

EMOR - SAY

Leviticus 21:1 to 24:23 Ezekiel 44:15-31 Galatians 3:26-29

In the studies, we are learning about Spirit Life *inside* the Tabernacle/*Mishkan*, how to walk in the redemption, the difference between clean and unclean, holy and unholy practices, and what defiles God's/*Elohim* people. We are learning that contamination comes when His people miss keeping His order or practicing what He instructs. Omitting these can bring disorder, causing curses, illnesses, and even deaths among us.

The *Emor* Torah study focuses more on the qualifications and rules for the priesthood. Here we notice the difference between *those Levites* who serve *man* in the outer court versus the *Levitical priests*, those who minister before *God/Elohim* in the Tabernacle (Ezekiel 44).

The last study, *Kedoshim*, prescribed the order of service that upholds the Tabernacle. Among the twelve tribes of Israel, the tribe responsible for its upkeep and function was given to the Levites. No other tribe was to approach or serve within the Tabernacle. Of Levi's three sons, the *Gershon and Merari* tribes tended man in the *outer court* surrounding the Tabernacle and assisted the *Kohath's*, the acting priests. However, the *Kohath's* were the only Levitical tribe allowed to serve God/*Elohim in* the Tabernacle and care for the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. The firstborn male among the Kohath tribe acted as the *High Priest* and was *the priest* who stood before God/*Elohim* in the Most Holy Place.

This Levitical pattern of ministering before God/*Elohim* is the model for all believers in Yeshua today. Through Yeshua's death and resurrection, the approach into the Holy and the Most Holy Place is made possible. However, the way in has not changed and remains the same today as it was in the days of the Kohath's. The Tabernacle is only approachable through holiness, like Yeshua, our acting High Priest *"is the same yesterday, today, and forever,"* serves in the heavenly Tabernacle today. Therefore, His ministry of the Tabernacle on earth also remains the same, as it is to mirror the heavenly image. We purposely repeat this as many people have been taught that once they receive salvation, they can walk straight away into the Holy of Holies at any time, even if there is no understanding of sanctification or holiness. That is not Scriptural. Once believers receive salvation, they enter the *outer court* where they learn the teachings of Moses and the right ways of Yeshua that lead to sanctification and holiness. The outer court teaches the proper protocol of *how* to approach a Holy God/*Elohim* righteously through a redeemed lifestyle (John 2:19; Hebrews 8:1; Hebrews 13:8).

It is true that all of Jacob's inheritance is ours (Deuteronomy 32:9). However, there is a condition attached within Scripture. That prerequisite is "**if**" - *if a believer chooses to obey His word*. Yeshua's death and resurrection redeemed His people. Now His people must apply that redemption in their lives. Everything was prepared and made ready for the believer when they became born again. It was gifted to them, but it is the *doer* of the word who inherits His Kingdom – eternal life.

- 2 Peter 1:10-11 "Therefore, brethren [*believer*], be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you [*believer*], do these things you [*believer*], will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ/Yeshua HaMashiach."
- Matthew 7:26 "But everyone [*believer*] who hears these saying of mind, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand"
- Deuteronomy 30:17-20 "But if [believer] your heart turns away so that you do not hear [obey], and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you [believer] shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the LORD/Yahweh swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

Yeshua redeemed the Sabbath for us. The question believers must ask themselves, "Are we celebrating His Sabbath?" Yeshua redeemed and restored His Feast Days back to us, "Are we keeping His Feast Days?" Yeshua redeemed His Lifestyle. "Are we appropriating His lifestyle in our new life?" If we are made in His image, but not walking in it, whose image are we portraying? Our goal as believers in Yeshua is to walk in His image. Yeshua is acting as our High Priest. Would He recognize Himself in us today? Yeshua is not looking for perfection. He is looking for one who has the desire to pursue His right ways (righteousness). That can only be obtained through obeying His instructions. The Bride follows in the footsteps of her Bridegroom. She is the one who desires to leave her old image of pride, lust, and vanity to take on *His identity* and be called by *His Name*.

Believers are now living in the season of the restoration of David's fallen tent (also known as the House of David). Do believers understand what this is? If we look at *His*-story, we see that Yeshua, as *The* King, is restoring His Kingdom principles back to His Kingdom people. He is looking for a people who are made in His image - as a priest. If believers do not understand who they are, how can they walk as a priest? King David was a king and a priest in God's/*Elohim* Kingdom. That is the order being restored, the order

of Melchizedek. David worshiped *The King* by keeping *The King's Sabbath, The King's Feast Days, and ate The King's food*. They were King David's delight. So much so that he wrote over a thousand songs for all generations to join him in worship and in glorifying The King of Kings (1 Kings 4:32).

The matter facing believers (the Bride) today is, will believers serve man in the outer court where there is a mix of compromise, temptations, and religiosity or will they seek Yeshua in His Sanctuary of holiness and sanctification? Where will His Bride be? Will she run the risk of not being the Bride because she did not pursue holiness? Why be a guest at the wedding when all are invited to the wedding to be His Bride? Everything has been appropriated for her to enter. The choice of the redemptive walk is before each believer. The real question is: "*Will she forsake all other gods and worship His alone*?"

- I Corinthians 9:23-27 "Now this I [Paul] do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you. Do you [believer] not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."
- Hebrews 12:1 "Therefore we [believers] also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."
- Revelation 3:20 [Written to believers] "Behold, I [Yeshua] stand at the door and knock."

If the understanding of *how* to walk in redemption and His other principles of Kingdom lifestyle are found missing in a believer's life, they run the risk of being a Bride without oil in her lamp. Believers will still go to Heaven (*outer court*), but it is the Kingdom we are destined for (*Tabernacle - eternity*). The good news is that the Holy Spirit is pouring His revelation out in these end times and drawing His people near so they can hear and return. Our job is to appropriate the Word/Yeshua and allow Him to rule and reign in our life, as *eternal life with Him is in the Most Holy Place*, not the outer court.

