

VICKI DINNEL

Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

-Colossians 2: 16-17

Prophecy in the Jewish Feasts

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Web Site: http://www.SimplyBibleStudies.com Email: SimplyBibleStudies@yahoo.com Cover Photo by Christine Balderas

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Printed in the United States of America.

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Section One Passover Including: Unleavened Bread and First Fruits

BEGINNING OF PASSOVER AND UNLEAVENED BREAD:

God called to Moses out of a burning bush and said:

"I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey - the home of the Cannaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." **Exodus 3: 7-10 NIV** [God was speaking to Moses]

"When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." **Exodus 3: 12 NIV** [Moses was on Mt.Sinai]

"Say to the king of Egypt: 'The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. Let us take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God.' But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him. So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go." **Exodus 3: 18-20 NIV**

The Ten Plagues:

1. BLOOD

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt - over the streams and canals, over the ponds and all the reservoirs' - and they will turn to blood. Blood will be everywhere in Egypt, even in the wooden buckets and stone jars." **Exodus 7:19**

2. FROGS

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the Lord says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you refuse to let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs. The Nile will teem with frogs. They will come up into your palace and your bedroom and onto your bed, into the houses of your officials and on your people, and into your ovens and kneading troughs. The frogs will go up on you and your people and all your officials.' " Exodus 8:1-4

3. GNATS

Then the Lord said to Moses, "tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,' and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats." **Exodus 8: 16**

4. FLIES

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning and confront Pharaoh as he goes to the water and say to him 'This is what the Lord says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and even the ground where they are. But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the Lord am in this land. I will make a distinction between my people and your people. ' " Exodus 8: 20-23

5. PLAGUE ON LIVESTOCK

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, the hand of the Lord will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field - on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats. But the Lord will make a distinction between the livestock of Isreal and that of Egypt, so that no animal belonging to the Israelites will die.' "Exodus 9:1-4

6. BOILS

Then the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from a furnace and have Moses toss it into the air in the presence of Pharaoh. It will become fine dust over the whole land of Egypt, and festering boils will break out on men and animals throughout the land." **Exodus 9: 8-9**

7. HAIL

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning, confront Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me, or this time I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth. For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth. But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go. Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it was founded till now. Give an order now to bring your livestock and everything you have in the field to a place of shelter, because the hail will fall on every man and animal that has not been brought in and is still out in the field, and they will die.' " Exodus 9: 13-19

. LOCUST

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these miraculous signs of mine among them that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the Lord." So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said to him, "...If you refuse to let them go, I will bring locusts into your country tomorrow. They will cover the face of the ground so

that it cannot be seen. They will devour what little you have left after the hail, including every tree that is growing in your fields. They will fill your houses and those of all your officials and all the Egyptians - something neither your fathers nor your forefathers have ever seen from the day they settled in this land till now.' " Exodus 10:1-6

9. DARKNESS

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt - darkness that can be felt." So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and total darkness covered all Egypt for three days. No one could see anyone else or leave his place for three days. Yet all the Israelites had light in the places where they lived. **Exodus 10: 21-23**

10. DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN

So Moses said, "This is what the Lord says: 'About midnight I will go throughout Egypt. Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the slave girl, who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well. There will be loud wailing throughout Egypt - worse than there has ever been or ever will be again. But among the Israelites not a dog will bark at any man or animal'."

Exodus 11: 4-7

Notes:	

PASSOVER Passover and Unleavened Bread

Read the excerpt from the Bible, then using the color and letter code, read about the symbols on page

They made their lives bitter (f) with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly. Exodus 1:14 NIV

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. (g) Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month (g) each man is to take a lamb (a) for his family, one for each household. 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. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect (a), and you may take them from the sheep or the goats (a). 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 (a). Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes (b) of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, (f) and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire-head, legs and inner parts. Do not leave any of it until morning: if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; (g) it is the Lord's Passover. On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn-both men and animals-and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. (b) No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. Exodus 12:1-13 NIV

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "These are the regulations for the Passover:

"No foreigner is to eat of it. Any slave you have bought may eat of it after you have circumcised him, but a temporary resident and a hired worker may not eat of it. It must be eaten inside one house; take none of the meat outside the house. Do not break any of the bones (a). The whole community of Israel must celebrate it. An alien living among you who wants to celebrate the Lord's Passover must have all the males in his household circumcised; then he may take part like one born in the land. No uncircumcised male (c) may eat of it. The same law applies to the native-born and to the alien living among you. All the Israelites did just what the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron. And on that very day the Lord brought the Israelites out of Egypt by their divisions. Exodus 12:43-51 NIV

"Do not offer the blood of a sacrifice to me along with anything containing yeast, and do not let any of the sacrifice from the Passover Feast remain until morning (a). Exodus 34:25 NIV

"When someone brings a grain offering to the LORD, his offering is to be of fine flour. He is to pour oil on it, put incense on it and take it to Aaron's sons the priests. The priest shall take a handful of the fine flour and oil, (e) together with all the incense, and burn this as a memorial portion on the altar, an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord. The rest of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the offerings (e) made to the Lord by fire. Leviticus 2:1-3 NIV

On the fourteenth day of the first month (g) the Lord's Passover is to be held. On the fifteenth day of this month (g) there is to be a festival; for seven days (g) eat bread made without yeast. (d) On the first day hold a sacred assembly (g) and do no regular work. Present to the Lord an offering made by fire, a burnt offering of two young bulls, one ram and seven male lambs a year old, all without defect. (a) With each bull prepare a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; (e) with the ram, two-tenths; and with each of the seven lambs, one-tenth. Include one male goat as a sin offering (a) to make atonement for you (a). Prepare these in addition to the regular morning burnt offering. In this way prepare the food for the offering made by fire every day for seven days (g) as an aroma pleasing to the Lord; it is to be prepared in addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering. On the seventh day hold a sacred assembly (g) and do no regular work. Numbers 28: 16-25 NIV

Observe the month of Abib [Nissan] and celebrate the Passover of the Lord your God, because in the month of Abib he brought you out of Egypt by night. (b) Sacrifice as the Passover to the Lord your God an animal from your flock or herd (a) at the place the Lord will choose as a dwelling for his Name. Do not eat it with bread made with yeast, but for seven days eat unleavened bread, the bread of affliction, because you left Egypt in haste (d) —so that all the days of your life you may remember the time of your departure from Egypt. Let no yeast be found in your possession in all your land for seven days. Do not let any of the meat you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain until morning. You must not sacrifice the Passover in any town the Lord your God gives you except in the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name. There you must sacrifice the Passover in the evening, when the sun goes down, on the anniversary of your departure from Egypt. Roast it and eat it at the place the Lord your God will choose. Then in the morning return to your tents. For six days eat unleavened bread (d) and on the seventh day hold an assembly to the Lord your God and do no work. Deuteronomy 16: 1-8 NIV

The Lord your God will circumcise (c) 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. (c) Deuteronomy 30:6 NIV

Genesis 17:11

Colossians 2:11-12

Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth. (d) I Corinthians 5:8 NIV

Symbols: Of Passover and Unleavened Bread

(a) Lamb or goat, year old male, slaughtered at twilight (3:00 pm), no bones broken, none left until morning, no defects

MEANING: a sacrifice to atone for sin

(b) Blood, on the doorpost

MEANING: God will "Passover" and not destroy when He sees the blood

(c) Must be circumcised

MEANING: sign of a covenant with God.

