

## **Feasts of the Old Testament**

### **Objectives**

To understand the significance of the Old Testament feasts as precursors of our life with the Lord Jesus Christ

### **References**

Holy Scripture

### **Scriptural Verse**

“So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.” (Colossians 2:16, 17)

### **Lesson Outlines**

#### **Purpose of Feasts**

- ❖ To remember an event that God did for His people
- ❖ A source of joy

#### **Major Annual Feats**

- ❖ Passover Feast
- ❖ Feast of Unleavened Bread
- ❖ Feast of First Fruits
- ❖ Feast of Pentecost
- ❖ Feast of the Trumpets (“Rosh Hashanah”)
- ❖ Feast of Atonement (“Yom Kippur”)
- ❖ Feast of Tabernacles (“Sukkot”)

#### **Passover Feast**

##### **When?**

- ❖ On the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month, Nissan (April)

##### **Why?**

- ❖ Remember the Exodus from Egypt

##### **Old Testament References:**

- ❖ Exodus 11:4-7, 12:1-13; Leviticus 23:4-5

##### **Symbol:**

- ❖ Crucifixion of the Lord Christ

##### **New Testament References:**

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 5:7

#### **Feast of Unleavened Bread**

##### **When?**

- ❖ For seven (7) days after the Passover

##### **Why?**

- ❖ Leaven is yeast which is a symbol of sin
- ❖ Removing sin from our lives

**Old Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Exodus 12:39, Leviticus 23:6-8

**Symbol:**

- ❖ Sinless Sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross
- ❖ Burial of the Lord

**New Testament Reference:**

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

**Feast of the First Fruits****When?**

- ❖ Sunday after the Passover

**Why?**

- ❖ The blessing of offering the first born of the livestock and the fields

**Old Testament References:**

- ❖ Leviticus 23:9-14, Malachi 1:8

**Symbol:**

- ❖ The Lord Jesus Christ is the first fruit of those who have risen from the dead!
- ❖ Resurrection

**New Testament Reference:**

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:20

**Feast of the Pentecost****When?**

- ❖ 50 days after First Fruits (May/June)

**Why?**

- ❖ Celebrate the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses 50 days after crossing the Red Sea

**Old Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Leviticus 23:15-22

**Symbol:**

- ❖ Coming down of the Holy Spirit

**New Testament References:**

- ❖ 2 Corinthians 3:2-3, Acts 2:1-4

**Feast of Trumpets: “Rosh Hashanah”****When?**

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month, Tishri (September)
- ❖ New Year

**Why?**

- ❖ 10 days of repentance; new life

**Old Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Leviticus 23:23-25

**Symbol:**

- ❖ Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ

**New Testament Reference:**

- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

**Day of Atonement: “Yom Kippor”****When?**

- ❖ 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month, Tishri (September)

**Why?**

- ❖ High Priest would offer a sacrifice for himself and the people

**Old Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Leviticus 23:26-32

**Symbol:**

- ❖ Second Coming and Final Judgment

**New Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:11-15

**Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)****When?**

- ❖ 5 days after Yom Kippur, Tishri 15 (September/October)
- ❖ Lasts for 7 days

**Why?**

- ❖ Remember the 40 years in the wilderness

**Old Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Leviticus 23:33-34,42-44

**Symbol:**

- ❖ People’s punishment and God’s faithfulness

**New Testament Reference:**

- ❖ Matthew 8:11

**Other Feasts**

- ❖ Sabbath
- ❖ Sabbatical Year, The Year of Release
- ❖ Year of Jubilee

**Conclusion**

The feasts of the Old Testament represent the feasts of the New Testament, which are experienced by the Church.

**Activities/Discussion Points**

1. What are some differences between the feasts of the Old and New Testament?
2. Discuss the importance of the Old Testament feasts as symbols of the new covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ.