condition.

As Paul admonishes in Philippians 2:12, "...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." The kind of life we live today will determine what we receive in the life to come.

First Resurrection

When do these resurrections occur? Paul in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 reveals that the first resurrection takes place at the Messiah's Second Coming:

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Yahshua died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Yahshua will Elohim bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of Yahweh, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Master shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Master himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of Elohim: and the dead in Messiah shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Master in the air: and so shall

we ever be with the Master. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

This is the greatest promise we have as believers. When Yahshua the Messiah returns to the earth, those who died in Him will rise first, followed by the righteous who are still alive.

Imagine seeing our Savior coming down from heaven with thousands of angels and seeing the saints by the multiple thousands coming forth from their graves to meet their Savior in the clouds!

This is the reward that awaits those who are found worthy. There’s not a greater assurance than the promise of a resurrection. When Yahshua descends from heaven we will hear the shout of an archangel and the trumpet of Yahweh. This will be an event all will see. Contrary to popular belief, this is not a secret rapture, but a very visible return or Second Coming. We read that the saints will always be with the Master. Imagine being with the Messiah Yahshua forever!

Kingdom Bound on Earth

What comes next for those who are found worthy of the first resurrection? In Revelation 20:6 we find the answer, “Blessed and holy is he that has part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah, and

shall reign with him a thousand years.”

Those in the first resurrection will rule as a kingdom of priests with the Messiah for a millennium. Imagine, at this time the saints will be changed from mortal to immortal, from corruptible to incorruptible, and will be with our Savior forever.

Notice here that the second death will have no power over those in the first resurrection. As Israel was exempt from most of the plagues of Egypt, those in the first resurrection will be exempt from the second death.

Do you comprehend the significance of this promise? Yahweh is guaranteeing everlasting life to all who will devote their lives to Him. At this time His chosen will be immortal and will be with their Savior forever.

During the millennial thousand-year earthly Kingdom, where will the saints dwell? Most would say in heaven, but Scripture says otherwise. Revelation 5:10 says, “And hast made us unto our Elohim kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

It is undeniable that the saints will dwell on the earth. This again occurs during the millennium, the 1000-year Kingdom. This dispels the myth that the elect rise to heaven upon death.

What will the saints be doing on earth? The millennial Kingdom is a time of restoration. Along with the Messiah,

the saints will be teaching those who survived the Great Tribulation without the opportunity to know or serve Yahweh, Isaiah 30:20.

Second Resurrection for the Rest

What about those who died who never had the opportunity to learn and live the truth and be in the first resurrection?

John of Patmos provides a description of the second resurrection, otherwise known as the Great White Throne Judgment, in Revelation 20:11-15.

“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away: and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before Elohim; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and the grave delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

The Great White Throne Judgment is for all mankind, except for those who were found worthy to be in the first resurrection. We also see that books were opened. While Scripture doesn’t say what information these books contain, we can safely assume that one is a record of how we lived. The other book is likely Yahweh’s Word, the standard of judgment, which will be the constitution in the coming Kingdom.

At this time all of mankind will be judged from these books based on how they lived, meaning their works, verse 13.

This message of the Kingdom is nonexistent in modern teachings. Many believe that we are under grace alone.



Lawkeeping in the New Testament

For many in churchianity, advocating obedience to the Word today is bondage to a bygone era and an attempt to earn salvation. Nothing could be further from the truth. The law represents the character and values of Yahweh and Yahshua, which believers are to reflect in their lives. Forget misguided church teachings. Get the facts. Request or go online to read the dynamic duo of booklets, **Yahweh’s Perfect Law** and **The Most Misunderstood Book of All Time**.

Yahweh states that we will be rewarded according to our works, our obedience, Revelation 20:12-13. So where does this leave grace? While salvation is free, based on our Father's grace or favor (Rom. 6:23), that fact doesn't remove our obligation to obey or to be found worthy. It actually enhances the need to obey.

In the Book of Jude, verse 4, we find this warning, "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, wicked men, turning the grace of our Elohim into lasciviousness, and denying the only Sovereign Yahweh, and our Master Yahshua Messiah."

