

The Lord's Feasts

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Published by Hungry Hearts Ministries
PO Box 10334
Jackson TN 38308
hungryheartsmi@aol.com
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Printing by Allegra Print and Imaging
1029 Old Hickory Blvd, Jackson TN 38305,
(731) 664-1676

First Edition Published July 2014
Special thanks to Freda Sims for proofreading this book

All language references, unless otherwise noted, come from
Strong's Concordance. Strong, James. Published: Nashville: Ab-
ingdon, c1980.

The Lord's Feasts

For centuries the Jewish people have celebrated the Feast Days of Leviticus 23. These days are special because they are annual reminders of how God set the Israelite people apart from the other nations of the world. These were days when God's mighty power was displayed to save His people.

Passover is the time when God slew the first born of Egypt to release the Israelites from slavery. Pentecost is when God came down upon the mountain with clouds and thunderstorms. He spoke the Ten Words, also known as the Ten Commandments, in fire while He was on this mountain. These great displays of God's power remind us that He is Lord over all the earth. He is sovereign and there is no other!

What many Christians do not realize is that these feast days have meaning for believers as well. In Colossians 2:16-17, Paul said, "16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ" (KJV). In the second half of verse 16, Paul says to let no one judge you regarding "an holyday, or of the new moon or of the sabbath days." The Greek word Paul uses for holy day refers to the Feasts in Leviticus 23. Greek word for New Moon is used only to refer to the New Moon Celebrations in Numbers 28:11-15. The Greek word for Sabbath refers to the seventh day Sabbath in Genesis 2:1-3. The Feast Days, New Moon Celebrations, and the Sabbath are often mentioned together in the Bible (I Chron. 23:31, Neh. 10:33, Ez. 45:17). They are the most joyous times of celebration in the Bible. Paul tells us to not let anyone judge us for keeping these things.

Paul concludes verses 16-17 by saying that these festivals "are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ." He tells the Colossians to let no one judge them for keeping the dietary laws or celebrating the Sabbath and Feast Days. He also explains why we should let no one judge us: Christ is the body of each one

of these things. Each of these Feasts has a meaning in Ancient Israel (a shadow), but the real meaning of each Holy Day is in Christ. Paul concludes that we should let no one judge us for keeping these Feast Days. They are all about Christ!

In Leviticus 23, the Lord reveals the nine feasts of the Lord: the weekly Sabbath, Passover, the First Day of Unleavened Bread, the Seventh Day of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement, the First Day of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day. These nine feast days depict God's Plan of Salvation!

The Lord explains that eight of the nine feasts are Sabbaths. The first of these eight days is the weekly Sabbath. There are seven Annual Sabbaths: the First Day of Unleavened Bread, the Seventh Day of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement, the First Day of Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day. Passover is an annual Feast Day, but not an annual Sabbath. The weekly and annual Sabbaths are days in which we are not supposed to do any regular work such as our regular jobs or routine household chores.

There is a chart on the next page giving an overview of the annual Feast Days.

There is a chart in the back of this booklet giving the dates of the annual feast days.

The Feast Days are living testimonies to the power of God. There is power available in them today! By living them, that power is imparted to us so that we may overcome sin and see the abundance of God in our lives. In Leviticus 23:1-2, the Lord said, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'These are my appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the Lord, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies.'" Notice that the Lord calls these feasts "my appointed feasts." These feast days have important significance to our Lord and Savior. They are not the feasts of the Israelites. He calls them the feasts of the Lord. The Hebrew word for feast is *moed*, and it means a fixed, determined, or appointed

time. These Feast days are specific times set apart for us to meet with Him. They are fixed and determined by Him. They are not determined by us! Literally, these are times when we have an appointment with the Savior of all mankind! They are days where we as believers gather together to celebrate the power of Christ in our lives.

The very first feast day in Leviticus 23 is the weekly Sabbath. It is celebrated from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. It is a time where we rest from the rigors of our routine chores such as mowing the yard and washing clothes. It is a time to rest from our job. Instead, it is an amazing time to spend with our Savior, natural family, and spiritual family. God wove His presence into this 24-hour space of time. This presence is still available for us today. The Sabbath teaches us about salvation. We try to work to earn our salvation, and then rest from doing things our way when we are saved in the same way that we work six days and rest on the seventh. This day prophetically looks forward to the 7th Millennium, ruled by Christ. How we honor the weekly Sabbath is a template for how we honor the annual Sabbaths.

