



Discover God's Feasts

By Pastor Tom Marxen

Feasts of the LORD

The foundation Scripture for these teachings is found in Leviticus 23. It is worth a read before pulling out the treasures and revelation that the Lord has for us in these appointed times of intimacy, celebration, and solemn assembly.

Leviticus 23:1-2

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts....

New King James Version

What are Feasts?

The Hebrew word "Feasts" used in Leviticus 23 is "mowed`" (mo-ade'); or "moed`" (mo-ade'); it means properly, an appointment, i.e.

a fixed time or season; specifically,

a festival; conventionally a year; by implication,

an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the congregation; by extension,

the place of meeting; also a signal (as appointed beforehand):

In the King James Version, it is translated variously as; appointed (sign, time), (place of, solemn) assembly, congregation, (set, solemn) feast, (appointed, due) season, solemn (-ity), synogogue, (set) time (appointed).

(Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

God's Feasts are PLACES, they are places in time, APPOINTED and FIXED. They are like dinner dates of a young couple in love, or special anniversary traditions of married couples, they are similar to national holidays like the Fourth of July in America where we remember and celebrate significant events in our history, but they are also more than the sum of these together. They are, as the definition says, assemblies convened for definite and specific purposes. We must remember that these are "the Lord's" appointed times, they are his idea and his purposes and goals are built into them.

These assemblies are important to God, it is the LORD, the supreme commander, YAWEH, I AM that is telling Moses to tell the people about these days. If these days are not important to us we must ask ourselves "why" if they are important to God.

Let's put this event in its historical context...

God has only recently displayed His power and favor towards His people in Egypt, and He has delivered them out of slavery, provided them with wealth, cattle, sheep, food and water. He has brought them out into a solitary quiet place away from all the rest of the world to ask them if they would like to enter into an exclusive covenant of marriage with Him as a special people.

All of Israel has agreed to this arrangement and He is beginning to tell them the specifics of how this relationship is to operate because being betrothed to the Living God is a completely different way of life from slavery.

This is exactly the situation with every new believer who enters into the Kingdom of God and we can learn a lot about ourselves, and the Lord by studying these feasts, and even more by responding to God's invitation to show up at these places in time that He has reserved and made special. These "appointed times" are located in the same seasons every year, and they paint us a picture of His kingdom, they point to the method and operation of our redemption as individuals, and collectively of mankind.

These are assemblies that are "convened for a definite purpose". They are all different and help us understand many important operations of life within His covenant. The more we come to them, and the more we yield over when we seek to find Him in these times, the more we receive. These times are intimate gifts for His own special people. Those who are not believers are invited only to the Feast of Tabernacles, and there are some reasons for this that we will discover later.

For now let's begin our walk through Leviticus 23 and see how much life we can find in the book that many people see as just a list of confusing "rules"...

For more on **God's Feasts**, see the next article in this series titled "**The Sabbath**" available @ www.your-study-bible-online.org.

Be Blessed, Tom

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