Yahweh's grace does not provide a license to continue in sin. Upon repentance we must change our lives and abide by the morality of our Father. This is accomplished by obedience to His commandments, John 2:3; Revelation 12:17; 14:12; 22:14. Those who teach that the commandments are no longer obligatory are guilty of turning Yahweh's grace into lawlessness.

What about those who were not law observant because of ignorance? Will they be given an opportunity for salvation? Those who lived a moral life based on what they understood will certainly receive grace in the judgment. Yahshua alludes to this in John 9:41: "Yahshua said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth."

While Yahweh's law is always present, His condemnation is not. Yahweh doesn't condemn for that which is not understood. If we are indeed ignorant of certain commandments (e.g. the Sabbath, Feasts, Yahweh's Name) He overlooks that disobedience. But once we understand we are accountable to obey. We find this principle in Acts 17:30, "And the times of this ignorance Elohim winked at; but now commands all men everywhere to repent." To be purposely ignorant will not be

acceptable to our Father and Savior.

Traditions of Hellfire

We read earlier from Revelation 20, "And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire." The word *hades* is traditionally rendered "hell" and has been understood as a place of perpetual torment. The fact is, this belief is not based in the Bible, but in myth and man's traditions.

According to authors Alan F. Johnson and Robert E. Webber in their book, *What Christians Believe-A Biblical and Historical Summary*, the current concept of hell was developed from Greek influence.



It's not the fire that burns forever, but it's the punishment or judgment that lasts forever.

"In the intertestamental period there were significant developments in eschatological themes. The first relates to the development of a compartmental view of sheol. When the righteous and the wicked die, they go to different places. This is to be contrasted with the Old Testament view that sheol is the place where both the righteous and wicked go. Under the growing influence of Greek concepts of a distinct body and soul, some Jews taught that after death 'the immortal and perishable soul, once detached from the ties of the flesh and thus freed from bondage, flies happily upwards' [quote from Flavius Josephus, *The Jewish Wars*, II, VII.2]...On the other hand the wicked go to *sheol*, which is now identified

with the Greek word *hades*.

"This is a place of damnation and is also called gehenna, a place of eternal fire (originally the old rubbish heap and a place of child sacrifice south of Mount Zion in Jerusalem). It was known as the Valley of Hinnom," pp. 423-424.

As confirmed here, the current concept of hell as an ever-burning fire is absent from the Old and New testaments and arose only through pagan traditions of man. This belief was further propagated and solidified in the 14th century through Dante Alighieri's *Inferno*, the commencement of Dante's *Divine Comedy*. In this poem he depicts *sheol* or *hades* as a place of fire and torment. Images from this epic continue to influence New Testament teachings today.

Gehenna, Sheol and Hades

While these terms come from different languages, not one refers to an ever-burning hell fire within the confines of Scripture. Let's examine each one of individually.

- *Sheol* appears 66 times in the Old Testament and is rendered in the KJV as, "grave, hell and pit." *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* defines *sheol* as, "Hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), including its accessories and inmates." Notice that *Strong's* defines this word as the "world of the dead." This "world" included both the righteous and the wicked, as verified in Genesis 37:35, "And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave [Heb. *sheol*] unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him." In this account Jacob is mourning the supposed death of his righteous son Joseph.

- *Gehenna* refers to the Valley of Hinnom. It was a garbage dump in Jerusalem where the Israelites burned their trash and sacrificed their children to Molech, an abominable practice abhorred by Almighty Yahweh.

This word occurs 12 times in the New Testament and in every instance is rendered “hell” by the **KJV. Strong’s** defines this word as “of Hebrew origin [OT: 1516 and OT:2011]; valley of (the son of) Hinnom; *ge-henna* (or *Ge-Hinnom*), a valley of Jerusalem, used (figuratively) as a name for the place (or state) of everlasting punishment.”

The valley of Hinnom was not a place of perpetual torment, but of total, eternal destruction. In other words, those who go to “hell” will suffer from the totality of Yahweh’s judgment. The concept of burning forever is foreign to Scripture.

The third and final word is *hades*.

- *Hades* appears 11 times in the New Testament and means “the place (state) of departed souls,” **Strong’s. The Complete Word Study New Testament**, under its Lexical Aids, states that *hades* “corresponds to *sheol* in the Old Testament” and that “both words have been inadequately translated in the KJV as hell.”