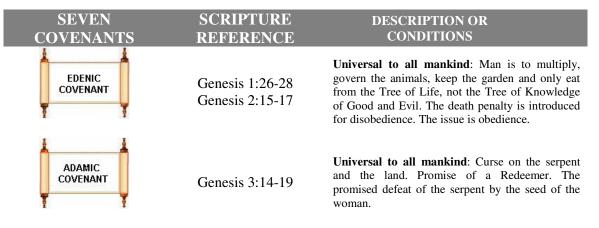
- Isaiah 52:11-12 "Depart! Depart! Go out from there, touch no unclean *thing*; go out from the midst of her, be clean, you who bear the vessels of the LORD/Yahweh. For you shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight; for the LORD/Yahweh will go before you, and the God/Elohim of Israel will be your rear guard."
- Revelation 2:7 "To him [*the believer*] who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God/*Elohim*."
- Exodus 19:5-6 "Now therefore, *if* you [*believers*] will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for

all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

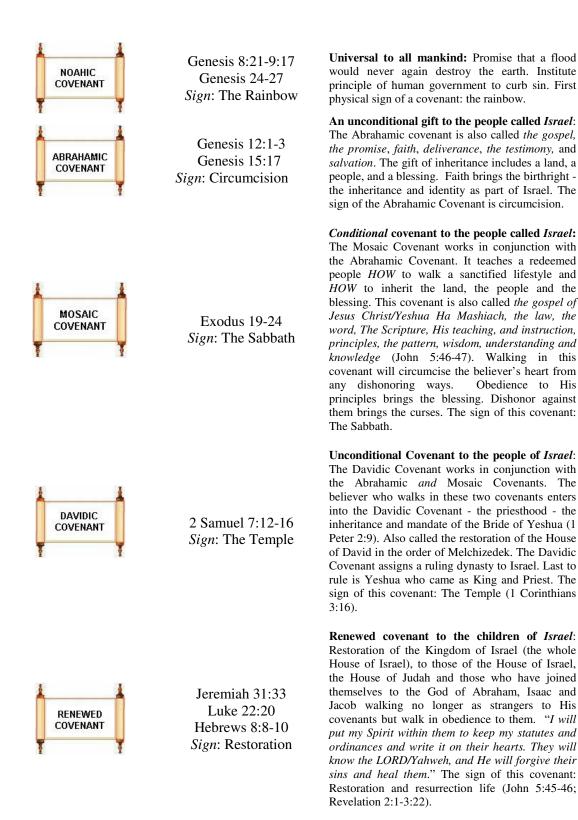
Peter 2:9-10 "But you [believers] are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God/*Elohim*, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."

Jeremiah 33:17-26 tells of the restoration of the *House of Judah* and the *House of Israel*. In verse 17 God/*Elohim* is speaking of the Melchizedek order, as Scripture refers to King David and the Covenant that bears his name. David was not only a *king* but was also a *priest* (Psalm 110 and Luke 6:1-4).

Weight Series and Ser man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel; nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually. And the Word of the LORD/Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, thus says the LORD/Yahweh: 'If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that there will not be day and night in their season, then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levites, the priests, My ministers. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.' Moreover the word of the LORD/Yahweh came to Jeremiah, saying, 'Have you not considered what these people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD/Yahweh has chosen, He has also cast them off?' Thus they have despised My people, as if they should no more be a nation before them. Thus says the LORD/Yahweh: 'If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth, then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant, so that I will not take any of his descendants to be rulers over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will cause their captives to return, and will have mercy on them.""



THE SEVEN COVENANTS OF GOD/ELOHIM



Note: When Israel failed to keep God's/*Elohim* principles (the Gospel of Yeshua), (the Mosaic Covenant), David's tent (Covenant) fell, and the people were scattered to the Nations outside the land of Israel. The Kingly Covenant will continue to fail *if* believers do not uphold the *two* Covenants before it (firstly the *Abrahamic* Covenant and secondly

the *Mosaic* Covenant). If they fail, they will destroy the foundation of their faith, as Yeshua cannot build His Kingdom without the foundation He gave us.

In the Church age, many man-made religious doctrines dismissed much of God's/*Elohim* teachings as being too Jewish or too legal, insisting they were outdated and invalid for their modern society. By removing God's/*Elohim* principles held in the *Mosaic* Covenant, like the dietary and moral laws, God's/*Elohim* Kingdom on earth collapsed. Thus, David's tent fell. No matter what the Church proclaimed or how much power it thought it had if the work that man does is not built on *Yeshua's principles*, His gospel given at Mount Sinai, then there is no earthly authority. Thus, His Kingdom on earth cannot be established. That is why the Church has had seasons of revival but not held territory. The Church may have tasted Yeshua's *power*, but without His *authority*, it cannot stand. That is the main reason Yeshua, the Word, came in bodily form. He began restoring His Covenant by re-establishing His principle commandments initially taught through Moses on Mount Sinai. That teaching will restore the lost sheep of the House of Israel back to His Kingdom - known as the restoration of the House of David or the Renewed Covenant/New Testament.

Individually, the collapse of God's/*Elohim* Kingdom in believers can also happen *if* they do not uphold the principals held in His Covenants, as that behavior breaks their Marriage Covenant (Mosaic Covenant) with Him. If that happens, believers will fail to fulfill their destiny as a royal priesthood in Yeshua (Deuteronomy 28). How so? Yeshua's priesthood is only founded on the *Davidic Covenant* (called *the order of* Melchizedek). To fulfill the calling of this priesthood believers must first walk in the *Abrahamic* Covenant *and* then in the *Mosaic* Covenant - *together* since the *principles* of the priesthood are only taught in the *Mosaic* Covenant. These principles are Yeshua's *authority*. Without Yeshua's authority, there is no heavenly power on earth. Therefore, God's/*Elohim* people cannot ignore, skip, rearrange or discontinue a Covenant. These Covenants are *eternal* universal laws that contain the foundations of Yeshua's Kingdom to enhance the maturing of His Bride – one who walks as a High Priest in His Priesthood (Deuteronomy 4:31; Isaiah 63:11-13; Amos 9:11; Acts 15:15-21; Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9; Ezekiel 37:15-28; Acts 15:16-21).

Covenantal Promises The Making Of The Priest – The Bride Of Yeshua

Yeshua's Bride is found walking in <u>all</u> of the King's Covenants. The *Abrahamic Covenant* <u>gifts</u> believers unconditionally with the *power* to receive salvation and redemption. The gift contains *a land, a people,* and *a blessing*. That is their *inheritance*, their *destiny*, and also their *identity* as part of Israel. *How* to receive these gifts is written in the *Mosaic Covenant*, which is the covenant that gives believers His Kingdom *authority* to walk in the *power* found in their salvation. Without the *authority*, generated by walking in His principles, their salvation will be compromised and incomplete. These two Covenants do not act separate from each other, nor does one replace the other, but both are wholly interdependent.

The *Mosaic Covenant, known as the gospel*, teaches sanctification. It is here believers learn HOW to walk out a redeemed, sanctified lifestyle through the principles of

Yeshua's Kingdom. However, this *Mosaic* Covenant is *conditional*. It is conditional upon *us*. Will believers walk in obedience to the instructions that govern the earth? All creation follows the pattern of God's/*Elohim* principles, but only mankind is given a choice whether to obey or not. The issue is obedience. Believers cannot skip or replace a Covenant and expect to enter into His priesthood without it.

Faith in the Abrahamic Covenant brings the birthright (*the power*) however; *obedience to the Mosaic* Covenant brings the blessings (*the authority*). Today is the time to repair David's fallen tent (Amos 9:11).

Hebrews 4:6-7 "Since therefore it remains that some [believers in the Abrahamic Covenant] must enter it [the Covenant given to Moses called the Gospel], and those to whom it was first preached [at Mount Sinai] did not enter because of disobedience, again He designates a certain day, saying in David [reference to David's Covenant], 'Today,' after such a long time, as it has been said: 'Today, if you [believer] will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.'"

The people found in the Covenant of *David* will be those who *already* walk in the Covenants of Abraham *and* Moses. To walk in the Davidic Covenant means to walk with Yeshua's *power* <u>and</u> *authority* in the order of Melchizedek – thus restoring Yeshua's Kingdom on earth. Fulfilling covenant order is the believer's mandate and also the believer's weapon against the enemy (Ephesians 6; Revelation 1:6).

The Spirit Of Elijah

On a broader sense, the House of Israel and the House of Judah, united as one in Yeshua's right ways/Covenants, brings restoration to the House of David. It is the Spirit of Elijah/*Yeshua* fulfilling the order of Melchizedek that ushers in this restoration. Today, the Spirit of Elijah is being restored in the hearts of Yeshua's people; thus, the restoration of the House of David has begun. It is also the prelude to the Bridegroom returning for His Bride (Malachi 4:4-6; Luke 1:16-17; Hebrews 8:8-10; Revelation 1:6).

Malachi 4:4-6 "Remember the Law [covenant] of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD/Yahweh. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers."

God's/Elohim Plan The Paths of Right-ness - The Bride's Return

God's/*Elohim* principles and Feast Days (including His Sabbath and New Moon celebrations) are the paths of righteousness that lead the Bride to her wedding. Learning to honor and keep these right paths is vital for the Bride (Proverbs 2:10-22).

John 14:6 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" Jesus/Yeshua said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." The Hebrew language is a picture language. Yeshua used a popular Hebrew idiom *the way, the truth, and the life,* to picture the Tabernacle design. That is how He revealed to Thomas how to walk in holiness and sanctification. Hearing this phrase Thomas could connect the dots and fully appreciate that it was by observing Yeshua's Principles, Covenants, and Feast Days that the priesthood is to be fulfilled in His Kingdom.

God's/*Elohim* Tabernacle plan, *the way, the truth, and the life,* is very important for believers to consider. Paul taught the importance of the Tabernacle pattern when he stated that was the only pattern believers are to build, as they are, '*God's fellow workers*' and '*His building*' - His true Tabernacle.

Corinthians 3:9-17 "For we are God's/Elohim fellow workers; you are God's/Elohim field, you are God's/Elohim building. According to the grace of God/Elohim which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ/Yeshua HaMashiach. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, [or] wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God/Elohim and that the Spirit of God/Elohim dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God/Elohim, God/Elohim will destroy him. For the temple of God/Elohim is holy, which temple you are."

We see in Ezekiel 43:10-12 that God/*Elohim* asked the prophet to describe the pattern of the Temple as it is *His universal law*. That is the reason why Paul was so emphatic that believers follow and walk according to that plan, as it is a *holy heavenly plan* we are following.

Ezekiel 43:10-12 "describe the temple to the people of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their sins. Let them consider the plan, and if they are ashamed of all they have done, make known to them the design of the temple - its arrangement, its exits and entrances - its whole design and all its regulations and laws. Write these down before them so that they may be faithful to its design and follow all its regulations. This is the law of the temple: all the surrounding area on top of the mountain will be most holy. Such is the law of the temple."

God's/Elohim Plan The Sons of Zadok – The Priests

In the book Sons of Zadok, Dr. C.M. Oliver writes

"In seminaries to become ministers of God none seemed to teach anything about ministering to God! Very few people even believed that God needed ministering to.

What characterizes the person who may minister to God? Ezekiel 44:14-16 acts as pivotal verses, separating those who will minister to the people and declaring who will NOT minister to Him. 'I will make them watchmen of the Temple, to perform all its chores, everything that needs to be done in it. But the priests, who are Levites and descendants of Zadok and who faithfully carried out the duties of my sanctuary when the Israelites went astray from me, are to come near to minister before me; they are to stand before me to offer sacrifices of fat and blood, declares the Sovereign Lord.'"

True priests who minister to God/Elohim will,

"Teach [God's/Elohim] people the difference between the holy and the profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean...They shall also keep [His] laws [Torah] and My statutes in all [His] appointed Feasts, and sanctify [His] Sabbaths" (Ezekiel 44:23-24).

Peter, in 1 Peter 2:5-8, addressed the fact that our body represent *the temple* of God/*Elohim*; therefore, we must act according to the pattern written in His word.

Peter 2:5 "You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God/*Elohim* through Jesus Christ/*Yeshua HaMashiach*."

The Five books of Moses are referred to as stones. The stone, the people rejected was the book of Leviticus. Contained in Leviticus are all the instructions for the firstborn priesthood and the protocol that governs their legitimate work on earth with the King. The Messiah was that word given by Moses, but many people rejected His Word/Stone (John 1:1,14).

Isaiah 63:11-13 "Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: 'Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them, who led them by the right hand of Moses, with His glorious arm, dividing the water before them to make for Himself an everlasting name, who led them through the deep, as a horse in the wilderness, that they might not stumble?'"

1 Peter 2:7-8 "Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those [*believers*] who do not believe, the stone the builders rejected has become the capstone, a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. *They* [*the Israelites with Moses*] *stumble because they disobey the message* [*the Mosaic Covenant*]- *which is also what they* [*the bride/priesthood*] *were destined for*" (NIV).

God's/Elohim Plan The Appointed Feasts Of The Messiah Leviticus 23

"The LORD/*Yahweh* said to Moses, 'Speak to the Israelites and say to them: These are *MY* appointed Feasts' " (Leviticus 23:1-2).

As mentioned earlier, the Feast Days of God/*Elohim* are called the *paths of righteousness*. They hold an eternal prophetic nature about them that teach and reveal the way for believers. God's/*Elohim* people who walk in these paths not for salvation purposes but in the pursuit of holiness glorify Yeshua's Kingdom on earth.

Hebrews 12:1-2 "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus/*Yeshua*, the author and finisher of faith."

The Paths Of Righteousness

The paths of righteousness are the Covenants, Feast Days/moedim, the Sabbaths, and New Moon festivals. These celebrations are all designed to work in unison for the Bride, the priesthood of the Messiah. They act as a highway of holiness for the ingathering of God's/*Elohim* redeemed people in the latter days – the age of Messiah (Isaiah 35:8-10; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:4).