Chart of the Feasts of the Lord

<p>Names of the 9 Feasts of the Lord and Dates in which they occur on the Hebrew Calendar (as found in Leviticus 23)</p>	<p>3 Annual Pilgrimage Festivals (<i>chag</i> in Hebrew)</p>
<p>Weekly Sabbath – Friday Sunset to Saturday Sunset</p>	
<p>Passover – 14th of Nissan, the 1st month on the Hebrew Calendar 1st of Unleavened Bread – 15th of Nissan 7th of Unleavened Bread – 21st of Nissan</p>	<p>These are collectively called the Passover or Unleavened Bread (Ex. 23:15, 34:18, Deut. 16:1-8, Luke 22:1)</p>
<p>Pentecost (50 days after the weekly Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It is always in the 3rd month, called Sivan.) It occurs on a different day of the Calendar most years.</p>	<p>Called the Feast of Weeks, Firstfruits of the Wheat Harvest, or Harvest (Exodus 23:16a, 34:22a, Deut. 16:9-12).</p>
<p>Trumpets – 1st day of Tishri, the 7th month Atonement – 10th day of Tishri 1st of Tabernacles – 15th of Tishri 8th of Tabernacles – 22nd of Tishri</p>	<p>Ingathering (Exodus 23:16b, 34:22b, Deut. 16:13-15). In some places, only Tabernacles in mentioned. Some people came up to Jerusalem to celebrate all of the Feasts, whereas others only came for Tabernacles.</p>

Spring Feasts

Passover and Unleavened Bread

The first three annual Feasts are Passover, the First Day of Unleavened Bread, and the Seventh Day of Unleavened Bread. They occur in the Early Spring during the first Hebrew month called Abib or Nissan. On the Roman calendar, they occur during the months of March and/or April. Passover is an annual Feast Day, but it is not a Sabbath day. It occurs on the fourteenth day of the first month. The First and Seventh Days of Unleavened Bread are annual Sabbaths where no work is to be done. They are celebrated on the 15th and 21st days of Nissan. Collectively, this eight-day period is sometimes called Unleavened Bread, the Passover, or the Passover Season in the Bible (see Ex. 23:15, Deut. 16:1-8, Luke 22:1, John 2:23).

At the end of the book of Genesis, the entire family of Israel went down to Egypt. They were invited by Pharaoh to live in the best of the land. After some time passed, a Pharaoh came to power that did not know the God of Israel. This Pharaoh badly mistreated the Israelites and put them into slavery. The Israelites cried out to God, and he brought up a deliverer named Moses to free them.

Moses and his brother Aaron were used by God to lead the Israelites out of captivity. God used them to bring upon Egypt 10 terrible plagues because Pharaoh refused to free the Israelites. In the last plague, God took the firstborn of every person and animal in the land of Egypt. God gave the Israelites a series of instructions to help them avoid this terrible plague. The Israelites had to kill a one-year old male lamb. They were to place the blood of that lamb on the tops and sides of the doorposts of their homes. Everyone who did this would be “passed-over” when the death angel came through the land to take the life of every firstborn. God gave the Israelites specific instructions in Exodus 12 on how to prepare this lamb. The night they were supposed to do this was the 14th of Nissan.

When the death angel came through the land, he took the firstborn of every person and animal. This included the firstborn of Pharaoh. The Egyptian ruler finally let the Israelites leave the land. On the night portion of the 15th of Nissan, the Israelites left Egypt in celebration. Not long after this, Pharaoh changed his mind. He decided that he wanted the Israelites back as slaves. He rallied his army and pursued the Israelites. For six days the Israelites fled from the Egyptian army. On the seventh day, they reached the shore of the Red Sea.

It appeared that the Israelites were in a hopeless situation. Pharaoh's army was closing in behind them and the Red Sea in front of them. In this seemingly hopeless situation, God manifest His great power. He spoke to Moses and told him to raise his staff over the Red Sea. When he did this, God parted the Red Sea with a wind from Heaven. The Israelites crossed on dry ground. When the Israelites reached the other side safely, Pharaoh and his forces followed them. God caused the waters to close in over them, drowning Pharaoh's army. God had given his people a great victory! In their time of need, He did things for them they could not do for themselves. He protected them, guided them, and gave them victory.

