



Lesson 28 – The Feast of Tabernacles

- 1) How often were the Children of Israel to present themselves before the Lord?

Exodus 23:15 Thou shalt keep the feast of _____ bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

Exodus 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the _____ of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of _____, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

Exodus 23:17 _____ times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord GOD.

To clarify, these are the three major festivals that God's people were to present themselves before the Lord. First, the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Passover), Second, the feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and finally the Feasts consisting of Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles (Ingathering). Most of these were covered in previous lessons, this lesson centers on the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Feast of Tabernacles was the last feast in the yearly round of service and typified the final consummation of the entire plan of redemption. It began on the fifteenth day of the seventh month when the harvests were all gathered from field, vineyard, and olive groves. As the time approached, from all parts of Palestine, groups of devout Jews might be seen wending their way to Jerusalem. And not only from the Holy Land, but believing Jews from all the surrounding countries went up to Jerusalem to attend the Feast of Tabernacles.

- 2) What were you to bring to the festival?

Leviticus 23:37 These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a _____ offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and _____ offerings, every thing upon his day:

It was a time of great rejoicing. All were expected to bring a thank-offering to the Lord. Burnt-offerings, meat-offerings, and drink-offerings were presented at this time. The Feast of Tabernacles began five days after the day of atonement, and all Israel were rejoicing in their acceptance with God, and also for the bounties of the harvest which had been gathered.

- 3) How long did the Feast of Tabernacles last?

Leviticus 23:36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the _____ day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.

The feast continued seven days, the first and the eighth days being observed as ceremonial Sabbaths.



4) What were you to do at this feast?

Leviticus 23:40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, _____ of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.

Leviticus 23:42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in _____:

Note: a booth here is a temporary shelter.

This feast was commemorative as well as typical. It commemorated their desert wanderings; and in remembrance of their tent homes, all Israel dwelt in booths during the seven days. In the streets, on the housetops, in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, booths were made of "**boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm-trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook.**" It was a period of rejoicing, and all were to share the feast with the Levites, the poor, and the stranger.

5) How often were debts forgiven among God's people and when?

Deuteronomy 31:10 And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every _____ years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles,

Every seventh year "**the solemnity of the year of release**" came during the Feast of Tabernacles, when debtors were released from their obligations!

6) What was an obligation for God's people to hear at this time?

Deuteronomy 31:12 Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this _____:

At this time the entire Levitical law was read in the hearing of all; men, women, and children; and even the strangers within their gates were required to listen to the reading of the law.

7) What was the first Festival kept when Solomon built the Temple?

1 Kings 8:2 And all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto king Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the _____ month.

1 Kings 8:65 And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a great congregation, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before the LORD our God, _____ days and seven days, even fourteen days.

Solomon's temple was dedicated at the Feast of Tabernacles.



8) What was the first Festival kept when the Children of Israel returned from captivity?

Nehemiah 8:17 And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made _____, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.

Nehemiah 8:18 Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the _____ of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

When Israel returned from the Babylonian captivity, this was the first feast celebrated after the wall of Jerusalem was restored, and was a time of great rejoicing.

9) What question did Jesus ask while he was with the Disciples celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles?

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and _____.

At this time the children of Israel not only commemorated their tent life by living in booths, but the temple was specially illuminated in remembrance of the pillar of fire that guided them in their wanderings; and on the last day of the feast a beautiful service, the crowning service of **“the last day, that great day of the feast,”** commemorated the miraculous supply of water in the desert. The priest dipped a flagon of water from the Kedron, and bearing it aloft, meanwhile marching to the sound of music and chanting portions of the one hundred twenty-second psalm, he entered the temple court. By the altar were two silver basins, and as the priest poured the water into one basin, another priest poured a flagon of wine into the other basin; and the wine and water, mingling together, flowed through a pipe back to the Kedron.

10) What did Paul say about the miraculous supply of water in the desert?

1Corinthians 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that _____ was Christ.

Many incidents in Christ's life cluster around the last Feast of Tabernacles which He attended. It was on the day of this service that He stood in the temple court and cried, **“If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.”** It was Christ who led them by the pillar of cloud; He it was who supplied the water from the rock. **“They drank of that spiritual Rock that went with them: and that Rock was Christ.”** He, the great Life-Giver, was in their midst; yet even while celebrating His power to quench their thirst, they were ready to kill Him.

While this feast commemorated the journeying of Israel in the wilderness, it also commemorated their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. It would be well if everyone who has been delivered from the darkness of sin would occasionally celebrate his deliverance by recognizing the leadings of the Lord in the journey of his life, and thank Him for the many blessings received.



11) What will God's people do for the first little while when eternity begins for them?

Revelation 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a _____ years.

The Feast of Tabernacles followed the day of atonement by five days, which meets its antitype in the judgment; hence must typify an event that comes after the close of the judgment. When Christ leaves the heavenly sanctuary, it will be but a short time until He comes to the earth to gather His people. Then He will take them to heaven, where they will behold the glory He had with the Father before the world was. For one thousand years the saints will reign with Christ in heaven before they return to their eternal home, — this earth, freed from every curse.

12) What will the Saints sing in Heaven? **Revelation 5:9-10** And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the _____.

The New Jerusalem with its gates of pearl and streets of gold will be the metropolis of the glorious abode of the redeemed. The beauties of the new earth are such that the redeemed in heaven, surrounded by the glories of the throne of the Eternal, will look forward with joyful anticipation to the time when they shall **“reign on the earth.”**

As we journey through this wilderness of sin and sorrow, it is our blessed privilege by faith to watch the movements of our High Priest, and be ready to greet with joy His appearance when He comes to take His faithful ones to sojourn with Him for a time in the heavenly courts, before they share in the eternal bliss of the earth made new. Every feast, as well as every offering and service, in the Levitical ceremonies, pointed to the beautiful home of the redeemed. Each one is a guideboard on the great pathway of life, pointing toward the heavenly home.





Can you see God's hand leading through Scripture? _____

Are you interested in reuniting with Him in Heaven? _____

Will you now ask Him to help you prepare? _____



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Lev. 23:27, 34. The Feast of Tabernacles came only a few days after the day of atonement.

Lev. 23:40-42. The people dwelt in booths, they lived in camp life.

Lev. 23:42. All that were born Israelites could participate in the Feast of Tabernacles.

Rev. 22:11,12. Quickly after the decree that closes the judgment Christ comes for His people.

Rev. 20:9. The dwelling place of the redeemed before the earth is made new is called the "camp of the saints."

John 3:5. It is the "new birth" that entitles a person to share in the "camp of the saints."