(d) Unleavened bread

MEANING: Symbol of sincerity and truth

(e) Grain offering of fine flour mixed with oil

MEANING: a holy offering

(f) Bitter Herbs

MEANING: The Egyptians made the Israelites lives "bitter"

(g) Timing: Nissan to become the first month of the year, choose the lamb on the 10th day, celebrate on the 14th day, the feasts of unleavened bread starts on the 15th day, for seven days, eaten in haste, with a Sabbath on the first and last days.

MEANING: Nissan became the first month because it was when God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. Choosing the lamb on the 10th gave the family time to get attached to the lamb. Seven is the number used for completion or completeness. They ate in haste to remember their quick exit from Egypt. Beginning and ending with a Sabbath insures a "focus" on the holiday.

Notes:	

Firstfruits

Read the excerpt from the Bible, then using the color and letter code, read about the symbols on page.

The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf (a) of the first grain you harvest. He is to wave (b) 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.(c) On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the Lord a lamb a year old without defect, (d) together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil (e) – an offering made to the Lord by fire, a pleasing aroma – and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin of wine. (f) You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, until the very day you bring this offering to your God. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live." Leviticus 23: 9-14 NIV

"I give you all the finest olive oil and all the finest new wine (f) and grain they give the Lord as the firstfruits of their harvest." Numbers 18:12 NIV

When you have entered the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil (a) of the land the Lord your God is giving you and put them in a basket.(a) Then go to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come to the land the Lord swore to our forefathers to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the Lord your God. Then you shall declare before the Lord your God:

"My father was a wandering Aramean and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, putting us to hard labor. Then we cried out to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, O Lord, have given me.

"Place the basket before the Lord your God and bow down before Him. And you and the Levites and the aliens among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 NIV



(a) Sheaf of First Fruits in a basket

MEANING: a sheaf is a bundle of grain, often representing a group of people. The First Fruits are the first best representation of a crop. A basket was a container to keep things together and protected. In the traditions of the Rabbis, there became an elaborate all night ritual to prepare the grain for waving in the morning.

(b) Wave

MEANING: to wave before the Lord was to offer and present before the Lord. Traditionally this took place at 9am.

(c) Timing: Day after Sabbath

MEANING: It would always be on a Sunday

(d) Male lamb without defect

MEANING: a sacrifice to atone for sin

(e) Fine flour mixed with oil MEANING: a holy offering

(f) Wine

MEANING: it is the first fruit of the grape harvest

Notes:	

Events occurring on the first three Feast dates:

1. Passover Nissan 14

Theme: new, renewed or remembered covenant with God

Events that occurred on this exact date:

-God's Covenant with Abraham concerning the Promised

Land - Genesis 15:18, Exodus 12:41

- -The Passover from Egypt (the beginning of the Feast) Exodus 12:41
- -The first Passover in Canaan Genesis 17:10-11, 23, Joshua 5:3, 8
- -The Book of the Law found and reaffirmed under Josiah II Chronicles 34:2-3, 14, 31
- -Dedication of the second temple Ezra 6:16-19, II Chronicles 36:19?
- -The last supper with Jesus Luke 22:19-20

Possible future events:

- -Beginning of the millennium?
- -The Rapture?
- -Marriage Supper of the Lamb?
- -Israel renews its covenant with God?
- -The first feast in a new Temple?

2. Unleavened Bread Nissan 15-21

Theme: Purity and Holiness

Events that occurred on these exact dates:

- -Israel left Egypt Exodus 12:41
- -Jesus was crucified
- -Capture of Massada as recorded by the historian Josephus in his "War of the Jews" bk5, h9, sec1: "They came within the palace, and so met with the multitude of the slain...nor could they do other than wonder at the courage of their resolution, and at the immovable contempt of death which so great a number of them had shown, when they went through such an action as that was...This calamitous slaughter was made on the fifteenth day of the month Nisan."

Possible future events:

-marriage supper of the Lamb? (Revelation 19:9)

3. Firstfruits Nissan 17

Theme: New beginnings

Events that occurred on this exact date:

- -Noah's Ark rested on Mt. Ararat Genesis 8:4 (calendar was changed Exodus 12:1-2)
- -Israel crosses the Red Sea Exodus 14:11-12
- -Israel eats for the first time in the Promised Land Joshua 5:10-12
- -Jesus rose from the dead Matthew 27:52-53

Possible future events:

- -Rapture?
- -Beginning of the Millennium?

Commentary on Passover

Prophecy in the Feasts:

When you read in the Bible about the Feasts, you gain an overall understanding of the purpose of the feasts. The most recognized purpose of the Feasts is to present God's plan of salvation for mankind. Jesus was crucified on Passover, died on Unleavened Bread and rose from the dead on Firstfruits. Because these events occurred on the exact dates of these feasts, it is reasonable to look for major events to occur on the dates of the remaining feasts. We have not discussed Pentecost yet, but that was the exact date that the Holy Spirit was given, which began the Christian church. As you can see above, many similar events happened on Feast dates. Watch the news carefully on each of these feast dates and you may discover a new similar event!

Passover (Pesach in Hebrew) is the first Feast of the Jewish religious year. God changed the calendar in Exodus 12:2 by making Nissan the first month instead of the seventh of the year. Passover begins on the 14th of Nissan.

The first three Feasts of Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits are celebrated today as one holiday. However, we can discern prophetic meaning by comparing the events occurring on the exact dates of these feasts.

Let us first examine events that have happened on Nissan 14, which is Passover noted on page 16.

- -God's Covenant with Abraham.
- -The first Passover meal (in Egypt)
- -The first Passover celebrated in the Promised Land
- -The Book of the Law found and reaffirmed under Josiah
- -Dedication of the second temple
- -The last supper with Jesus

Can you see any similarities? They are all events that start something new. Passover is celebrated in the first month of the Jewish religious new year.

Now let us look at the symbols from page 13.

- Lamb slaughtered at twilight (3:00 pm)
- no bones broken
- Blood (on the doorpost)
- Circumcised
- Unleavened bread
- Bitter Herbs

The modern day celebration of Passover views these symbols as a memorial of the Passover in Egypt. These are the symbols given in Egypt. The Rabbis added more details in their oral traditions. Jesus studied these traditions,

but described them as the traditions of men. (see Matthew 15:2-6 and Mark 7:3-13.) It is traditional to have one or two meals called Seders on the first and/or second nights of Passover. One on Nissan 14, the other on Nissan 15. Jesus celebrated the Last Supper as a Seder on Nissan 14 which was a Wednesday that year. (Remember, the 14th started the evening before, so that would be our Tuesday evening.) At about 3:00 on the 15th, when the Feast called for the slaughter of the lambs, Jesus gave up His spirit and died on the cross just before the 2nd Seder.

It is a tradition to serve four cups of wine during the Seder. The first cup is called Sanctification, which sets the time of the feast apart. The second is called Praise, at which time Psalms 113-118 is read. The third cup is called the cup of Redemption and is taken after supper. This is the cup Jesus took and said He would not take another cup again until later in His Fathers kingdom. (Matthew 26:29) So He did not take the fourth cup, which is called Acceptance.

There are more similarities in the symbols of Passover with the events that took place with Jesus. Can you discover them?

The Feast of Unleavened Bread begins on the 15th of Nissan and goes for seven days. Leaven is a symbol of sin. Jesus never sinned and is a perfect example of unleavened bread.

The Feast of Firstfruits landed on the 17th of Nissan in the year of Jesus death on the cross. Remember, this Feast always came on the first Sunday after Passover. The Jewish day begins at sunset the night before, so when the priests were gathering the Barley up out of the earth after sunset on that Saturday, Jesus was raising up out of the earth to be our first fruits. (see I Corinthians 15:20-23)

Most Christians will agree that Jesus fulfilled the Passover, but are unaware of other events taking place on the same date. I believe that Jesus was the "main" fulfillment of the feast, but I find it fascinating that there may be additional events take place on the very date of Passover in the future. Can you think of a future event that would usher in a new beginning?

Questions:

Circle the best answer

- 1. How did Israel get its name? (The answer to this question is found in Genesis 32:28)
 - a. It is the name of the country where Joseph was born.
 - b. It was Joseph's father's name.
 - c. God gave the name to the Hebrews.
- 2. How did the Israelites become slaves in Egypt? (The story of how the Israelites ended up in Egypt is found in Genesis 37:12-36 and Genesis 39-47, Genesis 47:1-6)
 - a. They were taken prisoner in battle.
 - b. They were sons of Jacob, who moved to Egypt during a seven year drought.
 - c. Moses led them to Egypt.
- 3. What was the exact date of Passover? (The answer can be found in Exodus 12: 3-11)
 - a. Nissan 10
 - b. Abib 15
 - c. Nissan 14
- 4. What was the reason that Moses gave to Pharaoh for the Israelites to leave?

(The answer is found in Exodus 5:1)

- a. That God would send plagues if Pharaoh didn't let them leave.
- b. Moses said the Israelites needed three days to go into the desert to worship their God.
- c. Moses said that the Israelites had a required sacrifice they needed to make.
- 5. Why weren't the Israelites held by the agreement they made with Pharaoh?

(The answer is found in reading the overall story.)

- a. Pharaoh did not keep his side of the bargain.
- b. Because Pharaoh was drowned in the Red Sea.
- c. Because God can do whatever He wants.

- 6. Who else left Egypt with the Israelites? (The answer is found in Exodus 12:38)
 - a. Only slaves of the Israelites were also allowed to leave with them.
 - b. Christians were also allowed to leave with the Israelites.
 - c. Anyone who chose to go were allowed to leave.
- 7. Could the Israelites see the angel that went before them? (see Exodus 14:19)
 - a. Yes, and they often cried out to the angel.
 - b. Only Moses could see the angel.
 - c No
- 8. What date did the Israelites cross the Red Sea?

 (If you read the whole Exodus story of the Israelites leaving Egypt, you can count the days until they reached the Red Sea because the places they stayed each night were recorded.)
 - a. Nissan 17
 - b. The date is not given in scripture.
 - c. One week later.
- 9. What did it mean that God was keeping vigil? (Read the full text in Exodus 12:42)
 - a. It meant that God stood as a pillar before the Israelites.
 - b. It meant He kept "watch" over them.
 - c. It meant that God was going after the Egyptians.
- 10. What time of day did the Israelites cross the Red Sea? (see Exodus 14:26)
 - a. It was early morning.
 - b. It was afternoon.
 - c. It was nighttime.
- 11. What was the exact date of "Unleavened Bread"? (The answer is found in Exodus 12:18)
 - a. Nissan 1
 - b. Nissan 14
 - c. Nissan 13

- 12. Why did the Egyptians stop pursuing the Israelites? (The answer is found in Exodus 14:25)
 - a. Because they couldn't find them.
 - b. Because they realized finally that God was fighting for the Israelites.
 - c. Because they were all drowned in the Red Sea.
- 13. What specific date is the Feast of Firstfruits to be celebrated?

(The answer can be found in Leviticus 23: 9-14)

- a. It didn't matter when it was celebrated.
- b. Nissan 17.
- c. There is no specific date to celebrate the Feast of Firstfruits, only a specific "day".
- 14. When was the Feast of Firstfruits first celebrated? (The answer can be found in Leviticus 23: 9-14.)
 - a. When the Israelites crossed the Red Sea.
 - b. At Mt. Sinai when God gave the instructions.
 - c. After the Israelites settled in the land of Canaan.
- 15. Who was Jesus talking to when He said "traditions of men"? (The answer can be found in Mark chapter seven.)
 - a. Pharisees and Teachers of the Law
 - b. His disciples
 - c. Pharaoh
- 16. Why did it have to be the "First" crop of the year?
 - a. It was the only one available at that time of year.
 - b. The first crop would determine the quality of the rest of the crops for the year.
 - c. Because God always required the first crop at every Feast.
- 17. Why did the early Christians celebrate the Feast of First-fruits?
 - a. It was the day that Jesus rose from the Dead.
 - b. They celebrated all of the feasts.
 - c. Because they wanted God to bless their crops.