- Psalm 23:3 "He restores my soul; He leads me in the *paths of righteousness* for His name's sake."
- **Proverbs 8:20** "I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice."
- Proverbs 2:20 "So you may walk in the way of goodness, and keep to the paths of righteousness."
- Proverbs 4:11 "I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths."

God's/Elohim Feast Days The Signs and Wonders in the Heavens

Genesis 1:14 "Then God/*Elohim* said, 'Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; *and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years.*' "

Without the heavenly directives, God's/*Elohim* people will have no clarity as to their identity, destiny or direction, nor will they know how to read the signs of the times. God's/*Elohim* earthly Feasts follow His heavenly events. They are all eternal and prophetic in nature. God's/*Elohim* Feast Days are circular timelines that unfold in their season year after year on His *lunar* cycle. These signs tell of God's/*Elohim* nature and purpose for the believer and are like a *roadmap* designed to deliver the Bride to her wedding in proper wedding attire, on time, and with lots of oil! These heavenly signs dispel any confusion or misunderstanding by giving each generation, from the beginning of time, easy instructions written in the sky for all to see.

Colossians 2:16-17 "So let no one judge you [*believer*] in food or in drink, or regarding a festival [*Feast Days*] or a New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh* or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ [*they are of Messiah*].

The New Moon – Rosh Chodesh

When the first sighting of the new crescent moon (called *Rosh Chodesh* in Hebrew) is seen each month, we are called to blow two silver trumpets.

- Numbers 10:2,10 "Make two silver trumpets [H2689*] for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps. Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets [H2689*] over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings and they shall be a memorial for you before your God/*Elohim*: I am the LORD/*Yahweh* your God/*Elohim*."
- *Trumpet: H2689 הֲצוֹצְרָה chatsotserah a straight narrow instrument like a clarion. The silver trumpet is a priestly instrument used to proclaim, announce or to remember an ordinance. A ram's horn or shofar: H3104, H7782 יוֹבָל yowbel the horn of a ram that is curved and sounds like a trumpet. The ram's horn is the people's instrument often used in unison with the silver trumpets and at times of war for military use (Joshua 2:4-5).

It is the first New Moon of the year that sets God's/*Elohim* calendar and Feast Days in motion for the whole year. It is seen in the spring around the time of the first barley harvest. This moon is the beginning of the first day of the first Hebrew month known as *first month* or *Nissan*. Without sighting the Rosh Chodesh, the remainder of God's/*Elohim* Feast Days, for the rest of the year, will all be missed by God's/*Elohim* people, as His pathways and timetable for mankind are dependent on the sighting of the first New Moon in the spring.

God/*Elohim* has used the moon and His heavenly pattern since creation to announce His future events to His people so they can enter in and celebrate with Him at His appointed times. These times and seasons are called *moedim* in Hebrew.

Genesis 1:14-19 "Then God/*Elohim* said, 'let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth'; and it was so. Then God/*Elohim* made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. *He made* the stars also. God/*Elohim* set them in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God/*Elohim* saw that *it was* good. So the evening and the morning were the fourth day."

The *moedim* are also *eternal* Sabbaths designed to escort Yeshua's Bride, by way of His highway of holiness, to her most important event - *Her wedding*. Without personally participating in the celebration of the King's Sabbath appointments/*moedim* it will be impossible for the Bride to find her way to her wedding (Jeremiah 31:21; Isaiah 35).

Colossians 2:16-17 "So let no one judge you [believer] in food or in drink, or regarding a festival [Feast Days] or a New Moon/Rosh Chodesh or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ [*they are of Messiah*].

Galatians 4:10 "You observe days and months and seasons and years."

It is unfortunate that a Roman calendar still governs the land today. The Roman's worshiped the *sun* and used the *solar system* as the foundation to their calendar. Its purpose was to ensure God's/*Elohim* people were kept separate from the God of Israel and for them to forget their Biblical Hebrew heritage. The sun-based Roman calendar intentionally omitted God's/*Elohim* appointed Feasts and was the main reason why many of His people lost their way, their roots, and their identity as part of Israel. That is why many missed the blessings contained within *the message* and the eternal destiny held within.

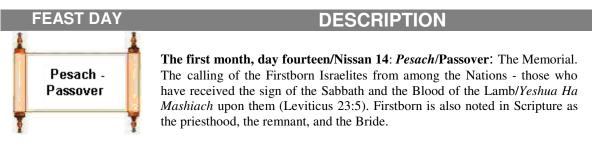
Peter 2:9-10 "But you [believers] are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God/Elohim, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy" (Exodus 19:5-6).

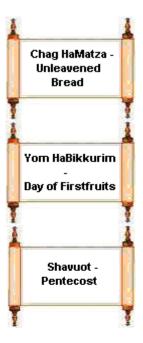
At the first sighting of the moon on the first month the trumpets are blown to awaken the Bride and inform her that her King is on His way – *prepare!* The New Moon celebration is the wedding procession of the Bride. For twelve months (moons), all twelve tribes are given the opportunity to prepare their beauty treatments (applying God's/*Elohim* principles) and assemble with those who are in Covenant with the God/*Elohim* of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. It is a procession uniting those seeking the King and anticipating His return.

New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh* and the Feast of Blowing/*Yom Teruah – last great trump* Scriptures:

- I Corinthians 15: 52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."
- Matthew 24:31 "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other" (Isaiah 27:13).

GOD'S/ELOHIM SEVEN FEAST DAYS





First month, day fifteen to day twenty-one /Nissan 15-21: This seven-day **Feast of Unleavened Bread** is a consecration for the Bride. The King appoints both the first day and last day as Sabbaths. Believers are to remove leaven (the sin of dishonor) from their home (heart/tabernacle) and eat (sow) only unleavened bread (honor) (Leviticus 23:6-8).

First month, day seventeen/Nissan 17: Speaks of Yeshua's resurrection as **firstfruits** from the dead. Believers become Yeshua's firstfruits from the realm of death to the realm of life through His Redemption (Leviticus 23:9-14).

First stage of a Hebrew wedding: The Betrothal

Third month/Sivan: Feast of Weeks/Shavuot/Pentecost is fifty days or seven Sabbaths after the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Shavuot is the receiving, confession, and exchanging of wedding vows, for the betrothal of the Bride *Israel*. At Mount Sinai, she received the legal document/covenant containing her *Ketubah/vows*, which holds the protocol (principles) for her wedding and how to approach the King in His Tabernacle/Most Holy Place (wedding chamber). The King appoints this Feast as a Sabbath where *two leavened loaves* (representing the two tablets) are to be offered as a wave offering representing the Bride's acceptance of His Proposal to be His (Exodus 19- 24 and Acts 2).