To remember these tremendous events, we celebrate two Passover Seders or sacred meals. One on the night of the 14th of Nissan on the Hebrew Calendar Hebrew. The other is on the night of the 15th of Nissan. On the night of the 14th of Nissan, we commemorate Christ being our Passover Lamb. Christ was slain for our sins and His blood is applied to us so that we are "passed-over" and God's wrath does not fall upon our lives (Romans 5:9-11). On the second night, we celebrate coming up out of Egypt, which is a picture and type of sin in the Bible. Without Christ's sacrifice, we cannot come up out of sin. During the day portion of the 15th of Nissan, we have a regular church service to give God thanks once again for bringing us out of a life of sin.

Egypt was a place of pain and suffering for the Israelites. Sin is a

place of bitterness and suffering. When we live a life of sin, we go through many hard times. Christ brings us out of this terrible life into a life full of meaning and purpose.

On the seventh day of Unleavened Bread, we have a service to remember God parting the Red Sea for the Israelites. This was also the day when the walls of Jericho fell. It is a day of victory and overcoming. It was the day when the Israelites were fully cut off from their accuser. The Israelites just had to trust God and keep moving where He directed them. This teaches us a valuable lesson. We are free in Christ when we receive Him, but to gain total victory over our past sins, we must continue to surrender to God. We must continue to trust Him and let Him lead us.

There is another very important event that happened on this day in the past. It has meaning for us today. God instructed the Israelites to remove the yeast from their dwellings before they left Egypt. They were also asked to eat Unleavened Bread for 7 days. Yeast in the Bible is used as a symbol for sin (I Cor. 5:6-8). Just before the Passover Season arrives, we need to spend time getting the yeast out of our homes. We need to read the labels and look for items that have yeast in them. At the same time, the Lord wants us to get the sin out of our hearts. As you are going through your cupboard and sweeping out your house, God is actually going to reveal sins in your life. It is important we pay attention to the Lord. We make a sin list and burn it on the Sabbath before Passover so we can go before Him clean and ready to take in the precious Lamb.

The other part of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is eating bread without yeast. We learn in I Cor. 5:6-8 that Christ is the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. At His last Passover on earth, He told us that His body is represented by the unleavened bread. There is a supernatural blessing of God's power that comes from eating unleavened bread during these seven days. For the entire Seven Days of Unleavened Bread, we are not to eat anything with yeast in it. We are asked to eat unleavened bread. This shows us that we must get the sin out of our lives and also take in more of

Him. One or the other is not enough. As you practice this Feast Season, this will have even more meaning for your life. The Passover Season is a special time of the year. Many great God encounters in the Bible occurred during this time, and they are available for us today if we will simply return to Him and celebrate them.

Pentecost

Pentecost is the last Spring Feast. In Leviticus 23:15-21, God told the Israelites to count off seven Sabbaths from the normal weekly Sabbath that falls during the feast of Unleavened Bread. The day after this seventh Sabbath was called the Feast of Weeks or *Shavuot* in Hebrew. It is called the Feast of Weeks because it is seven weeks or a week of weeks from the weekly Sabbath during Unleavened Bread. Later, this day became known as Pentecost, which means ‘count fifty’. Since this day is fifty days from the weekly Sabbath that falls during Unleavened Bread, this Feast always falls on the first day of the week. This also means that Pentecost could occur on a different day on the Calendar every single year. This year it is on Sivan 10 (June 8th, 2014). Next year it is on Sivan 6 (May 24th, 2015). Like the First and Seventh days of Unleavened Bread, it is an annual Sabbath. We are not to work, and a holy convocation is to be held.

It was on this day that the Lord came down on Mount Sinai with fire, smoke, lightning, and thunder in Exodus 20. This was an awesome display of God’s power. It was so tremendous that even Moses trembled with fear (Deut. 5:5). The Lord called the Israelites up to Himself so that He could enter into a covenant with them. He wanted to make Israel His Bride. The people of Israel refused to go up on the mountain to meet with the Lord because they were afraid. Moses went up on this day and received the 10 commandments as well as the book of the Law (Exodus chapters 20-23).

The fire of God came down on the Mountain in Exodus 19 and 20. The fire was outside the people. In Acts 2:1-4, on the Feast of

Pentecost, God put the fire in His people! In Exodus, the Law was given outwardly. It is the written standard that God has for our lives. It shows us the narrow way. In Acts, the people received the power to have this standard written inwardly. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the power we need to live by God's standard. It gives us the Spiritual passion we need to serve a Spiritual God.

Because God is putting His power within us, He is expecting more out of us. Jesus told the disciples that after they were filled with the Holy Spirit they would "...receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). The word for witness can mean martyr, but it can also mean a witness for something. It can mean to testify about something. When we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, we become living testimonies. God's word should be quick and active inside of us because He is overflowing outside of us in a brand new way. We should desire to be witnesses of Him locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. It takes the fire of God inside of us to do this. This fire brings about a radical change in our character where our Passion for Him becomes evident to everyone. It cannot be contained!

We learn other important lessons from the Feast of Pentecost. We should not be like the Israelites and shrink away from encountering God. Did the Lord descend on the Mountain in Exodus in vain? Did He just do it for show? Absolutely not! He wanted to meet with His people. It was His desire. He desires us, too. Our feelings are our greatest enemy. They are often in conflict with God's plan. We are His chosen people; a royal priesthood. The blood of the Father was shed on Passover so we could leave Egypt during Unleavened Bread and come up onto the Mountain on Pentecost. We were bought at a price. Of course the Lord wants to meet with you! When the Feast Days approach, we should be in eager expectation at what God is doing. We often have feelings of unworthiness when God's presence is near. We have to put away our feelings with our faith. When we repent, we must believe we are forgiven. We must step forward to meet with

Him if we really want to be His Bride. It takes His fire to be His Bride.

Interestingly enough, Pentecost is the only Feast Day that can be a different day on the Calendar every single year. It is no coincidence that Christ said, “No man knows the day or the hour...” of His return. We do not know which Pentecost the Lord could come back. If we go back to Exodus 19, the Lord told the Israelites He was going to descend on the Mountain three days later. He did not tell them the hour on this day. In Acts 1, Jesus told the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until the Baptism of the Holy Spirit would be poured out. He did not tell them the day or the hour in which this would happen. These are types to show us that the Feast of the Rescue is Pentecost. He married a physical people in Exodus 19; He is looking for a spiritually on-fire people today. That fire comes on Pentecost. Each year we are asked to count down the days until the Feast of Pentecost in eager expectation of what God is going to do.

Fall Feasts

Teshuvah

The Fall Holy Days all occur in the seventh month on the Hebrew Calendar, which is called Tishri. The fall Feasts occur during September or October on the Roman Calendar. To understand the Fall Holy Days, it is important to understand the time period that comes just before it. The sixth month on the Hebrew Calendar is called Elul. The Jewish people call this time *Teshuvah*. *Teshuvah* literally means to return back to where you came from. It is a month-long period before the Fall Holy Days when a person is supposed to repent and turn back to God. It is a preparation period for the Fall Feasts.

At Hungry Hearts, we have a four-week program to prepare you for the fall Feasts. In the first week, we spend time with the Lord examining ourselves. We write down our sins on a sheet of paper. We will burn these on the weekly Sabbath before Atonement. During the second week, we pray for friends and family members to come to know the Lord and the fullness of His Ways. The third week we spend time going through our finances and make a net worth statement (assets minus debts). We make goals for the upcoming year and plans to see those goals come to pass. During the fourth week, we spend alone time with the Lord seeking His face. As you do this year after year, you will see God do amazing things in your life. You will be fully prepared for the Fall Feast Days. Prophetically, these days represent when the two houses of Israel, Israel and Judah, will return back from captivity just before the public return of the Lord.