According to **Thayer’s Greek Lexicon**, in Greek this word was associated with “Orcus, the infernal regions, a dark and dismal place in the very depths of the earth, the common receptacle of disembodied spirits. Usually *hades* is just the abode of the wicked, Luke 16:23; Rev. 20:13-14; a very uncomfortable place.” Keep in mind that this understanding developed through Greek thought and philosophy. For this reason, it’s essential that we interpret this word based on its context in Scripture.

Scriptural Definition of Hell

If hell or *hades* were a place of the wicked, why then do we find it used in reference to believers? For example in Acts 2:27, 31 we find that Yahshua the Messiah was in hell: “Because thou wilt not leave



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my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption... He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Messiah, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.”

If hell is reserved only for the wicked, why then was Yahshua there? While some purpose that Yahshua went to “hell” to preach to the wicked, Scripture is clear that He was in the heart of the earth, meaning grave, for three days and three nights, Matthew 12:40. Further verification is found from the context of verse 31, where Paul connects “hell” with corruption or decay, a state only associated with the grave.

The Apostle Paul in 1Corinthians 15:55 provides another instance, “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?” The word “grave” here is derived from *hades*. Interestingly, this is the only passage where *hades* appears as “grave.” Not only is this verse referring to the saints, those who will be found worthy of the first resurrection, but it also connects *hades* with the grave.

Eternal Fire Not Burning Forever

You might be asking, but what about eternal fire? To the surprise of many, this phrase does not refer to everlasting punishing. From Sodom and Gomorrah we find that “eternal fire” simply refers to the totality of Yahweh’s judgment. “Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire,” Jude 7.

In our **Restoration Study Bible** we find that this phrase “refers both to its ability to continue burning in the presence of sufficient fuel, as well as its lasting effects...” The latter explains the eternal nature of this punishment. It’s not the fire that burns forever, but the punishment or judgment that lasts forever. Sodom and Gomorrah no longer

burn, but their judgment will be forever remembered. Two additional examples are found in Jeremiah:

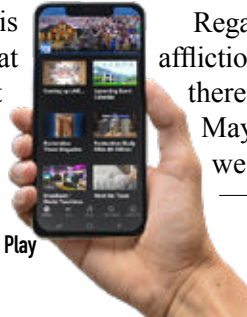
“But if ye will not hearken unto me to hallow the sabbath day, and not to bear a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched,” Jeremiah 17:27.

“Therefore thus saith my Sovereign Yahweh; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched,” Jeremiah 7:20.

These prophecies would be later fulfilled when Judah was conquered by Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon. In these examples this fire would not be “quenched.” This word comes from the Hebrew *kabab*, a primitive root meaning, “to expire or (causatively) to extinguish (fire, light, anger).” Similar to Sodom and Gomorrah, this is not referring to eternal fire, but to fire that no one shall put out until it has completely burned up its fuel, alluding to the totality of Yahweh’s judgment.

For those found worthy of our Father’s calling, the prize is rulership in the coming Kingdom. After the Millennium and the second death, Yahweh, our Father in heaven, will bring His holy city, New Jerusalem, to earth. In this Kingdom there will be no more tears, no more death, no more sorrow, no more crying, and no more pain.

Can you imagine such a paradise? This life now is only transitory, but the life to come is eternal, full of abundant happiness and blessings beyond measure. There will be no end to Yahweh’s Kingdom.

Regardless of our current afflictions, we can take hope that there’s a better promise ahead. May we live today for the day we will see it. 

TEST YOUR TUTELAGE



The annual Feasts contain how many high days?

- A. One
- B. Three
- C. Five
- D. Seven

The Bible confirms seven High Holy Days throughout the biblical year. Two during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, one on the Feast of Weeks, one on the Feast of Trumpets, one on the Day of Atonement, one during the Feast of Tabernacles, and one on the Last Great Day. These days are not only times of worship, but are also prophetic, revealing Yahweh's plan of salvation for mankind. Also, not only were the Feasts observed in the Old Testament, but were observed by the Messiah and apostles in the New Testament and will be in the coming millennial Kingdom.

Correct: D

Sunday as a day of worship is absent in the Bible.

- A. True
- B. False

Nowhere does Scripture sanction Sunday as a day of worship. Sunday worship was adopted by the Roman Church as it accommodated the pagans and many of their rites, and in turn Sunday became accepted by most Protestant denominations. As with many teachings of the Roman Church, they are unabashedly forthright about making the change from Saturday (the seventh day) to Sunday (the first day of the week). According to The Faith of Our Fathers, a Catholic writing, "... you may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification

of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify," James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, 88th edition, p. 89. The Sabbath is the sign of being one of Yahweh's people, Exodus 13:9-16; 31:13. Sunday is not. The RSB footnote on Exodus 31:13 reads, "Yahweh has chosen the Sabbath as the only sign between Himself and those who follow Him. The word 'sign' is derived from the Hebrew owth and refers to a distinguishing mark or banner."

Correct: A

Why should we observe the biblical Feasts?

- A. Yahweh commands that we observe them
- B. They offer prophetic lessons into Yahweh's plan of salvation
- C. Yahshua and the apostles observed them in the New Testament
- D. All of the above

We are to observe the Feasts because Yahweh commands them (Leviticus 23 and Deuteronomy 16), they offer prophetic insight (Colossians 2:16-17), and Yahshua along with His apostles observed them (Matthew 26; Mark 14; John 7:2, 37; Acts 12:3; Acts 2:1; 20:6, 16; 1Corinthians 5:8; 16:7). In addition to these reasons, we know all flesh will observe the Sabbath and Feasts in the millennial Kingdom (Isaiah 66:23; Ezekiel 45-46; Zechariah 14:16). Those who ignore these days are missing out on the blessings and special understanding that these days offer to those who obediently follow them.

Correct: D

From which pagan rite does Halloween derive?

- A. Samhain
- B. Saturnalia
- C. Lupercalia
- D. Dies Natalis Solis Invicti

Halloween comes from the ancient festival of Samhain. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, Samhain was "one of the most important and sinister calendar festivals of the Celtic year. At Samhain, held on November 1, the world of the gods was believed to be made visible to mankind, and the gods played many tricks on their mortal worshipers; it was a time fraught with danger, charged with fear, and full of supernatural episodes. Sacrifices and propitiations of every kind were thought to be vital, for without them the Celts believed they could not prevail over the perils of the season or counteract the activities of the deities. Samhain was an important precursor to Halloween" (britannica.com/topic/Samhain). As for the other festivals, Saturnalia and Dies Natalis Solis Invicti (i.e., Birthday of the Unconquered Sun) were both observances in Rome are connected with today's Christmas celebration. Lupercalia was also a Roman observance connected with Valentine's Day.

Correct: A

What tithe is reserved for the worshiper to attend the Feasts?

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth

While the first tithe is holy to Yahweh and is to be used for His work (Lev.

27:30-33; Malachi 3:8-11) and the third for the ill-fated and needy (Deut. 14:27-29), the second tithe was given to ensure that a person had sufficient funding for the Feasts. Deuteronomy 14:22-26 reads, "Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. And thou shalt eat before Yahweh thy Elohim, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear Yahweh thy Elohim always. And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which Yahweh thy Elohim shall choose to set his name there, when Yahweh thy Elohim hath blessed thee: Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which Yahweh thy Elohim shall choose: And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before Yahweh thy Elohim, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household."

Correct: B

The Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day are the same observance.

- A. True
- B. False

While many do not delineate between the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day, they are technically separate Feasts, Leviticus 23:33-44.

The Feast of Tabernacles is seven days and the Last Great Day is called the eighth (it's also called the last day in John 7:37).

Correct: B

Which of the fall Feasts refers to a scapegoat?

- A. Feast of Trumpets
- B. Day of Atonement
- C. Feast of Tabernacles
- D. Last Great Day

On the Day of Atonement (Heb. Yom Kippur), Israel would select two goats. One as a sin offering and the other as a scapegoat. As we explain in the **Restoration Study Bible**, the word scapegoat is "...called azazel in the Hebrew, meaning, 'the goat of departure.' This goat likely represented Satan, who is led away into the wilderness. Upon this goat, Aaron was to lay both his hands and confess over it all the sins and transgressions of Israel, in effect transferring all sin back onto the Adversary, the originator of sin. Then, a fit man, likely symbolic of Yahshua, led the goat away into oblivion (v. 22) and there he would die, as in Romans 16:20 (bruise = crush in pieces)."

