

## Seven Feasts of Israel – part 5

We have seen that the first four feasts/celebrations have been fulfilled or at least partially fulfilled, and are now a matter of history.

--The Passover was fulfilled by Jesus' death; the Unleavened bread by Jesus' atonement for our sins; the First Fruits was fulfilled by Jesus' resurrection; Pentecost was fulfilled by the coming of Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

--**Lev. 23:15-22** --We are still in this harvest! It is a harvest of *first fruits* in the sense that there is still much harvesting left once this harvest is over (fall harvest remains)

--Effectively, nothing has progressed for 2000 years in the prophetic calendar as the Summer of harvest throughout the world has gone on.

--Nevertheless, we are, every day, one day closer to the final harvest, but when will that be?

The Fall/Final harvest doesn't begin until this current harvest ends: **Rom. 11:25-27** (we see both the Pentecostal and the Fall/final harvest depicted in this passage)

--This current harvest will conclude (as all harvests do) with a separation of the grain from the chaff—that separation occurs at the rapture of the church in which believers (the grain) are gathered into the storehouse and unbelievers (the chaff) are left behind to be “burned” in the Tribulation.

The Jews had a very interesting description for the grain and the chaff.

--They called the grain “Chabod” which translated literally means “glory” or “weight”.

--The used the same word to speak of God: “give God glory” = “give God weight” or, in other words, the importance He deserves.

--**Romans 1:21** --

--They referred to the chaff in an opposite term: “Ichabod” = “no glory” or “no weight”

--That which (or they which) had no glory, by definition, had no weight.

--In the case of chaff, no weight meant it got blown downwind into a pile and burned.

--In the case of people, no weight meant they were without the glory of God in their lives, lost and in danger of being eternally punished.

--**Matthew 13:24-30** --This is where we are today: Sons of the Kingdom and, yet, in the midst of the Sons of the Enemy, but there is coming a separation.

This still leaves a final/fall harvest or ingathering climaxing in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

--This will be in conjunction with the final or Great Tribulation; this is also referred to in harvest terms: **Matthew 3:12**

--This Tribulation period will be marked with extreme judgment and also extreme harvest of souls to God: **Rev. 7:4-17**

### **1. This brings us to our next feast: Feast of Trumpets. Lev. 23:23-25**

--Also known as the Rosh Hashanah or “Head of the Year” because it begins the Jewish civil year (as opposed to the religious year which begins 7 months prior).

--This celebration marked the beginning of the Fall/Final harvest every year and was commemorated 29 days earlier with the blowing of trumpets each day until the final day on the feast day when the “Great Blowing” or “Last Trumpet” was blown.

--Typically, trumpet blasts that were in a series represented trouble and were usually a call to arms.

--The "last trumpet" was not of the same nature as the previous 29 days; it was a long-lasting blast that indicated not trouble but victory and as such it was called "The Last Trump."

--"The Last Trump" should be familiar to you because it is the same phrase used by Paul in I Cor. Referring to the rapture of the church.

--**I Cor. 15:50-55** – Some interpret this to refer to the last of the 7 trumpets of Revelation, but this is easily disproven.

1. Revelation was not even written when Paul makes his statement, so, its unlikely he was referring to something in the future but was referring to events in Israel's past that implications on the future (as is the case with all the other feasts)

2. The 7 trumpets of Revelation are not of historical significance since they happen only in the future whereas the trumpets of the fall feasts were blown every year.

--In all likelihood, Paul, a Pharisaical Jew, was referring to this historical, The feast or Celebration of Trumpets was also known as the "Coronation of the Messiah" by the Jews believing that He would be thus crowned on that day.

--This feast was also known as the "Marriage of the Messiah" (One and the same as His coronation) which is an indirect reference to the Church or, possibly, her rapture.

With this "Marriage of the Messiah" in mind, the implications of the Jewish wedding traditions are quite provocative:

**1. Betrothal** – Groom paid an agreed upon price for his bride.

--How were we betrothed to Christ? For a great price!

--This is the point where Mary and Joseph were when Mary was told that she would be with child by the Holy Spirit.

--You were considered fully married at this point.

**2. Separation** – Groom went away to prepare a place for them to live when they are married. This place usually was in or built onto his own father's house (tradition is still active today among many Arabs and middle-eastern peoples)

--**John 14:1-5** – This is marriage language. This is the voice of the Bridegroom!

**3. Fetching** – the separation lasted typically a year or more and would end at a fairly predictable time because the progress on the dwelling was relatively easy to evaluate.

--Nevertheless, the bride would not know the day or the hour specifically.

--Whenever the Groom finished with the dwelling he would go get his Bride and take her to her new home. He would be accompanied with a large entourage and festivities. His arrival was announced with a shout and a trumpet blast (a.k.a. – the last trumpet)

--**I Thess. 4:16-18**

**4. Celebration** – Large feast with many invited, but attendees had to RSVP...party crashing was frowned upon.

--**Matt. 22:1-14; Matt. 25:1-13**

**2. Celebration was a closed party and lasted 7 days.**

--Jesus has told us that those who are outside will weep and gnash their teeth (symbol of the Tribulation)

--How long does the Tribulation last? 7 year

--The Feast of Trumpets was historically followed by 7 "Days of Affliction" (could this be the 7-year tribulation?)

--These 7 Days of affliction were in preparation for the next feast: The **Day of Atonement**  
(when all of Israel was atoned for by the High Priest)