Trumpets

The first fall Feast Day is Trumpets. The Feast of Trumpets begins on the first day of the seventh month on the Hebrew Calendar. On the Roman calendar, the Feast of Trumpets is in September or October. While Passover is considered the beginning of the

ceremonial year on the Hebrew Calendar, this Holy Day is considered to be the beginning of the civil year. For this reason, it is sometimes called the Head of the Year (*Rosh Hoshanna* in Hebrew) or the Jewish New Year. In Leviticus 23:24, the Bible says that the Feast of Trumpets is a “commemoration of the trumpet blasts.” The Hebrew phrase used here is *zikron teruah*. It means a memorial of the trumpet blasts. *Zikron* means a memorial and *Teruah* is a specific trumpet blast used mostly during a time of war. The type of trumpet they used was a ram’s horn, called a *shofar* in Hebrew. This feast is a commemoration of when the Lord went to war for Ancient Israel. Many of their battles were won at the blowing of the ram’s horn, such as in the days of Joshua and Gideon. Prophetically, Trumpets represents when the Lord will go to war for His people once again at His public return! Following Christ will be his called, chosen, and faithful believers (Rev. 17:14). Together with Christ, we will slay the armies gathered outside of Jerusalem. We gather on this day to celebrate these awesome events, both past and future!

The theme for the Day of Trumpets is judgment. It is said in Jewish Tradition that God decides a person’s entire year on this day. Every person’s name will be written in the book of life or the book of death. God is examining our lives during *Teshuvah* to see if we really returned to Him with all of our heart. God is also determining on Trumpets how well we will be blessed this upcoming year or if we will not be blessed at all! The measure of our repentance will be the measure of our outpouring.

Days of Awe

The Feast of Trumpets begins the first of the Ten Days of Awe, also called the Ten Awesome Days. These days end on the Feast of Atonement. During this time, a person who did not repent during *Teshuvah* has the opportunity to return to God. According to Jewish tradition, these are ten days of grace to have your name changed from the book of death into the book of life if you did not properly repent during *Teshuvah*. Jewish tradition says that

when the door to the Temple closed after the Feast of Atonement, a person's future was sealed for the upcoming year.

God will show His awesome provision in your life during these ten days. The Days of Awe are a picture of your upcoming year. If you experience car trouble during the Days of Awe, then you can expect that you will have car trouble this upcoming year. If you have a breakthrough at work, then you can expect good things to happen at work. Even if something negative happens during the Days of Awe, it gives us an opportunity to guard ourselves from unnecessary trouble. Consider the example of the car that had problems. Having this trouble during the Days of Awe gives you the warning to take special care of your car in the upcoming year. This again shows God's awesome power and grace - that He would warn us of events before they happen! In some instances, God is showing us the attacks Satan will use against us this upcoming year! It would be wise to write down the things that happen to you during the Days of Awe.

Prophetically, this time period looks forward to when the nations who survive the wrath of God turn to God wholeheartedly in true repentance.

Atonement

The Day of Atonement, also known as *Yom Kippur*, falls on the 10th of Tishri. It is the tenth day in the ten days of awe. When the temple doors closed on the Day of Atonement, Jewish tradition says that God has already determined the outcome of your upcoming year. This Feast day is much different from the other Feasts. On the other Feasts, you eat the choicest foods possible and rejoice. This day is different in that it is a day of fasting, repentance, and reflection. The fast is from sunset to sunset and is abstaining from both drink and food. In Acts 27:9, it is referred to as "The Fast". It is on this day in Ancient Israel that atonement was made for the sins of the people. For this reason, the Day of Atonement is called *Shabbat Shabbaton* or the Sabbath of Sab-

baths. The people were going to be made one again with their God. It is the holiest day of the year on the Hebrew Calendar because of its significance. A holy convocation or church service is to be held on this day.

On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest would first wash with water and put on the sacred linen garments from Exodus 28. He was to offer a bull for his own sins and the sins of his household. This shows us that before the high priest could make atonement for others he had to make atonement for his household. (This is why we repent during the first week of *Teshuvah*. Before we can pray for others to get right, we must get right ourselves!) He was then to take that blood into the Most Holy Place and sprinkle it on the east side of the Ark of the Covenant seven times. He was then to sprinkle the blood once in front of the Ark. He then took the blood and put it on the four horns of the altar of incense and sprinkled it seven times. Two goats were chosen and lots were cast between them. One goat was chosen as a sin offering and the other goat was chosen as the *azazel* goat or scapegoat. The goat chosen for the sin offering was brought to the High Priest. The High Priest would then slaughter the goat and apply its blood just like he did with the bull. This goat was sacrificed for the sins and uncleanness of the nation. When these sacrifices were completed, the priests would bring forward the goat chosen as the scapegoat. He would confess over it all the sins of the people. This goat was chased by a chosen man out into the desert and over a cliff.