Correct: B

Which king of Israel made a feast in the eighth month, similar to the Feast of Tabernacles?

- A. Solomon
- B. Jeroboam
- C. Rehoboam
- D. Ahab

King Jeroboam, the first king of Israel (also known as the Northern Kingdom), made a feast in the eighth month to mimic the Feast of Tabernacles. Not only was he guilty of changing the date that Yahweh established, but he also made two golden calves and made priests of men not qualified. His wicked ways set a pattern from which the Northern Kingdom never recovered. The full account of Jeroboam's deeds can be found in 1Kings 12.

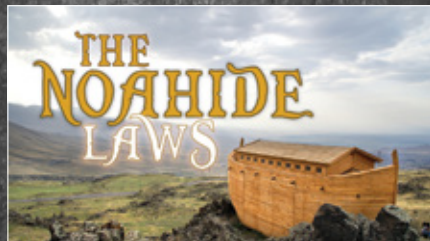
Correct: B

The Feast of Tabernacles is an optional observance.

- A. True
- B. False

The Bible speaks about three pilgrimage Feasts: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles is also unique in that it requires that we stay in booths or temporary shelters. This requires that we leave our homes and congregate with others of like faith. According to the prophet Zechariah, this Feast will be required for all nations in the millennial Kingdom. He states, "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, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come

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not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith Yahweh will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.”

Correct: B

Both the weekly Sabbath and annual Holy days prohibit buying and selling.

- A. True
- B. False

Since both the weekly Sabbath and annual holy days are to be sanctified, no commerce is allowed. Nehemiah 10:31 states, “And if the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day.”

Correct: A

The Feast of Trumpets likely foreshadows which event?

- A. Yahshua’s death
- B. Yahshua’s Second Coming
- C. The millennial Kingdom
- D. The Second Resurrection

The Feast of Trumpets likely represents the Messiah’s Second Coming and the resurrection of the saints in the first resurrection. The Bible often connects Yahshua’s coming with the sound of the trumpet. In 1Thessalonians 4:16-18 Paul describes Yahshua’s coming and the first resurrection with the sound of a great trumpet. See also 1Corinthians 15:52 and Revelation 1:10.

Correct: B

What is NOT permitted during the Sabbatical year?

- A. Planting a garden
- B. Harvesting a field
- C. Buying produce from the supermarket
- D. Both A & B
- E. All of the above

The Bible states that we are to avoid planting and harvesting during the Sabbatical, Leviticus 25. Therefore, we should not be planting gardens. The Sabbatical is similar to the weekly Sabbath. Just as we are to repose from work during the Sabbath, the land also is to rest from its labors.

Correct: D

בִּיבְלִי HEBREW WORD לֶשׁוֹן

זָהָב
T T

Zahav

Phonetic: Zaw-hawv

Composition: zayin, qamets, heh, qamets, soft bet.

The Hebrew word **zahav** (H2091) is a masculine noun and means “gold.”

The **gold** of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.

Genesis 2:12

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An editorial brief

Watch Your Wake

Our fishing boat growled slowly through the harbor, churning the water white and creating waves in a V-pattern behind us. Far astern boats moored along the shore were tipping and bobbing as our wake reached them.

Then I noticed a buoy with a sign reading, "You Are Responsible for Your Wake," and I understood our captain's cautious advance.

Realize it or not, each of us creates a wake as we pass through life. We touch the lives of many for good and sometimes in adverse ways. Our influence comes in a variety of forms and we aren't even aware of the many lives we affect by what we say and do.

We don't need to be a leader to influence others. People listen to our conversations every day and watch how we conduct ourselves in various circumstances. They hear what we say about others and note how we treat them. They observe how our children behave and how we act toward our friends and spouses.

We can and do change the behavior of others by our example, especially if we confess a belief in the truth of the Scripture. Like the boat's wake, the impact of our life moves others and continues long after we have passed from the scene.

Paul told Timothy, "Be an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity," 1Tim. 4:12. Powerful advice for us all. — ARM

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you've distinguished true worship from traditions of man, and man-made doctrines. Because I still see it in doctrine and religious practices." - SC

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"These are the Feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations." - Leviticus 23:37

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