The seventh month, day one/Tishrei 1: Yom Teruah/Feast of Blowing/Trumpets: Yom Teruah falls on the first sighting of the seventh New Moon/Rosh Chodesh on a Hebrew lunar calendar. The trumpets are sounded to wake the sleeping Bride announcing her Bridegroom is coming! The doors to His Chambers open. Those believers who are ready proceed into His Bridal Chamber. Those believers, who are not, go outside to find extra oil

for their lamp (redemption). The King appoints this Feast is a Sabbath, holy

Second Stage of a Hebrew wedding: The Wedding

unto Him (Matthew 25:1-13).

The seventh month, day ten/Tishrei 10: *Yom Kippur/Day* of Atonement: Ten days after Yom Teruah, the Bride, and Bridegroom wed behind *closed doors*. They stay in the wedding chamber five days. This Feast is the King's Sabbath, as He is Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 24:30-36:51).

Third Stage of a Hebrew wedding: The Wedding Reception

The seventh month, day fifteen to day twenty-one/Tishrei 15-21st: Sukkot/Feast of Tabernacles/Feast of Booths/The Ingathering: Five days after the wedding/Yom Kippur is the seven-day celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles/Sukkot. It is the wedding reception called *The Wedding Supper of the Lamb*. Nations (wedding guests) arrive. The first day and an extra day after the Feast of Tabernacles called the Eighth Day/Shemini Atzeret, are both celebrated as Sabbaths to the King (Zechariah 14:16-21; Hebrews 4:1-11).

Yeshua, the Bridegroom, has fulfilled the first four Spring Feasts and will return to fulfill the last three Fall Feasts. As Yeshua is *the Lord of the Sabbath*, all seven of His Feasts are *eternal* Sabbaths that hold prophetically anointed blessings for those who enter and *celebrate Him*.

A true priest or prophet (disciple) of Yeshua today is to teach His people (believers) the difference between what is clean and what is unclean, and what is holy and unholy. A true priest is also to teach believers Yeshua's *moedim* (His Feast Days, His Sabbaths, and call them to His New Moon celebrations) and what they represent so they too can worship Him.

That is the Gospel of the Kingdom of Yeshua (Ezekiel 22:26; 44:23-24).

- Ezekiel 22:26 "Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them."
- Ezekiel 44:23-24 "And they [*the priests*] shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths."
- **Matthew 22:1-14** And Jesus/*Yeshua* answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants [prophets] to call those [believers] who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, see, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.' But they [believers] made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy [dishonorable]. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen [few choose]""
- Colossians 2:16 "So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a New Moon or Sabbaths."

As a royal priesthood and holy nation, believers are to keep the *eternal* order and universal pattern of Yeshua's Feasts - the Sabbath being the first feast. They are to teach His people to honor them throughout all generations. Following His order is our praise offering before Him, as it is in Heaven (1 Peter 2:9).

The Sabbath

- Leviticus 23:3 "Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, a holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the Sabbath of the LORD/*Yahweh* in all your dwellings."
- Exodus 16:5 "And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily."
- Exodus 31:16-17 "Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations <u>as a perpetual covenant</u>. It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the LORD/Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed."

God/*Elohim* says for believers to do all their common work in the six days and then to set aside the seventh day, as it is holy unto Him. Blessings will flow for keeping His day holy and undefiled. *Firstly*, the Sabbath is a never ending eternal Covenant. *Secondly*, there is a *double portion* contained on the sixth day for those who honor the seventh day as holy. Our family notices a marked difference when we enter the sixth day as it unfolds a double portion of provision and blessing. *Thirdly*, contained within the seventh day is the *Sabbath <u>blessing</u>* and *sanctification* for those who honor it.

Isaiah 58:13-14 "If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's/*Yahweh* holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the LORD/*Yahweh*, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob."

Believers can Shabbat/rest with God/*Elohim* any day of the week, but there is only one Sabbath day, which is the seventh day. The word *day* can also be counted as years in Scripture and prophetically this Sabbath day represents the seven thousandth year period called the millennial – the restoration of the House of David. Today we are in the season where Messiah is restoring His people to rule and reign as priests in the order of Melchizedek. The reunification and ingathering of the *whole* House of Israel back to the Garden has begun (Psalm 90:4; 1 Peter 3:8)

More on the Sabbath in the next study – Behar/Leviticus 25 <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>

The Passover – *Pesach The Firstborn - The Called Out Ones - A Royal Priesthood and A Holy Nation*

Leviticus 23:4-5 "the LORD's/Yahweh Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month."

The memorial of the Passover originated during the time of God's/*Elohim* firstborn departure from slavery and oppressive rule in Egypt. On the tenth day of the first Biblical month, the Israelites were to bring a male lamb in its first year into their homes. On the fourteenth day of the same month at twilight (the 9th hour/3 PM) they were to slaughter

the lamb. The blood of the lamb was smeared on the doorpost and lintel of the Israelite home. That protected them from the angel of death who passed over the homes marked with the blood of the lamb and allowed the Israelites to flee from slavery into freedom.

All who follow the God/*Elohim* of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are commanded to commemorate this Passover throughout their generations. The memorial of the Passover is a prophetic picture of the coming of the Messiah, who became *our* Passover Lamb. Yeshua died on the fourteenth day of the first month at the same time as the Passover lambs were being slaughtered in the Temple. When Yeshua's side was pierced, and His blood was shed, the veil that separated the Holy Place from The Most Holy Place in the Temple tore in two from top to bottom. The root word for veil is Strong's H6531, which is *as dividing, breaking open the flesh*.

Hebrews 10:19-20 "Jesus/Yeshua, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh."

Through this torn veil, *through the breaking open of Yeshua's flesh*, the House of Israel and the House of Judah were given access to the Father, obtaining forgiveness and the direction to eternal life. With the sprinkling of His blood and the Living Torah now written on the heart of His people, they are given the ability to be delivered from the power of sin and death (Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:8-10, 1 Peter 1:2).

The memorial of Passover is for those who *believe* in the God/*Elohim* of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. All are invited, however, there is a protocol to follow (Exodus 12:43-49). Passover is to be remembered and celebrated by eating *lamb*, *bitter herbs*, and *unleavened bread* at its appointed time each year. During that evening, the story of the Exodus is to be recited with our children – the next generation – so they will never forget to walk in the Gospel of Yeshua. The generation who did not share the meaning of the Passover with their children became a lost generation. Passover is a prophetic meal, a rehearsal for the Wedding Supper of the Lamb to come (Revelation 19:9).

