

Seven Feasts of Israel – part 7

In his first inspired sermon after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, the apostle Peter summed up God's instruction for mankind: **Acts:3:19-21**

--But what are these "times of refreshing" and "times of restoration" of which Peter spoke?

Leviticus 25:8-13—Peter at the beginning of Pentecost predicts the fulfillment of the last feast (when the world sees the return and repentance of Israel, the end will come and the final feast will be fulfilled.)

--The seven-day Feast of Tabernacles, which begins with an annual Holy Day **Leviticus:23:34-35** – this is what follows the Feast of Yom Kippur when Israel celebrates the en-gathering and restoration of all things.

--So if Pentecost represents the church age started by the coming of the Holy Spirit and concluded by the rapture of the church followed by the tribulation period and repentance and return of Israel is pictured by the Feast of Trumpets and Yom Kippur, **then** the Feast of Tabernacles pictures the 1,000-year reign of Jesus Christ over the earth after His second coming.

--**Revelation:20:4-6** --This is the next thing on the prophetic calendar after the rapture and the tribulation.

1. What happens during this 1,000 years?

--**Revelation 2:26** – we rule with Him

--**Isaiah:11:7-9** – The Nature of animals will be changed back to pre-Fall conditions.

--**Isaiah 2:3-4, Micah 4:3** – As opposed to: **Joel 3:9-21** – War ends for 1,000 years!!

--**Zech. 14:16-19** – Feast of Tabernacles will be the only Feast observed in the Millennium.

2. Tabernacles is also called ‘the season of our joy’ the ‘Feast of Ingathering’ (Ex. 23:16), the ‘Feast of YHVH’ (Lev. 23:39) or simply ‘the Feast’ (1 Kings 8:2). (ie. – “this is it or all there is—the final one”)

--To emphasize perfection and completion, it is the seventh feast and it occurs in the seventh month, only after two, seven-day weeks and it lasts for seven days and the number of its sacrifices are divisible by seven!

--Seven is the number of completion and the number of rest, and the earth will rest from its turmoil for 1,000 years (1,000 year long jubilee).

3. The earlier feasts build up to this climax and finale of the Feast of Tabernacles.

The calendar begins with the Passover – historically, the starting point of the Exodus.

--When is our exodus from tyranny for the human race fully over?

--It starts with Jesus' exit from the dominion of death (first fruits);

--Followed by our exit (the Church at the rapture),

--It is culminated with the Jew's exit out of tyranny and into the presence of their Messiah.

--Begins with a Jew (Jesus) and ends with the Jews.

All three are referred to in terms of birth: Jesus “the first-born from the dead” **Col. 1:18, Rev. 1:5**; The Church -- “born again” **Jn. 3:3**; The Jewish people “she who is in labor” **Mic. 5:2-4**.)

When was the captivity completely over for the Jews in the Exodus?

--Not until the Red Sea closed over the Egyptian army.

--Only then were they ready for the Law (at Pentecost) and for the full presence of God as they repented, and

--God came to dwell in their midst in His own tabernacle just as they dwelt in tabernacles in the wilderness: **Ex. 13:21-22; Exodus 40:34-38.**

--God's presence lead them into the promised land once He dwelt among them.

This will also be true for the Jews in the end—once the armies of the Dark lord (the antichrist) are defeated and the Jews have repented, then God Himself will dwell among them and lead them into all He has promised them.

--**Amos 9:10-14** – Judging nations and Israel, and then restoration of the fallen tent (or tabernacle) of David and celebration of the en-gathering.

--**2 Thess. 1:7-10; Isaiah 11:10 – 12:6**

--"And you shall take you on the first day the fruits of goodly trees, branches of palm-trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days." (**Leviticus 23:40**)

--Why all these trees? Reminiscent of the Garden of Eden in which Adam and Eve were given every green plant for food; animals weren't killed and eaten; the Garden was lush and productive.

--Ezekiel saw in a vision: 'Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing'. (**Ezekiel 47:12**).

4. Tabernacles was immediately followed by 'the eighth day' also known in Hebrew asatzeret (which curtly means a 'terminus' or 'abrupt end').

--On this day all the pilgrims abandoned their 'shacks' or 'tabernacles'