This day has tremendous meaning for us as believers. We learn in Hebrews 8:5 that the earthly temple is a picture and type of the Heavenly Temple. The ritual of Atonement reveals to us how Christ atoned for the sins of the world in the Heavenly Temple. He placed His blood on the real pieces of Temple furniture in Heaven. The ritual of atonement also reveals to us future events that have yet to take place. The second goat represents Satan the devil. Just before the Millennium begins, this Feast Day has a fulfillment. In Revelation 20:1-3, Satan and his minions are tied with a chain by a chosen angel and cast into the Abyss. The Lord will confess all of the sins of humanity over him before he is thrown

into the Abyss. Once the devil and his angels are removed from earth, the Millennial reign of Christ can commence. On Atonement, we spend most of the day worshipping in the presence of God.

Days of Anticipation

There are four days from Atonement to Tabernacles. From the 10th day of the month of Tishri through the 15th day are also called the days of Anticipation. This means these days also include the Feast of Atonement and Tabernacles. After the Tribulation and Wrath of God, the world will be a total wasteland. The sea will be turned to blood. The entire green grass will be destroyed. All the sea creatures will be dead. The mountains will be removed from their places. War will leave many dead and most of the world devastated. This is no way for God to start the wonderful millennial of the reign of His only Son. The six days of Anticipation follow the first six days of creation. God declares the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10). Therefore, to understand the restoration of the world before the Kingdom of God, we must understand the restoration of the world that occurred in the beginning. The Days of Anticipation are the days looking forward to the restoration of the world just before the Millennium.

First Day of Tabernacles (Inauguration Day)

The Feast of Tabernacles, also known as the Feast of *Sukkot*, is celebrated from the 15th through the 22nd day of the month of Tishri. The First Day of Tabernacles is an Annual Sabbath when no work is to be done. A holy convocation is to be held on this day. In Ancient Israel, people from the entire nation would gather in Jerusalem to celebrate and keep this Festival. This eight-day feast marks the end of the ceremonial year. In Ancient Israel, this celebration was the time to thank God for the year's harvest. For this reason it is also known as the Season of our Joy. During the

eight days of the Feast, we will be filled with joy and exuberance in God's presence because of the natural and spiritual harvest He has brought into our lives. It is a time for us to gather together to hear anointed preaching and enjoy the fellowship of the brethren.

This eight-day Feast is also called the Feast of *Sukkot* because it commemorates Christ's command to the Israelites to live in temporary booths, called *sukkot*. While the Israelites were in the wilderness en route to the Promised Land, the Lord asked the Israelites to live in *sukkot* or temporary dwellings. It was also to remind them that a more permanent home in the Promised Land of Canaan was awaiting them. The first seven days of the Feast prophetically looks forward to our Savior is coming again to dwell with us for a temporary 1,000 year reign. Afterwards, He will turn it all over to the Father. This will be a time of peace, joy, and unparalleled prosperity because God's Government will be ruling the entire world.

On Trumpets, we will celebrate Christ coming back as the victorious conqueror. On the First Day of Tabernacles, we will celebrate His inauguration as King and Lord over all the earth! This will be the day when resurrected believers will be given thrones and allotments of land. We will be introduced to the nation(s) or group of people we will rule over during the Millennium. Christ will be filling the vacancies of authority left by the evil spirits who were deposed. We will be introduced to our peoples by worship and celebration of our Lord since this is what will unite us together in the Millennium. This First Day of Tabernacles will be a public gathering to acknowledge His resurrected Saints as rulers and priests of God Most High. The anointing of priests was a time of assembly in Israel (see Leviticus 8:1-4). It will be the same on this day!