For a copy of the Messianic Passover Haggadah (telling of the Exodus) see <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread - Chag Ha Matzah The Seven-Day Consecration of the Priesthood (Bride) of Messiah

Leviticus 23:6-8 "On the fifteenth day of that [*first*] month the LORD's/Yahweh Feast of Unleavened Bread begins; for seven days you must eat bread made without yeast. On the first day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. For seven days present an offering made to the LORD/Yahweh by fire. And on the seventh day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work."

After the Passover memorial, *on the very next day* is the beginning of the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread. The *first* day of this seven-day Feast <u>and</u> the *last* day are both the King's appointed *Sabbaths*. Believers are to honor these two days as holy by not doing any ordinary work. Instead, they are to rest in His Presence. As yeast represents sin, only *un*leavened bread is eaten during the seven days. Seven days in Scripture references a cleansing from the unclean/unholy realm to the clean/holy. When dishonor or sin is

removed, there must be a consecration period, especially for the priesthood. Therefore, this seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread is a time of cleansing, purity, and holiness before God/*Elohim*.

What happened in history when the Israelites kept this seven-day Feast? On the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, tradition records that the Red Sea parted and Pharaoh's army was destroyed. It is also said that on the last day of this Feast the walls of Jericho were brought down. If believers are struggling with challenges in their lives and praying for a breakthrough, keeping the Passover *and* the Feast of Unleavened Bread can bring freedom from slavery to blessings of deliverance (Exodus 14-15; Joshua 6:20).

The Feast of Firstfruits - Yom Ha Bikkurim

- Leviticus 23:9-14 "When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest. He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD/Yahweh so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath. On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the LORD/Yahweh a lamb a year old without defect, together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil an offering made to the LORD/Yahweh by fire, a pleasing aroma and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin of wine. You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, until the very day you bring this offering to your God/Elohim. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live."
- I Corinthians 15:20 "But Christ/Messiah has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

Yeshua is our wave offering. During the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Yeshua fulfilled the sign of Jonah and rose from the dead after three days and three nights in the tomb as our firstfruits from the dead.

Easter

The celebration of Easter originated from the Babylonian pagan worship of the fertility goddess Ishtar. In church history, the early church fathers chose to celebrate a blending of this pagan celebration with Messiah's death and resurrection believing this to be an acceptable offering to a Holy God. Mixing idolatry with holiness led the children of Israel into captivity. Hot cross buns, Easter bunnies, and colored Easter eggs are all fertility symbols of the goddess Ishtar. The tradition of painting eggs and egg hunts came from the practice of coloring the eggs by dipping them into the blood of babies sacrificed live by fire to Ishtar. The eggs were then hidden for children who would later hunt for them. This all seems like innocent fun today but how many believers realize the background of Easter traditions have nothing to do with Yeshua and can harm us? It is time to restore Yeshua in our worship of Him through the keeping of His Feast of Unleavened Bread in holiness and righteousness (Matthew 12:40).

For more information on Easter, please refer to the studies of: Passover and the History of Easter, Bo/Leviticus, and Shoftim/Deuteronomy at <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>.

Counting the Omer - Sefirat Ha-Omer The Corporate Consecration Of Israel

Leviticus 23:15-16 "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 up to the day after the seventh Sabbath."

Counting the Omer or wave offering of new grain for fifty days or seven Sabbaths after the Feast of Unleavened Bread leads the believer to the Feast of *Shavuot* or Pentecost. This seven-week count is also a Feast time in which the whole nation of Israel enters into a corporate consecration time. It is the call for those who are scattered among the nations that the exile is over. It is a time of return from the North, South, East, and West to worship before Yeshua on His Holy Mountain. On the way, believers are to make straight their path by examining their hearts as they approach Yeshua on His Day - *Shavuot* - in honor and praise for the giving and the receiving of His word.

Isaiah 40:3 "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD/*Yahweh*; make straight in the desert a highway for our God/*Elohim*.'"

The Feast of Weeks / Pentecost – Shavuot The Betrothal

We be a set of the se two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the LORD/Yahweh. And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD/Yahweh, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD/Yahweh. Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering, and two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of a peace offering. The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD/Yahweh, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD/Yahweh for the priest. And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations. When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleaning from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim."

After the counting of fifty days or seven Sabbaths, the day after the seventh Sabbath, the children of God/*Elohim* stood before Him on His holy mountain and brought a wave offering. On this day of Shavuot, His people came together in a sacred holy assembly, *washed* and *consecrated*, ready to receive His spoken Word. That was the time of Israel's betrothal and the day she formally agreed to honor the Bridegroom's *Ketubah*, Marriage Covenant.



After Moses had received the stone tablets, containing the terms of the Marriage Covenant, he returned to camp only to find his people adulterating before a false image of God. Three thousand people lost their lives that day. Generations later the Lamb of Yeshua personally fulfilled the Torah requirements for the redemption of the Bride's waywardness by becoming *Her* Passover Lamb. In doing so, He restored the Covenant to all future generations – ours included.

Acts 2 records the gathering of believers who had faithfully counted off the seven Sabbaths after the Passover and were now gathered together to celebrate the Feast of Weeks - *Shavuot*. In their eager expectation, Scripture records how they were suddenly filled with the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*, as tongues of fire rested on them. God's/*Elohim* Word was no longer written on stony hearts (tablets). On this Day, His Word filled and renewed their hearts. Three thousand were redeemed that day as was prophesied through the prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34 and recorded in Hebrews 8:8-10.

In early (and modern) Church history, it has been taught that the Feast of Shavuot was the birthing of the Church and the beginning of a new religion called *Christianity*. They even tried to separate the name from its Jewishness by giving it a Greek name *Pentecost*. Even though God's/*Elohim* Feast of Shavuot has been celebrated since the beginning of time, the early Church fathers tried to substantiate their teachings by saying Acts 2 was the *first* outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon *a group of people*. Unfortunately, they overlooked the fact that a very large group of people (600,000+) had indeed been filled *within* by the Holy Spirit *long before Acts 2*, as we read in Isaiah 63:7-13.

Isaiah 63:7-13 "I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD/Yahweh and the praises of the LORD/Yahweh, according to all that the LORD/Yahweh has bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, according to the multitude of His loving kindnesses. For He said, 'Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie.' So He became their Savior. In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bore them and carried them all the days of old. But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit; so He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He fought against them. Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying: 'Where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock? Where is He who put His Holy Spirit within them, Who led them by the right hand of Moses, with His glorious arm, dividing the water before them to make for Himself an everlasting name, Who led them through the deep, as a horse in the wilderness, that they might not stumble?'"

Today, very few Churches celebrate their Shavuot/Pentecostal roots, as many have lost their identity as Israel and with it the understanding of the Feast. Many have not grasped the fact that Shavuot is to be the goal of every believer, as it is the foundation for the Wedding and the Supper of the Lamb. If she misses this Feast, the Bride will be found without an escort, the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*, to guide her to her Wedding Day. Today, when believers repent and return to following God's/*Elohim* Feasts Days they too

will be restored and renewed in their hearts back to the worship of their Bridegroom once again.