	w many days did Jesus teach His disciples after the ast of First Fruits?
геа	ast of first fruits?
a. 4	19
b. :	50
c. 4	40
	w many days were the Israelites supposed to count er Firstfruits?
a.	50
b.	49
C	40

- 20. What does "Pentecost" mean?
 - a. 50
 - b. counting
 - c. the amount of barley
- 21. What happened to the Israelites on the 50th day after they crossed the Red Sea?
 - a. Moses received the 10 commandments.
 - b. The Israelites came to the Promised Land.
 - c. The Israelites ate manna.
- 22. What three events in history occurred on the date of Feast of Firstfruits?
 - a. Noah's ark landed on Mt. Ararat, the Israelites crossed the Red Sea and Jesus rose from the dead.
 - b. Noah's ark landed, the Israelites crossed into the Promise Land and Jesus rose from the dead.
 - c. Jesus rose from the dead, the date of the 10th plague and Moses built the temple.
- 23. Why was it such a small amount of Barley that was brought on the Feast of Firstfruits?
 - a. Because it was a symbol, not a sacrifice.
 - b. Because Barley was so expensive.
 - c. Because it was early in the year and not much had grown yet.
- 24. Jesus studied the Torah. What else did he study?
 - a. The New Testament
 - b. The oral traditions of the Rabbis
 - c. The Bible



Picture along the Nile of buildings thought to be constructed by the Israelites.



Photo of bricks in Egypt made with straw believed to be made around the time the Israelites were slaves there.



Typical dwelling along the Nile.



Barley, the first crop.



Sinai Wilderness



Crossing the Red Sea

Section Two Pentecost

Biblical Instructions about Pentecost:

Celebrate the Feast of Weeks with the firstfruits of the wheat harvest a), and the Feast of Ingathering at the turn of the year. Three times a year all your men are to appear before the Sovereign Lord, the God of Israel. I will drive out nations before you and enlarge your territory, and no one will covet your land when you go up three times each year to appear before the Lord your God. **Exodus 34:22-24** [Moses was on Mt. Sinai, the first time he received the 10 commandments.]

Count off seven weeks j) from the time you begin to put the sickle to the standing grain. Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering b) in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you. And rejoice c) before the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name - you, your sons and daughters, your menservants and maidservants, the Levites in your towns, and the aliens, the fatherless and the widows living among you. d) Remember that you were slaves in Egypt, and follow carefully these decrees. Deuteronomy 16:9-12 [Moses received these instructions the second time he went up Mt. Sinai. (He had destroyed the first set of tablets that contained the 10 commandments after he went up Mt. Sinai the first time.)]

From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, **count off seven full weeks**. **Count off fifty days j**) up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain a) to the Lord. From wherever you live, bring two loaves a) made of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour, baked with yeast a), as a wave offering a) of firstfruits to the Lord. Present with this bread seven male lambs e), each a year old and without defect, one bull f) and two rams g). They will be a burnt offering to the Lord, together with their grain offerings and drink offerings - an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord. Then sacrifice one male goat h) for a sin offering and two lambs e), each a year old, for a fellowship offering. The priest is to wave the two lambs e) before the Lord as a wave offering, together with the bread of the firstfruits. They are a sacred offering to the Lord for the priest.

On that same day you are to proclaim a sacred assembly and do no regular work i). This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live. Leviticus 23:15-21 [God spoke to Moses in the "Tent of Meeting" that was constructed as a portable temple. God abided there in the "Holy of Holies" section of the temple. This was sometime after the Ten Commandments were given.]

On the day of firstfruits, when you present to the Lord an offering of new grain during the Feast of Weeks, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work i). Present a burnt offering of two young bulls f), one ram g) and seven male lambs e) a year old as an aroma pleasing to the Lord. With each bull there is to be a grain offering a) of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; with the ram, two-tenths, and with each of the seven lambs, one-tenth. Include one male goat h) to make atonement for you. Prepare these together with their drink offerings, in addition to the regular burnt offering and its grain offering. Be sure the animals are without defect. Leviticus 23:15-21 [Additional instructions given to Moses just before the Israelites went into the Promised Land. (Moses did not go into the Promised Land)]

PENTECOST SYMBOLS

Original Instructions:

a) firstfruits of the wheat harvest

meaning: This was the beginning of the long summer agricultural cycle. It was important to bring the firstfruits of this harvest just like on the Feast of Firsfruits, to acknowledge God and His blessing.

b) freewill offering

meaning: This is a new addition to the Feasts. It reminds me of "freely given, freely give". They were reminded they were once treated badly as slaves, therefore to have compassion on others who were less fortunate.

c) rejoice

meaning: This was to be a happy time. A celebration.

d) include everybody (even aliens)

meaning: It was unusual to specifically include everyone. There is no mention of circumcision as a prerequisite to joining in the celebration.

Added Later:

a) two loaves, baked with yeast, as a wave offering

meaning: Here again is something new. Adding yeast to the bread. And why two? This is controversial. Most Jewish commentaries say the two loaves represent the two houses of Israel. Because everyone is included in the feast, even Gentiles, I believe it symbolizes the Gentiles being grafted in as the second loaf. One loaf, the children of Abraham and the other loaf the Gentiles. Both equally sinful, shown by the addition of yeast into the loaves.

e) seven male lambs, a year old, without defect two more as a fellowship and wave offering

meaning: Lambs usually represented innocence. It was the blood of a lamb that was put around the doorposts at Passover.

f) one or two young bulls with grain & drink offerings

meaning: Bulls were used as sin offerings. See Exodus 29:10-14

g) one or two rams with grain & drink offerings

meaning: Rams blood was used for consecration. See Exodus 29:19-21

h) one male goat, a sin offering

meaning: Goats were also used like Bulls, for sin offerings.

(the animals above were an offering *to* the Lord *for* the Priests) (all animals were to be without defects)

i) do no regular work.

meaning: It was to be a Holy Day. Set apart for God.

Timing.
It always landed on a Sunday, seven weeks from Firstfruits which was also a Sunday.

Events occurring on Pentecost:

Theme: The law of God, written on stone, or on hearts

Events that occurred at this Feast time:

- -God gives the law on Mt.Sinai—Exodus 19:11
- -The disciples receive the Holy Spirit—Acts 1:8
- -Ruth's conversion to Judaism—Ruth 1:16, Leviticus 23:22

Possible future events:

- -New laws given in the New Kingdom?
- -Israel receives the Holy Spirit? (Zechariah 12:10-11)

Commentary on Pentecost

Pentecost does not have an exact date. Pharisees in Jesus day set a date by counting from the day after Passover, which was a Feast Sabbath, not a weekly Sabbath. In that case, Pentecost always landed on the same date every year. The Sadducees counted from the Feast of First Fruits which was on the Sunday after Passover, in which case, Pentecost was also always a Sunday.