The Eighth Day of Tabernacles (Also Known as the Last Great Day)

The last Holy Day, known as the Last Great Day, is celebrated on

the 22nd day of the seventh month of Tishri. This day marks the end of the ceremonial year. No work is to be done on this day and a public gathering of believers is to be held. It is referred to as the Last and Greatest Day of the Feast of Tabernacles in John 7:37-38. The first Seven days are the pilgrimage portion of the feast and the last day is the closing assembly of the Festival (Lev. 23:34-36). The other reason why the Last Great Day is the eighth day of the Feast of Tabernacles is this: the Hebrew word eight means richness, surplus, and fatness above and beyond the number seven. The derivative word of the Hebrew word for eight is the word *shâman* and it means fatness as it relates to the fatness from an olive. Keep this in mind as you read this chapter. This is because the eighth day represents a greater harvest of people being saved than during the Millennium.

This day was the last day for the Israelites to show God their appreciation for the entire year's harvest. The first seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles prophetically represents the 1,000 year reign of Christ. The Last Great Day celebrates when the rest of the dead will be resurrected at the Great White Throne Judgment. As Revelation 20:5a says "(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.)" After the Millennial reign of Christ, the rest of the dead of mankind will be brought up. Those who have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ will be given an opportunity to receive eternal life. This will include aborted babies, young children, Israelites who were blinded, and many other types and groups of people. Ezekiel 37 and Isaiah 65:15-20 gives us clues as to what will happen on this Last Great Day. This final resurrection is a physical resurrection according to Ezekiel 37. At the end of this time period, those that have rejected Christ will be thrown into the Lake of Fire, which is the second death. They will not be remembered. God will then renew the earth and heavens with fire. The new Heavens and the New Earth will then commence, and we will live with Christ for all eternity.

Celebrating the Feast Days

In this book, we have reviewed the meaning of the Feasts and some tips on how to celebrate them. However, there are some general aspects of the keeping the Feasts that need to be covered. The first item of importance is the Holy Day Offering. Offerings are mentioned throughout the Bible, and many times these verses are referring to the offerings that are supposed to be given during the Feast Days. In Deuteronomy 16:16-17, the Lord mentions this offering: “16 Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed: 17 Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.”

The Lord asks us to bring an offering three times a year on these Festival seasons in proportion to how God has blessed us. If the Lord has blessed us greatly this past year, then we should give a bigger offering. If we have had a down year financially (time and chance happen to all men), then we should give a smaller offering. This is where keeping up with your finances during *Teshuvah* becomes important. As you celebrate the Holy Day cycle every year, you can go back and compare the blessing of God in your life from previous years.

As you read this booklet, you may have asked yourself – “How am I going to afford to keep God’s Feast Days?” There is also a second tithe taught in the Bible. This second tithe is described in Deut. 12 and Deut. 14:22-27. We are to save up this tithe and spend it on ourselves to celebrate the Feast Days. We are then to send some of it to brothers and sisters in the church that had a bad year or helps our brethren overseas. Let’s face it: you know what you like. The world wants you to go into debt to buy something for someone that they won’t like. God is smart. He knows that we should save up and then buy what we like. This gives us a holy income to keep His holy days. We will be filled with joy because we will have things that we like and we will not have to accumu-

late debt to get it. Everyone will be happy and we will all have a great time. Buying nice gifts on the Feast Days creates an imprint of His Holy Festivals that will refresh you throughout the year.

The presence of God is poured out the strongest during these days. As you celebrate these days, they will have progressively greater meaning for our lives. You will experience God's presence on a more intense level as you go through this process of repentance and celebration. You will get into God's sacred rhythm and learn more about when He is ready to move and how.

I have been keeping the Feasts since 2007 and I have never had a bad Feast celebration. I have grown more spiritually since then than at any point prior to that. I have had tremendous experiences with God that I would not trade for anything. They have a deep endearment in my heart. God is not a respecter of persons. If I have had these amazing results, then so will you.

Thank you for reading and God bless.

Chart #1A: Holy Day Calendar*

Year	Passover#	Unleavened Bread	Pentecost
2014	April 14 (Mon)	April 15-21 (Tue-Mon)	June 8 (Sun)
2015	April 3 (Fri)	April 4-10 (Sat-Fri)	May 24 (Sun)
2016	Apr 22 (Fri)	April 23-29 (Sat-Fri)	June 12 (Sun)
2017	April 10 (Mon)	April 11-17 (Tue-Mon)	June 4 (Sun)
2018	March 30 (Fri)	March 31-April 6 (Sat-Fri)	May 20 (Sun)
2019	April 19 (Fri)	April 20-26 (Sat-Fri)	June 9 (Sun)
2020	April 8 (Wed)	April 9-15 (Thurs-Wed)	May 31 (Sun)
2021	March 27 (Sat)	March 28-April 3 (Sun-Sat)	May 16 (Sun)
2022	April 15 (Fri)	April 16-22 (Sat-Fri)	June 5 (Sun)