Exodus 24:7-8 "Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, 'All that the LORD/Yahweh has said we will do, and be obedient.' And Moses took the blood, sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, 'This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD/Yahweh has made with you according to all these words.' "

The Feast of Trumpets / The Day of Blowing - Yom Teruah The Waking Of The Bride

Leviticus 23:23-25 "Then the LORD/Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a Sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD/Yahweh.'"

The *Feast of Yom Teruah* falls on the seventh New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh*. As soon as the New Moon for the seventh lunar biblical month is sighted, two silver trumpets are to be blown declaring Yom Teruah. The trumpets precede the Bridegroom's imminent arrival informing the Bride it is *her* time. Her lamp is made ready to light the path as she rises to meet her Bridegroom who is waiting for her (Matthew 25:1-13).

Traditional Judaism celebrates *Rosh Hashanah* meaning *head of the year* or *Happy New Year*. Scripturally, there is no connection between the King's appointed *Feast* of *Yom Teruah* and man's *celebration of a New Year*. Rosh Hashanah originated from the Israelite's Babylonian captivity. There the Israelites adopted the mythological worship of the Babylonian god Marduk who sits in judgment with other deities to renew the world. That is the 'New Year' Jews call Rosh Hashanah, many of which do not know where the tradition came from or that it has nothing to do with the worship of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob but is the worship of a foreign mythological deity.

When the term *Rosh Hashanah* is used in place of *Yom Teruah*, the Bride does not register that her Bridegroom is approaching. If she is off at another celebration, the Bride will not be in the appropriate place when the trumpets sound, thus will miss His arrival. Today, because of this Babylonian foreign celebration, many believers have become apathetic. As Yeshua's parable of the virgins points out, some believers, like the five unwise virgins, will be left wandering around outside trying to purchase extra oil for their lamps. Sadly, it will be too late for those virgins/believers, as the door to the Wedding Chamber only opens at the sound of the trumpets and close right after His arrival. Only the true Bride of Yeshua will respond to the Bridegroom's calling (trumpet) and a stranger's voice she will not follow (John 10:5).

Matthew 25:1-13 "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry [*trumpets*] was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in [*through the open door*] with him to the wedding; and *the door was shut*. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, <u>open to us</u>!' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour [*Hebrew idiom for the sighting of the New Moon/Rosh Chodesh*] in which the Son of Man is coming."

Today, those who are preparing will *hear* the trumpet and heed its call. The trumpets represent the two witnesses of the Messiah, the House of Israel and the House of Judah. On this day, believers are to celebrate *Yom Teruah* as a Sabbath and do no standard work (Hebrews 8:8-10). (*For more information on Yom Teruah and the history of the Babylonian Rosh Hashanah see the Yom Teruah study in the Deuteronomy section of Sheepfold Gleanings <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>).*

Day of Atonement / Yom Kippur The Wedding Day

Leviticus 23:26-32 "And the LORD/Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying: 'also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD/Yahweh. And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim. For any person who is not afflicted in soul on that same day shall be cut off from his people. And any person who does any work on that same day, that person I will destroy from among his people. You shall do no manner of work; it shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your Sabbath.""

The tenth day of the seventh month (counting from the Feast of Yom Teruah and the sighting of the seventh month New Moon/*Rosh Chodesh*) is the *Feast of Yom Kippur*. The ten days between Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur is a period called the Ten Days of Awe when the Bride is in awe of her Bridegroom's return and is ready with prepared gown and an extra vial of oil in hand.

On the other hand, Rabbinic Judaism spends these ten days repenting in hopes of being inscribed in the book of life. This tradition originated from the Israelite's Babylonian captivity and was adopted into the Jewish literature (the Mishnah). The Babylonian mystic god Marduk was said to sit in judgment of each human being, inscribing the fate of individuals for the coming year on a tablet of destiny. For the Jews, the ten days of Awe and Yom Kippur are now part of their rabbinic liturgy and practiced to this day. Many find it quite intimidating and bow in a type of penance out of fear to try and

appease this mystical tradition, which in fact does not exist in the Biblical text nor is it a day of judgment or part of a New Year. Rosh Hashanah is only found in Babylonian mystical witchcraft (Babylonian Talmud, *Rosh Hashanah* 10b-11a).

In Scripture, on the Feast of The Day of Blowing/Yom Teruah we are told the doors <u>open</u> and on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur, the doors <u>close</u>. Therefore, the cleansing of our temple (body) should be completed <u>before</u> Yom Teruah, the Day of Blowing. The month before the seventh month, *Elul*, the sixth month, is the month to prepare for the Fall Feast Days. The sixth month is like the sixth day before the Sabbath and contains all that is needed for that seventh month. Thus, the preparation should be complete when the Bridegroom appears at the beginning of the seventh month. The grace period of ten days after Yom Teruah is for the Bride (who is prepared) to wake and trim her lamp with extra oil and enter into the sanctity and holiness of Yeshua's wedding. The true Bride will know how and when to enter in with her Bridegroom <u>before</u> the doors close (Matthew 25:1-13) (For more information on Rosh Hashanah see the Yom Teruah study and for the Ten Days of Awesomeness see the Yom Kippur study both in the Deuteronomy section of Sheepfold Gleanings <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>).

Matthew 3:1-3 "In those days [prophetic of end-times feast days] John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: 'The voice [trumpet] of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD [Yeshua]; make His paths straight.""

Yom Kippur is the Wedding Day. It is the holiest day of the year and is to be kept as the King's Sabbath, as He is Lord of the Sabbath. Therefore, it is a fast from the ordinary everyday life. On this day, the High Priest offered a sin sacrifice to atone *for the unintentional dishonoring sins committed against the Temple by <u>corporate</u> Israel. Upon Yeshua's death, He paid the Bridal price and fulfilled all requirements for <i>personal* and *corporate* Israel. Therefore, the Bride prepares ahead of time, as this is *The Day* she has waited for; the goal of her faith – the wedding with her Bridegroom, The King, *Yeshua HaMashiach*.

Revelation 19:7-9 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. And he said to me, 'Write, '*Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb*.'" And he said to me, 'These are true words of God/*Elohim*.'"

Our brother Judah is taught that Yom Kippur is about judgment. Therefore, will spend the whole day in repentance, when in reality, at a wedding for those who are prepared, *there is no accuser*. Yeshua showed His people the way and how to walk *in Him*. This walk of obedience *silences the accuser*. For the wise Bride, who has prepared ahead of time, this is a day spent in absolute adoration. For those not wise or prepared, it is a day spent in penitence before the doors close, going over those areas she vowed to keep but because of her present state was inattentive ... (Hebrews 3:1,11-12; 1 Peter 1:18-19). (*For more*

information on Yom Kippur please see the Yom Kippur study in the Deuteronomy section of Sheepfold Gleanings <u>www.sheepfoldgleanings.com</u>).