I don't think it was an accident that First Fruits and Pentecost both landed on Sundays. God knows the end from the beginning and so I am sure He knew that Christians would worship on Sundays. First Fruits should be Christian's day to celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead. Pentecost should be a day Christians celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit.

Let us now look at events that have happened on the date of Pentecost from page 35:

- -God gives the law on Mt.Sinai
- -The disciples receive the Holy Spirit
- -Ruth's conversion to Judaism
- (The book of Ruth is often read in Synagogues on

Pentecost)

Each event shows a beginning of a transformation by receiving laws. God gave a written law on tablets at Mt. Sinai. God wrote the law on hearts with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Ruth accepted the laws of Judaism when she converted.

So, let us now look at the symbols of Pentecost from page 33:

- -firstfruits of the wheat harvest
- -freewill offering
- -rejoice
- -include everybody (even aliens)
- -two loaves, baked with yeast, as a wave offering

The wheat harvest began the long summer months of toil in the fields. Can you see the comparison to what the Disciples did after receiving the Holy Spirit? Jesus told them to wait until they received "power." We are in that long summer right now. Most Christians call it the "Church Age." The church has received the Holy Spirit to spread the gospel to the world.

The freewill offering was an extra offering, given to help those less fortunate. It was not a set amount, but was according to the ability of the giver.

It is interesting to note that everyone was to celebrate, not just the Israelites, but also any aliens with them. It included the Gentiles, too.

This was a Feast that required all males to journey to Jerusalem. Because Passover also had the same requirement, most Jews stayed in Jerusalem from Passover to Pentecost. There would have been Jews from all over the Mediterranean and beyond. That is why those listening to Peter after he received the Holy Spirit were amazed they heard him in their own language.

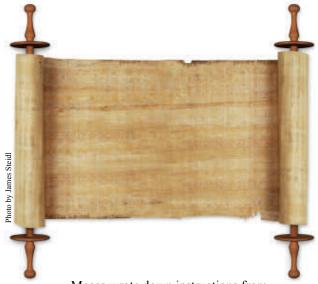
Adding yeast to the bread was an unusual thing. To me, this showed that this Feast was for mankind's fulfillment and not for Jesus to fulfill because His symbol would have been unleavened. Jesus had ascended 10 days prior to Pentecost.

Questions:

Circle the best answer

- 1. What was the earliest event to occur on Pentecost?
 - a. The first wheat was harvested in Egypt.
 - b. The law was given on Mt. Sinai.
 - c. 50 tribes were formed in Israel.
- 2. What was different about this Feast than the first three Feasts?
 - a. It included all people, even those uncircumcised.
 - b. The priests weren't involved.
 - c. It didn't have sacrifices.
- 3. What happened on the Feast of Pentecost after Jesus ascended?
 - a. The temple was destroyed.
 - b. The Holy Spirit descended on the disciples.
 - c. The Holy Spirit descended on the priests.
- 4. How many weeks were the Israelites to count until Pentecost?
 - a. 40
 - b. 50
 - c. 7
- 5. What was the theme of Pentecost?
 - a. Laws from God.
 - b. Counting days.
 - c. Starting the year right.
- 6. It was to be a time of:
 - a. mourning
 - b. counting
 - c. rejoicing
- . How is it celebrated today?
- 7. a. Jewish people remember the giving of the law on Mt.Sinai
 - b. Jewish people take seven days off
 - c. Jewish sacrifices of animals at the Temple
- 8. What is the exact date of this Feast?
 - a. Nissan 17
 - b. There is no exact date.
 - c. Sivan 7

- 9. When did this feast start?
 - a. In the Promised Land
 - b. In Egypt, right after Passover
 - c. At Mt. Sinai
- 10. What did Jesus do 10 days before Pentecost?
 - a. He ascended
 - b. He celebrated Passover
 - c. nothing
- 11. Did the people have to be circumcised to celebrate this Feast?
 - a. yes
 - b. no
 - c. only the slaves
- 12. The word Pentecost means:
 - a. penitent
 - b. counting
 - c. 50



Moses wrote down instructions from God onto scrolls such as this one.



A picture of the Sinai desert.



Picture of a traditional location of Mt. Sinai.

Section Three The Fall Feasts

Trumpets

The Lord said to Moses, "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. a) Do no regular work c), but present an offering b) made to the Lord by fire b).'

-Leviticus 23:23-25

On the first day of the seventh month hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. c) It is a day for you to sound the trumpets. a) As an aroma pleasing to the Lord, prepare a burnt offering b) of one young bull d), one ram e) and seven male lambs a year old, f) all without defect. With the bull prepare a gain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil g); with the ram, two-tenths; and with each of the seven lambs, one-tenth. Include one male goat h) as a sin offering to make atonement for you. These are in addition to the monthly and daily burnt offerings with their grain offerings and drink offerings as specified. They are offerings made to the Lord by fire b)—a pleasing aroma.

-Numbers 29:1-6

Symbols:

a) Trumpet Blasts

meaning: Trumpets were used to call an assembly

b) An offering by fire

meaning: purified by trial

c) no regular work

meaning: set the time aside as holy

d) one young bull

meaning: covering for sin

e) one ram

meaning: symbol of consecration

f) seven male lambs a year old

meaning: perfect (7), innocent sacrifice for sin

g) fine flour mixed with oil

meaning: purity mixed with the Holy Spirit

h) one male goat

meaning: a sin offering—a scapegoat

Atonement:

(10 days after Trumpets)

The Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron who died when they approached the Lord. 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.

This is how Aaron is to enter the sanctuary area: with a young bull a) for a sin offering and a ram b) for a burnt offering. He is to put on the sacred linen tunic, with linen undergarments next to his body; he is to tie the linen sash around him and put on the linen turban. These are sacred garments; so he must bathe himself with water before he puts them on. From the Israelite community he is to take two male goats c) for a sin offering and a ram b) for a burnt offering.

Aaron is to offer the bull a) for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household. Then he is to take the two goats c) and present them before the Lord at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. He is to cast lots for the two goats c) - one lot for the Lord and the other for the scapegoat. Aaron shall bring the goat c) whose lot falls to the Lord and sacrifice it for a sin offering. But the goat c) 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.

Aaron shall bring the bull a) for his own sin offering to make atonement for himself and his household, and he is to slaughter the bull a) for his own sin offering. He is to take a censer full of burning coals from the altar before the Lord and two handfuls of finely ground fragrant incense d) and take them behind the curtain. He is to put the incense d) on the fire before the Lord, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the Testimony, so that he will not die.

He is to take some of the bull's a) blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover.

He shall then slaughter the goat c) 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 a) blood; He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. 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. 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.

Then he shall come out to the altar that is before the Lord and make atonement for it. He shall take some of the bull's a) blood and some of the goat's c) blood and put it on all the horns of the altar. He shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times to cleanse it and to consecrate it from the uncleanness of the Israelites.

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 c). He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat c) and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites-all their sins-and put them on the goat's c) head. He shall send the goat c) away into the desert in the care of a man appointed for the task. The goat c) will carry on itself all their sins to a solitary place; and the man shall release it in the desert.

Then Aaron is to go into the Tent of Meeting and take off the linen garments he put on before he entered the Most Holy Place, and he is to leave them there. He shall bathe himself with water in a holy place and put on his regular garments. Then he shall come out and sacrifice the burnt offering for himself and the burnt offering for the people, to make atonement for himself and for the people. He shall also burn the fat of the sin offering on the altar.

The man who releases the goat c) as a scapegoat must wash his clothes and bathe himself with water; afterward he may come into the camp. The bull a) and the goat b) for the sin offerings, whose blood was brought into the Most Holy Place to make atonement, must be taken outside the camp; their hides, flesh and offal are to be burned up. The man who burns them must was his clothes and bathe himself with water; afterward he may come into the camp.

This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: on the tenth day of the seventh month you must deny yourselves e) and not do any work f)-whether native-born or an alien living among you-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. It is a Sabbath of rest, and you must deny yourselves e); it is a lasting ordinance. 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 garments 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. This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: Atonement is to be made once a year for the sins of the Israelites."

-Leviticus 16:1-34

The Lord said to Moses, "The tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. Hold a sacred assembly and deny yourselves e), and present an offering made to the Lord by fire. Do no work f) on that day, because it is the Day of Atonement, when atonement is made for you before the Lord your God. Anyone who does not deny himself e) on that day must be cut off from his people. I will destroy from among his people anyone who does any work on that day. You shall do not work f) at all. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live. It is a Sabbath of rest for your, and you must deny yourselves e). From the evening of the ninth day of the month until the following evening you are to observe your Sabbath. -Leviticus 23:26-32

"On the tenth day of this seventh month hold a sacred assembly. You must deny yourselves e) and do no work f). Present as an aroma pleasing to the Lord a burnt offering of one young bull a), one ram b) and seven male lambs g) a year old, all without defect. With the bull a) prepare a grain offering of three-tents of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; h) with the ram b), two-tenths; and with each of the seven lambs g), one-tenth. Include one male goat c) as a sin offering, in addition to the sin offering for atonement and the regular burnt offering with its grain offering, and their drink offerings.

Numbers 29:7-11

"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. Then have the trumpet h) sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. -Leviticus 25:8-10

Symbols of Atonement:

a) Bull

meaning: a sin offering

b) Ram

meaning: a burnt offering

c) Two Goats

meaning:

one goat—burnt offering to the Lord one goat—a scapegoat, carries sins into the desert

d) Fragrant incense

meaning: to make smoke, to conceal the Atonement cover on the ark of the covenant so the Priest won't die.

e) Deny yourselves

meaning: modern day consider this a call to fast.

f) Do not work

meaning: set the day apart as Holy.

g) seven lambs

meaning: seven is perfect, lambs are innocent

h) trumpet

meaning: The NIV translation says "trumpet", but the meaning was for the blowing of the Shofar.

Tabernacles:

The Lord said to Moses, "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. The first day is a sacred assembly; do no regular work. 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.

(These are the Lord's appointed feasts, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies for bringing offerings made to the Lord by fire—the burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and drink offerings required for each day. These offerings are in addition to those for the Lord's Sabbaths and in addition to your gifts and whatever you have vowed and all the freewill offerings you give to the Lord.)

So beginning with the fifteenth day of the seventh month, after you have gathered the crops of the land, celebrate the festival to the Lord for seven days; the first day is a day of rest, and the eighth day also is a day of rest. On the first day you are to take choice fruit from the trees, and palm fronds, leafy branches and poplars, and rejoice a) before the Lord your God for seven days. 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. Live in booths for seven days b): All native-born Israelites are to live in booths b) so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in booths b) when I brought them out of Egypt. I am the Lord your God." -Leviticus 23:33-43

"'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. Celebrate a festival to the Lord for seven days. Present an offering made by fire as an aroma pleasing to the Lord, a burnt offering of thirteen young bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With each of the thirteen bulls c) prepare a grain offering h) of three-tents of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil f); with each of the two rams d), two-tenths; and with each of the fourteen lambs e), one-tenth. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the second day prepare twelve young bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering, and their drink offerings.

On the third day prepare eleven bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the fourth day prepare ten bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the fifth day prepare nine bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the sixth day prepare eight bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the seventh day prepare seven bulls c), two rams d) and fourteen male lambs e) a year old, all without defect. With the bulls c), rams d) and lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h)

and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering.

On the eighth day hold an assembly and do no regular work. Present an offering made by fire as an aroma pleasing to the Lord, a burnt offering of one bull c), one ram d) and seven male lambs e) a year old, all without defect, With the bull c), the ram d) and the lambs e), prepare their grain offerings h) and drink offerings i) according to the number specified. Include one male goat g) as a sin offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain offering and drink offering. -Numbers 29:12-38

Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing floor and your winepress. Be joyful at your Feast a)—you, your sons and daughters, your menservants and maidservants, and the Levites, the aliens, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns. For seven days celebrate the Feast to the Lord your God at the place the Lord will choose. For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.

Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Tabernacles. No man should appear before the Lord empty-handed: Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your god has blessed you. -Deuteronomy 16:13-17

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. 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. If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The Lord will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. 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. - Zechariah 14:16-19

Symbols of Tabernacles:

a) rejoice

meaning: it is to be a happy time

b) live in booths for seven days

meaning: last for a perfect week

c) bulls:

day one, a Sabbath: thirteen bulls

day two—twelve bulls

day three—eleven bulls

day four-ten bulls

day five—nine bulls

day six—eight bulls

day seven—seven bulls

day eight, a Sabbath: one bull

meaning: It is a countdown to the perfect seven.

d) one ram each day

meaning: a sacrifice for sin

e) fourteen male lambs each day

meaning: double seven each day, innocent offering

f) grain offering with oil on the first day

meaning: an offering of purity, oil for the Holy Spirit

g) one male goat each day

meaning: a sin offering

h) grain offerings (possibly with oil) each day

meaning: purity of life (no yeast)

i) drink offerings each day

meaning: thankful offering of the grape harvest

Events that happened during the Fall Feasts:

Trumpets—Tishri One: (also the Jewish Civil New Year)

- Ezra read the Law to the Israelites when the temple was rebuilt in Jerusalem. -Nehemiah 8:2-3

Atonement—Tishri Ten:

- 1. First atonement for sin in the wilderness Leviticus 16:1-28
- 2. Israel miraculously won against Syria and Egypt in 1973 (War of Yom Kippur)

Tabernacles—Tishri Fifteen: (goes for seven days)

- 1. First Feast celebrated with the rebuilt Altar in Jerusalem, after King Cyrus let the Israelites return to their homeland. -Ezra 3:1-4
- 2. The dedication of Solomon's Temple. -II Chronicles 5:2-3

Possible Future events:

- 1. Trumpets: theme—new beginnings
 Battle of Armageddon is over when Jesus comes?
- 2. Atonement: theme—repentance and forgiveness of sins Israel recognizes Jesus as the Son of God for the first time?
- 3. Tabernacles: theme—new dedication and joy Beginning of the Millennium? (thousand year rule of Jesus)

Commentary on the Fall Feasts

Now we get to the interesting part. These Feasts have yet to be fulfilled.

The first Feast, Trumpets is on Tishri 1. It is the only Feast to start on the first day of the month. Tishri is also the first month of the year on the ancient Jewish Calendar. When God changed the first month of the year to Nissan, Tishri was still kept as the first month of what they now call the civil year. In Hebrew it is called Rosh Hashanah. Today it is celebrated for two days.

- Ezra read the Law to the Israelites when the temple was rebuilt in Jerusalem. It was a new beginning for them.
- It is celebrated today as the date of creation.

Because it specifically mentions blowing a trumpet this Feast is often compared to verses about the end time when the "Last Trumpet" will sound. (I Corinthians 15: 51-52) Many believe that the "Rapture" will take place on this date. Let's look at the symbols.

- Trumpet Blasts
- An offering by fire
- no regular work
- one young bull
- one ram
- seven male lambs a year old
- fine flour mixed with oil

You may notice there are fewer sacrifices. At the beginning of every month, silver trumpets were sounded. So on this date more trumpets are blown than at any other time. The other Feast that had seven lambs was Pentecost. It began the "Church Age". Could it be that this date would also begin the Millennium? Keep a close eye on this date.

The next Feast is Atonement on Tishri 10. In Hebrew it is called Yom Kippur. The days from Tishri 1 to 10 are called the "High Holy Days." It is also known as "Judgment Day." It is a day that Jewish people mourn for their sins.

Let us look at the events that happened on Tishri 10 from page 55:

- First atonement was given for sin
- Israel miraculously won against Syria and Egypt in 1973

Now let's look at the symbols from page 47:

- one bull
- one ram
- seven lambs
- one goat (scapegoat)
- one goat (burnt offering to the Lord)
- deny yourself
- do not work
- fragrant incense (smoke to conceal the ark of the covenant)
- only day of the year the Priest would enter the Holy of Holies
- trumpet

This is the only Feast that uses a "scapegoat." The priest would lay his hands on the goats head, thereby symbolizing the transference of Israel's sins onto the goat. The goat was then let go into the wilderness, never to be seen again. It became a tradition of the Rabbis to push the goat backwards off a cliff, killing it to make sure it would never be seen again. That is not in the Bible.

Could it be in the future that on this day of mourning for their sins, Israel will recognize their Messiah? It is the date for mass conversion and what would cause such a conversion? Will Israel again miraculously win a future battle on this date?

The final Feast is Tabernacles on Tishri 15. It lasts for seven days and is the most joyous feast of all. This is the only Feast where temporary "booths" were constructed.

Let us look at events that happened on Tabernacles from page 55:

- First Feast celebrated with the rebuilt Altar in Jerusalem
- The dedication of Solomon's Temple

Let's look at the symbols from page 53:

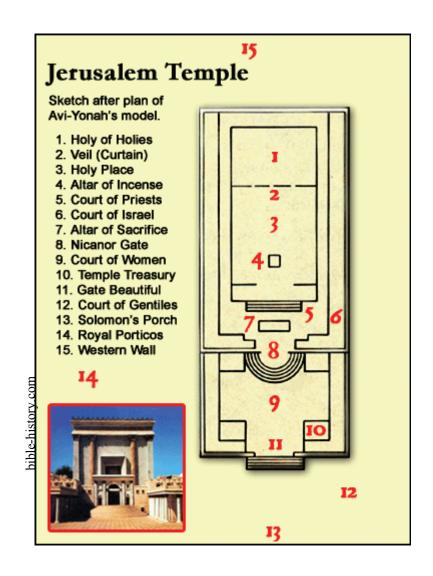
- rejoice
- live in booths for seven days
- countdown of bulls, from thirteen to seven, over seven days
- one ram each day
- fourteen male lambs each day
- one goat each day
- grain offering with oil on the first day
- grain offerings (possibly with oil) each day
- drink offerings each day

You may notice that more lambs are sacrificed than at any other time. It is interesting that fourteen, double seven is the number of lambs.

Dedication of a new Temple in Jerusalem could take place on this date. This Feast had been ignored for centuries. There has been a recent resurgence in the building of the booths. See if you can find any news coverage of booths during this Feast time.



The Shofar, a trumpet made from a ram's horn, is only specifically mentioned in the Bible for the feast of Tabernacles.



Questions:

Circle the best answer

- 1. What specific date is the Feast of Trumpets to be celebrated?
 - (The answer can be found in Leviticus 23:23-24)
 - a) Tishri 15
 - b) Nissan 14
 - c) Tishri 1
- 2. What specific date is the Feast of Atonement to be celebrated?

(The answer can be found in Leviticus 23:26-32)

- a) Tishri 1
- b) Tishri 10
- c) Tishri 15
- 3. What specific date is the Feast of Tabernacles to be celebrated?

(The answer can be found in Leviticus 23:33-34, 42-43)

- a) Tishri 15
- b) Nissan 15
- c) Tishri 10
- 4. What is the most unusual aspect of the Feast of Trumpets? (The answer has to do with the date of the Feast)
 - a) It is the only one that comes on the first day of a month.
 - b) It doesn't have a specific day to be celebrated.
 - c) It is written to blow 12 horns on the date of the Feast.
- 5. What is the most unusual aspect of the Feast of Atonement?

