

Appointed Days and Times Leviticus 23

Abraham was the friend of God

- 2 Chron 20:7 (Jehoshaphat when facing a multitude of enemies on Judah's border)
Art not thou our God, *who* didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? (which would certainly be a timely prayer for Netanyahu today)
- James 2:23 (James regarding faith without works is dead) And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

God told His friend what He was going to do about Sodom and Gomorrah

Gen 18:17-19 Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do?

God spoke to His people thru His servants the prophets

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

Heb 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.

Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Matt 5:17 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*

John 5:39 *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

Col 2:16-17a Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath *days*: Which are a shadow of things to come

We are the friends of Jesus

John 15:13-15 *Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do (believe, trust, obey) whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

One of the things Jesus has made known unto us thru His servants the prophets is

His Appointment Schedule, foreshadowed in the holy days given to Israel

Lev 23

- distinct days on the Jewish religious calendar
- shadows of things to come, Scriptures that must be fulfilled
- holy days written chronologically
 - 1 every week
 - 3 in the Spring
 - 1 in between Spring and Fall
 - 3 in the Fall

v1-2 these are my feasts:

Holy days/holidays, days of rest, on the Jewish calendar

Holy convocations: public meetings/gatherings with the Lord

Feasts of the Lord, the holy days that constitute the Jewish Messiah's

Appointment Schedule for...Israel, His people (Is 43:1)

- The 1 holy day every week speaks of Who Jesus is
- The 3 feasts in the Spring foreshadow Jesus' work of Redemption of fallen man and were literally fulfilled at His 1st Coming to earth
- The 3 feasts in the Fall are His schedule for His 2nd Coming to earth at the end of the 70th Week of Daniel
- The 1 in between the Spring feasts and the Fall feasts is His appointment/work between His 2 comings to earth

v3 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest:

The one appointment every week, no matter where they live: The Sabbath

Every week there would be a holy day, a day of rest, founded in Creation

Gen 2:1-3 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Telling Israel of Jesus, their Messiah and King:

Ezk 20:12 Moreover also I gave them (Israel, the people of God) my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them that they might know that I *am* the LORD that sanctify them.
(the sign of who they are to Whom)

Matt 11:28-30 *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden (burden of sin), and I will give you rest (Sabbath to Jewish ears). Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest (Jesus is their sabbath) unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*

Mark 2:27-28 **The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.** (the Sabbath is a gift of rest from the Lord and is about Him)

Heb 4:9-11 There remaineth therefore a rest (from the work of salvation) to the people of God. For he (whosoever that believes) that is entered into his rest (Jesus), he also hath ceased from his own works (of salvation), as God *did* from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest (John 6:28-29), lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

By Jesus' labor/work, the people of God have rest for our souls from the burden of sin and its fruit (death)

By Jesus' ministry of reconciliation, the followers of Jesus Christ are quickened/enliven-ed in a right relationship with the Living God

Relationships flourish with...time and effort

The relational God calls us to rest from our worldly labors to be refreshed in body and soul in a day dedicated to fellowship with Him and to commune with Him in His completed work of salvation

v4 feasts of the Lord...in their seasons

Now, the annual Feasts of the Lord

Seasons:

- Spring...as that which was "dead" comes back to newness of life
- Fall...as "life" fades on earth
- in between...as the Sun bathes the earth

First, the Jewish Messiah's Spring Appointment Schedule for Israel (v5-14)

The 3 feasts in the Spring (quickened from death into newness of life) that foreshadow Jesus' work fulfilled at His 1st Coming to earth (1 Cor 15:3-4)

v5 the LORD's Passover:

The 14th day of the first month of the Jewish calendar (lunar...March/April)

A national remembrance of Ex 12:

- the 10th plague, the last judgment of God: death of firstborn
- God's people covered by the blood of the Passover lamb
- deliverance from bondage

The foretold Appointment of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who came to take away the sin of the world, dying on the Cross to deliver us from bondage of sin and death, seen with 20/20 clarity of fulfillment

Is 59:1-2 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

Is 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin

Matt 27:50-51 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom

1 Cor 5:7 For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us

Heb 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

1 John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

v6-8 the feast of unleavened bread:

The 15th day, the next day, the day after Passover, was another feast:
the Feast of Unleavened Bread (no corruption, not puffed up, without sin)

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them (Jews in the synagogue in Capernaum),
I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:49-51 *Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.*

John 6:54 *Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

John 6:63 *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.*

1 John 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

1 Peter 1:18-19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot (without sin):

2 Cor 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

v9-14 firstfruits:

The 3rd Spring feast is the Feast of Firstfruits...the “3rd day”
v11 of v7, the 16th day of the month

1 Cor 15:20-23 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

The shadows were celebrated for over 1500 years by Israel before Messiah came
The fulfillment of all 3 Spring feasts came to Israel...suddenly!
In one momentous week during one spring

Next chronologically, the “in between” appointment when the Sun bathes the earth

v15-22 number fifty days:

7 weeks (v15) + 1 day (v16) = 50 days later: The Feast of Weeks

Deut 16:9-12

- a harvest celebration
- a freewill offering...whosoever will
- where the Lord placed His name...shem (valleys of Jerusalem)
- remembrance of bondage broken!

