

SIGNIFICANCE OF FEASTS

EXODUS 23:14-19;LEV 23

INTRODUCTION

- God gave seven feasts to the nation of Israel, to celebrate Him and life. These were the appointed times when God will meet his people's physical, social and spiritual needs.
- The feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Pentecost and Yom Kippur were fulfilled by Christ on his first coming.

CONT.

- The feast of Trumpets and Booths will be fulfilled by the second coming of Christ.
- We learn that Christ is our Passover Lamb, who died for us and has paid the price of our sins by His death.
- Feast of unleavened bread teaches us to live a sanctified life.

CONT.

- Feast of first fruits gives us the hope of resurrection.
- Feast of Pentecost teaches us that Holy Spirit is with us to help us live a Holy life.
- Feast of Trumpets has the message of rapture and feast of booths has a hope of final Sabbath rest.

1. FEAST OF PASSOVER AND YOM KIPPUR.

- Feast of Passover was celebrated on the 14th day of the first month (Abib) which is our March or April. Ex 12:2-20;13:6-8 and Lev 23:5.
- Feast of Yom Kippur was celebrated on the 10th day of seventh month. It was a day of atonement. Ex 30:10; Lev 23:26-33.

CONT.

- Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb. We are saved by His death. 1Cor 5:7;1Pe 1:19 and Jn1:29;36
- He has also atoned for our sins forever. Heb.9;1Jn 2:1-2

2. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD.

- The feast of unleavened bread was celebrated in the first month from 15-21. They were supposed to get rid of all the leaven out of the house and eat only unleavened bread. Ex 23:14; Lev 23:6-8

CONT.

- Leaven is a symbol of sin in the Bible. 1Cor 5:8; Mt 16:5,12
- Jesus Christ is the sinless bread of life. Jn. 6:32,48-51
- We need to live a Holy Life.

3. FEAST OF FIRST FRUIT.

- The feast of first fruit was celebrated on the first month after the Passover. It was on the first day after Sabbath which was Sunday.
- It was celebrated by waving the first barley gleanings before the LORD.

CONT.

- This feast is fulfilled by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He rose from the dead on the first day of the week (John 20:1) and became a first fruit among the dead (1Cor 15:20).
- Because of this we have the hope of Glory.

4. FEAST OF PENTECOST.

- This feast was celebrated, fifty days after the weekly Sabbath after the Passover. It came during the cutting of wheat harvest. Lev 23:15-22
- The promised Holy Spirit was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost. Acts 2

CONT.

- God the Holy Spirit is given to us to help us to live a supernatural spiritual life.
- We need to live a Spirit controlled life. Eph. 5:18-20

5. FEAST OF TRUMPETS.

Feast of Trumpets began with blowing of a trumpet call to rest. The Israelites rested on that day from all their work and started 10 days of fasting and praying. These are also called Jewish high holy days. They will confess and repent and have a new beginning with God and each other. Lev 23:23-25; Num. 29:7-11

CONT

- I believe this feast will be fulfilled on the second coming of Christ, when the Church will be raptured. 1 Thess. 4:13-18 and 1 Cor. 15:52
- It gives us the hope of resurrection and future glory with Christ.

6. FEAST OF BOOTHS.

Feast of booths was when they lived in the tents for seven days. It was a time of rest, thanks giving and worship of God. Lev 23:33-43.

- Although, the principles of rest and retreat is applicable to us now, the final fulfillment of this feast will happen after rapture during millennium kingdom of Christ.

CONCLUSION

We learn from these feasts the following:

1. Jesus Christ is the Passover Lamb who has atoned the sins of the whole world and when we trust him, our sins are forgiven forever.
2. We need to live a Holy Life.
3. We need to live a Spirit Controlled life.

CONT.

4. We need to be prepared for rapture.
5. While we wait for our final Sabbath rest, we need to retreat and rest often to serve effectively.