1 Corinthians 3:11-15 "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ/Yeshua HaMashiach. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, [or uses] wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day [Yom Kippur] will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work [the fruit of each believer's walk], of what sort it is. If anyone's [believer's] work [walk] which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's [believer's] work [walk] is burned, he [the believer] will suffer loss; but he [the believer] himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."



The Feast of Tabernacles / Booths – Sukkot - Shemini Atzeret The Wedding Reception

Speak to Moses, saying, 'Speak to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel, saying: The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD/Yahweh. On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it. For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD/Yahweh. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it. These are the Feasts of the LORD/Yahweh which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD/Yahweh, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, everything on its day - besides the Sabbaths of the LORD/Yahweh, besides your gifts, besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings which you give to the LORD/Yahweh. Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the LORD/Yahweh for seven days; on the first day there shall be a Sabbath-rest, and on the eighth day a Sabbath-rest. And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim for seven days. You shall keep it as a feast to the LORD/Yahweh for seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month. You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim.' So Moses declared to the children of Israel the Feasts of the LORD/Yahweh.' "

The Feast of Tabernacles (also known as the *Feast of Booths, the Feast of Ingathering* or *the Feast of Sukkot/Succot*) is celebrated *five days after* the wedding (*Yom Kippur*), on

the fifteenth day of the seventh month. This Feast is the seventh of God's/*Elohim* Levitical Feasts and is to be celebrated for seven days with <u>one extra day</u> after the Feast called the Eighth Day or in Hebrew *Shemini Atzeret*. The *first* day and the *Eighth Day* are to be kept with the King as His Sabbaths.

Each year believers are called to build and live in a Sukkah/booth during the full seven days. Living in booths are to remind God's/*Elohim* people of the time He cared for them in the wilderness and sustained them in His great mercy. During Sukkot, believers are also commanded to wave branches made of choice fruit trees, palm, leafy branches, and poplars as a wave offering each day during His Feast. This is to be a proclamation to the nations, calling them to return, thus, is the beginning of the great ingathering from the nations (Zechariah 14:16-21).

The Feast of Tabernacles/Sukkot is the wedding reception after the wedding when the Bride and Groom emerge from their Bridal Chamber to celebrate with the guests, those who have come in from the Nations. When the seven-day Feast is complete, and all the guests have returned home, only the Bride and Bridegroom remain. The newly married couple enters this <u>one-day</u>, the Eighth Day, called *Shemini Atzeret*. There they linger, savoring their special union together. In Scripture, *Shemini Atzeret* is referred to as *The Day, That Day, Today* and *The Sabbath Rest*. This one-day is as a thousand years – called *Eternity*. It is *The Day* the Groom and Bride enter His Kingdom, the House He has prepared for His Bride (2 Peter 3:8; Psalm 90:4; Zechariah 14:16-21; Hebrews 4).

Note: The celebration of *Simchat Torah/Rejoicing in the Torah* was not known in Biblical times or in Yeshua's day. It is a manmade festivity that was introduced around the 9th century by Jewish rabbis. Simchat Torah commemorates the never-ending reading of the Torah when the people read the last chapter of Deuteronomy with the first chapter of Genesis. In the 16th century, the Rabbis introduced liturgy to be read on the 23rd of the seventh month, which included parading the Torah scrolls through the synagogues. By the 17th century, as the event grew in popularity, the rejoiced took to the streets. They called this day *Rejoicing in the Torah* and is how *Simchat Torah* began. Unfortunately, without the understanding, trust, and belief in the Messiah, the Bridegroom, the Eighth Day/*Shemini Atzeret* was swallowed up and buried under the festivities of *Simchat Torah*. Eventually, this imperative Eighth Day Sabbath Feast called *Eternity* became hidden, concealed, and lost in time *for a season*. However, with the understanding of those manmade feasts, many are repenting for having participated in them and returning to their Biblical roots, to worship the One True God's/*Elohim* and His Feasts.

Hebrews 4:1-11 "Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest [the eighth day Shemini Atzeret Sabbath called eternity], let us fear lest any of you [believers] seem to have come short of it (Revelation 2:1-3:22). For indeed the gospel was preached to us [believers in Yeshua] as well as to them [at Mount Sinai with Moses]; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith [obedience] in those who heard it. For we [believers] who have believed [obey His word] do enter that rest [the eighth day Sabbath called eternity], as He has said: 'So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest [eternity],' although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day [Sabbath] in this way:

'And God/*Elohim* rested on the seventh day from all His works;' and again in this *place*: 'They shall not enter My rest [*Sabbath*].' Since therefore it remains that some *must* enter it [*eternity*], and those to whom it was first preached did not enter [*eternity*] because of disobedience, again He designates a certain day, saying in David, 'Today,' after such a long time, as it has been said: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.' For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of **another day** [*the eighth day Shemini Atzeret Sabbath rest - called eternity*]. There remains therefore a rest [*Sabbath-eternity*] for the people of God/*Elohim*. For he who has entered His rest [*Sabbath-eternity*] has himself also ceased from his works as God/*Elohim did* from His. Let us [*believers*] therefore be diligent to enter that rest [*Sabbath - eighth day/Shemini Atzeret - called eternity*], lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience."

Today, believers are looking forward in anticipation to the Eighth Day/Shemini Atzeret - *The Sabbath Rest* called *Eternity* - the goal of every believer.

For more information regarding the manmade rabbinical traditional celebrations, please see studies Yom Teruah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot in the Deuteronomy section at www.sheepfoldgleanings.com

Bread and Oil Set Before The King Leviticus 24:1-9

The Bride of Yeshua is the one who is obedient to His Word (*the Bread of Life, the Torah*), who has the Messiah in her heart, and His word written on her heart. Her lamp is full of oil, and her light does not go out at night. The flame of Yeshua, the Menorah, burns brightly in her heart and lights her path.

Galatians 3:26-29 26 "For in union with the Messiah, you are all children of God/*Elohim* through this trusting faithfulness; because as many of you as were immersed into the Messiah have clothed yourselves with the Messiah, in whom there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor freeman, neither male nor female; for in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you are all one. Also, if you belong to the Messiah, you are seed of Abraham and heirs according to the promise." CJB

To be continued...

Shabbat Shalom Julie Parker

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For more information regarding the manmade rabbinical feast days, see studies – Yom Teruah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot at www.sheepfoldgleanings.com

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