#Passover is always observed on the night before. In fact, all of the Feasts of the Lord begin at sunset of the previous day. For instance, in 2014, Passover began on Sunday, April 13th at sunset. The First Day of Unleavened Bread began on Monday, April 14th at sunset. Every feast day also ends at sunset of the following day. So, the First Day of Unleavened Bread in 2014 ended on Monday April 14th at sunset.

*This calendar is derived from the Hebrew Calendar.

Chart #1B: Holy Day Calendar*

Year	Trumpets	Atonement	Tabernacles	Last Great Day
2014	Sept 25 (Thr)	Oct 4 (Sat)	Oct 9-15 (Thr- Wed)	Oct 16 (Thr)
2015	Sept 14 (Mon)	Sept 23 (Wed)	Sept 28 - Oct 4 (Mon-Sun)	Oct 5 (Mon)
2016	Oct 3 (Mon)	Oct 12 (Wed)	Oct 17-23 (Mon -Sun)	Oct 24 (Mon)
2017	Sept 21 (Thr)	Sept 30 (Sat)	Oct 5-11 (Thr- Wed)	Oct 12 (Thr)
2018	Sept 10 (Mon)	Sept 19 (Wed)	Sept 24-30 (Mon-Sun)	Oct 1 (Mon)
2019	Sept 30 (Mon)	Oct 9 (Wed)	Oct 14-20 (Mon -Sun)	Oct 21 (Mon)
2020	Sept 19 (Sat)	Sept 28 (Mon)	Oct 3-9 (Sat- Fri)	Oct 10 (Sat)
2021	Sept 7	Sept 16	Sept 21-27	Sept 28
2022	Sept 26 (Mon)	Oct 5 (Wed)	Oct 10-16 (Mon-Sun)	Oct 17 (Mon)

*This calendar is derived from the Hebrew Calendar.

Meet the Author

Kelly McDonald Jr. is an ordained Evangelist at Hungry Hearts Ministries in Jackson, TN. For 21 years, Kelly attended Trinity Baptist Church in Bemis, TN, where he was saved in 1992. While at Trinity, a small independent Baptist church, Kelly learned boldness for the Kingdom of God and that being a Christian is an all or nothing experience. In June 2006, Kelly was called to his first ministry, going door to door in the Bemis community and inviting people to church. In September 2006, Kelly was called to begin a Christian men's group at his then college, Lambuth University. In February 2007, Kelly was called to preach. Less than a month later, he became introduced to Hungry Hearts Ministries.

Since becoming a member of Hungry Hearts, Kelly has taken on many roles to further the ministry's work, from going door-to-door to pass out booklets, preaching, administering the prison ministry, teaching Bible Studies, and starting churches. Due to his service in the ministry, he was ordained a Deacon during the Feast of Pentecost on May 31st, 2009. His spiritual growth and desire to serve God led to his ordination as an Evangelist during the Feast of Pentecost on May 25th, 2012.

Kelly has written for a local Christian magazine, *The Christian to Christian Connection*, and for the international Sabbatarian magazine, *The Sabbath Sentinel*. He currently writes for and serves as the Editor for the Ministry's magazine, *Pursuit*. Kelly has written five books on how to live a holy life. Kelly graduated *summa cum laude* from Lambuth University in Jackson, TN in 2009. He earned a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Political Science and Sociology with a minor in Legal Studies. As a Torah Observant/Spirit Filled minister, Kelly has spoken at several different congregations in four different states, and is available to speak at your church upon request.

The Feasts of the Lord are described in Leviticus 23. They are celebrations based upon the Lord's work in the past that also foretell His future work in the world. These celebrations will add an amazing level of depth and understanding in our walk with God. The early believers celebrate them and the Lord eagerly anticipates us to celebrate them as well.

This booklet is a shorter version of the full-length book "God's Plan of Salvation in the Holy Days". The book is available on www.hungryheartsministry.com. Go to the "Store" section.



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