(The answer can be found in Hebrews 9:12,14)

- a) Trumpets were not allowed to be blown.
- b) The only day the Priest was allowed to go into the Holy of Holies.
- c) The only day that the Israelites could be forgiven.
- 6. What is the most unusual aspect of the Feast of Tabernacles?

(The answer can be found in Zechariah 14:9,16)

- a) It was the only "rejoicing" Feast.
- b) It is the only Feast mentioned that is celebrated during the millennium.
- c) It was the only Feast to sacrifice a lamb.

- 7. Which of the three Fall Feasts required all men to journey to Jerusalem and present a freewill gift? (The answer can be found in Deuteronomy 16:16)
 - a) The Feasts of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost and Tabernacles.
 - b) The Feasts of Pentecost, Trumpets and Atonement.
 - c) The Feasts of First Fruits, Pentecost and Trumpets.
- 8. What is the difference between a "sacrifice" and an "offering"?
 - a) A sacrifice is always an animal and an offering is always grain.
 - b) A sacrifice is only once a year, while an offering is daily.
 - c) A sacrifice costs the presenter, while an offering is a presentation to God that does not necessarily cost the giver.
- 9. What is the main theme of the Feast of Trumpets? (see page 55. There is further explanation in the Commentaries Section.)
 - a) Old Friends
 - b) New Beginnings
 - c) Remembering Battles
- 10. What is the main theme of the Feast of Atonement? (see page 55. There is further explanation in the Commentaries Section.)
 - a) Atonement and Forgiveness
 - b) Putting the Temple in Order
 - c) Paying Yearly Tithes
- 11. What is the main theme of the Feast of Tabernacles? (see page 55. There is further explanation in the Commentaries Section.)
 - a) Living a Sparse Life
 - b) Journeys to New Places
 - c) New Dedication and Joy
- 12. Which of the Fall Feasts lasts the longest?
 - a) Trumpets
 - b) Atonement
 - c) Tabernacles

Section Four: Camparisons and Timelines

Comparisons of the Symbols

days:	lambs:	attend:	days: lambs: attend: special instructions:
Passover/Unleavened Bread 7	_	×	bitter herbs/ unleavened bread
Firstfruits1	_		sheaf of first fruits
Pentecost1	7	×	rejoice & freewill offering
Trumpets 1	_		most trumpets
Atonement	7		scapegoat
Tabernacles 7	86	×	booths

Just a glimpse of possible comparisons: Unleavened bread was six days, however Passover was celebrated with unleavened bread, so it was actually seven days. Notice the days start and end with seven. Jesus fulfilled the first two feasts where only one lamb was sacrificed. Pentecost, Trumpets and Atonement had seven lambs, the number of perfection. Tabernacles had fourteen lambs a day sacrificed, the most number of all. The Feasts that all males were to attend were the first, the middle and the end feasts.

The special instructions that were different for the various Feasts can give us an idea of their prophetic meaning:

Passover was bitter for the Israelites when they were in Egypt. Passover was bitter for Jesus when He was crucified.

Firstfruits was a time of beginning. For the Israelites, the beginning of the harvest year, for Jesus, He was the first of the spiritual harvest, the first to raise from the dead and receive a "glorified" body.

Pentecost for the Israelites, began the summer harvest. When the Holy Spirit was given on Pentecost, the long summer of the "Church Age" began. Even the angels rejoice with the addition of each new believer.

Trumpets celebrated the end of the harvest. In the future it may proclaim the end of the present spiritual harvest.

Atonement for the Israelites was a time to reflect and confess sins to be forgiven. It may be a future time for the nation of Israel to do the same again.

Tabernacles was the most joyous Feast. It reminded the Israelites that God took care of them in the wilderness. It is the only feast mentioned to be celebrated during the millennium. Could it be because the thousand year reign of Christ will begin on this date?

Timelines:

Yearly:

Passover—Unleavened Bread—Firstfruits—Pentecost (summer) Trumpets—Atonement—Tabernacles September—October April—May March—April

Historical:

End of Time? Judgment? Millennium? Passover—Unleavened Bread—Firstfruits—Pentecost (summer) Trumpets—Atonement—Tabernacles Holy Spirit Resurrection Crucifixion

Personal:

Passover—Unleavened Bread—Firstfruits—Pentecost (summer) Trumpets—Atonement—Tabernacles Repent Born Again Receive Holy Spirit Spread the Gospel Rapture Armageddon Eternity

Resources:

Books in alphabetical order:

Armageddon—by Grant R. Jeffrey
Bible Times—by National Geographic Society
Cosmic Codes—by Dr. Chuck Missler
Daily Life at the time of Jesus—by Miriam Feinberg Vamosh
The Feasts of the Lord—by Kevin Howard & Marvin Rosenthal
God's Appointed Times—by Barney Kasdan
Hidden Treasures—by Dr. Chuck Missler
Israel's Feasts and their Fullness—by Batya Ruth Wootten
Jesus in the Feasts of Israel—by Richard Booker
Manners and Customs of Bible Times—by Ralph Gower
Symbols of Judaism—by Marc-Alain Ouaknin

Web Sites in alphabetical order:

www.aish.com/holidays www.biblegateway.com www.bible-history.com www.hebcal.com www.biblemaster.com/studies www.ebibleteacher.com www.jewfaq.org/current.htm www.jewishimpactfilms.com www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Talmud www.jewsforjesus.org www.kosher4passover.com/songs.htm www.levitt.com www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays www.simplybiblestudies.com www.studiesintheword.org www.timeanddate.com



About the Author, Vicki Dinnel

Vicki accepted Jesus as her own personal savior at the age of seven. When she was eight, she dedicated her life to reaching others with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In high school, she wrote Bible studies for her teens Sunday school class and a few short sermons for special occasions. She attended various churches, always in search of true teachings of the Bible. She now attends a Community Church in southern California. She has completed the Jerry Jenkins Writers Guild two year Apprentice course. Vicki has written many Bible studies over the years and this is the first one of many she plans to publish. She has had six near death experiences and survived a twenty-two year abusive marriage. Vicki has a great life now with her second husband of 17 years, six children and four grand-children. Going into her 60's, she has started an online Bible study website: www.simplybiblestudies.com as well as a Publishing Company that is a ministry to event planners and speakers: www.OneStopEventPrinting.com