

THE BIBLICAL FEASTS OF ISRAEL

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FEAST	DATE	BIBLICAL OBSERVANCE	HISTORICAL FULFILLMENT	SCRIPTURE REFERENCES	SPIRITUAL APPLICATION
PASSOVER <i>Pesach</i> (observed together) UNLEAVENED BREAD	<i>Nisan 14</i> March/April <i>Nisan 15</i> March/April	Slaying the Passover lamb and recalling God's deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt Eliminating all leaven (symbolic of sin). Ex. 12-14; Lev. 23:5-8	The Death of Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) died at the same moment when the Passover lambs were being sacrificed and was in the grave on Unleavened Bread.	"You were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, with the precious blood of Messiah, a lamb without blemish or defect" (1 Peter 1:18-19). "Get rid of the old leaven that you may be a new batch without leaven...for Messiah, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (1 Cor. 5:7; 2 Cor. 5:21).	<i>Have you been redeemed by the sacrifice of Yeshua the Messiah and received the forgiveness of sins?</i>
FIRST FRUITS <i>Bikkurim</i>	<i>Nisan 16</i> March/April	Offerings in the Temple of the first part of the harvest Lev. 23:9-14	The Resurrection of Messiah Yeshua rose from the dead on the day of First Fruits.	"Messiah has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...in him all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Messiah, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him" (1 Cor. 15:20-23).	<i>Do you have the assurance of eternal life after death?</i>
WEEKS (Pentecost) <i>Shavuot</i>	<i>Sivan 6</i> May/June	7 weeks of counting in anticipation of the initial harvest Commemorating the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai on the original day of this feast. Lev. 23:15-22; Ex. 19	The giving of the Holy Spirit and calling out of believers On the day of Pentecost the Spirit came upon believers who were then called to take the Good News to the nations.	"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you" (John 14:26). "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ...from every nation under heaven...those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day" (Acts 2:1,5,41).	<i>Is the Spirit indwelling you and are you reaching out to others?</i>
Laboring in the fields – preparing for the final harvest			The present time		
TRUMPETS (New Year) <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	<i>Tishri 1</i> September	Gathering the people together for a solemn assembly by the blowing of trumpets. Lev. 23:23-25	The return of Messiah and the gathering of the saints	"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." (1 Thes. 4:16-17)	<i>Is your hope in the Lord's return?</i>
DAY OF ATONEMENT <i>Yom Kippur</i>	Tishri 10 September/ October	Israel's national judgment day when the High Priest offered sacrifices and entered the Holy of Holies to obtain forgiveness from sin for the people. A time characterized by personal repentance. Lev. 23:26-32	The judgment of humanity and... Israel's national repentance	"And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books" (Rev. 20:12). "When Messiah came as high priest... he entered the Most Holy Place once for all...as the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance" (Heb. 9:11-15). "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son" (Zech. 12:10).	<i>Are you spiritually ready for standing before God in judgment?</i> and... <i>Do you have a heart of compassion for the Jewish people?</i>
TABERNACLES <i>Sukkot</i>	Tishri 15 September/ October	Dwelling in temporary shelters in memory of dwelling with God in the wilderness. Lev. 23:33-43	All believers dwelling with God in eternity	"Then the nations...will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles" (Zech 14:16). "I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people and God himself will be with them and be their God' " (Rev. 21:3).	<i>Can you look forward to the future day of dwelling with God forever?</i>