A celebration

with **leavened** bread (v17), Gentiles who by faith turned to God from dead idols to serve the living and true God

Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

even for the poor! (v22)

Matt 5:3

What happened on the Feast of Weeks/Pentecost, after the 3 Spring Feasts?

Luke 24:36-53

all nations, beginning at Jerusalem/Shem (Rom 1:16-17)

Acts 1:1-8

3 (Passover/UB/FF) + 40...then one week later

Acts 2:1-4, 37-47

“pente = 50

birth of the Church, Bride of Christ, Body of Christ

the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father

Rom 11:16-17

Gentiles grafted in to the holy tree

(believing Israel rooted in Jesus Christ)

Between the 1st Coming to earth and the 2nd Coming to earth of Jesus Christ is a harvest celebration of whosoever will believe (John 3:16) aka The Church, a new people/offering unto the LORD (v16)

- Jew and Gentile saved by grace thru faith
- leaven...risen with Christ
- Acts 17:30-31
- Acts 26:18
- when the Sun of righteousness is bathing the earth until... the Rapture i.e. a Feast of the Lord being “celebrated” to this day!

Finally and chronologically, the Fall Feasts (Sept/Oct) of the Lord, when “life” is fading on earth

The Lord’s Appointment Schedule for Israel to be fulfilled in the future at His 2nd Coming to earth after the judgment of Israel is complete

70th Week of Daniel

Dan 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

As with the 3 Spring Feasts, the 3 Fall Feasts will be fulfilled...suddenly

Bear in mind regarding future prophetic events

1 Cor 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

We do not have 20/20 clarity of the details of the fulfillment of the Fall Feasts like we do the Spring Feasts

v23-25 blowing of trumpets:

The Feast of Trumpets

The first day of

- the 7th month (religious calendar)
- the first month (civil calendar, Ex 12:1-2)

is also known as Rosh HaShannah...New Year

(a day of “turning the page” to something brand new, as it were) announced with trumpets

Trumpets were used to (Num 10:1-10)

- gather the people for a holy assembly
- warn of danger...short bursts, to signal bad news or alarm
- announcement...long blast, to signify victory or good news

Future fulfillment of gathering, danger, and announcement – the arrival of the King of kings back to earth (Mount of Olives, Acts 1:9-11 and Zech 14:4)

- to destroy His enemies...the unholy gathered in His land
- to judge the world...warning of danger
- to set up His kingdom on earth...victory and good news

Zech 14:1-9

days that now loom on the horizon!

Rapture hopefuls and date setters have taught that the Feast of Trumpets is the day of the Rapture

1 Thes 4:16-17

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

But

1. No man knows that day or the hour of the Rapture (Matt 24:36) while the day of the Feast of Trumpets is certainly known

So who is being gathered for a **holy** assembly?

The faithful remnant of Israel

Rom 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

Zech 13:9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

2. The Feasts of the Lord are chronological

Where was the Church during the fulfillment of the Spring Feasts?

A mystery not yet revealed

Where will the Church be during the fulfillment of the Fall Feasts?

With The King when He returns to earth from heaven

Remember...Jesus' appointment schedule with Israel

v26-32 a day of atonement:

The 2nd Fall Feast is on the 10th day of this month, Yom Kippur,
is a day of affliction, fasting/denial of the flesh, repentance, and humility

Zech 12:8-11

Ezk 6:1-10

Ezk 20:33-44

Ezk 36:16-36

Also the only day the High Priest...and only the High Priest...entered the
Holy of Holies in the Temple to pour out the blood of the sin offering on
the Mercy Seat

When Jesus Christ, King and High Priest, returns to earth, there will be a Temple
on Temple Mount, an abominable temple built by and then defiled by the
counterfeit Christ

Dan 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one
week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the
sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the
overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consummation, and that determined shall be
poured upon the desolate.

He will cleanse the Temple...with consuming and refining fire

Mal 3:1-4 (Elijah, Rev 11)

v33-44 feast of tabernacles:

The last of the 3 Fall feasts is the Feast of Tabernacles/Sukkot/Booths,
another harvest celebration, a week long celebration of Thanksgiving

The Jews are commanded to temporarily move out of their houses into a
“lean-to” or tent to remember how the LORD preserved them in
the wilderness wandering before leading them into their inheritance,
the Promised Land

Q: Is this the actual birthday of Jesus Christ, when He temporarily moved
out of the Father’s house into a tabernacle/tent?

John 1:1, 14

1 Chron 24:1-18 with Luke 1:5, Luke 1:24-26, Luke 1:56-57, Luke 2:5

In the Millennial Kingdom (Zech 14:16-21)

The 2nd Coming to earth of the Jewish Messiah is not a mystery,
the days are foretold in the Feasts of the Lord given to...Israel
The servants of God the prophets spoke of those days
The Fall Feasts will become evidently clear as we move forward “in the latter days”

- Num 24:14 And now, behold, I go unto my people: come *therefore, and* I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days
- Deut 4:30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, *even* in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;
- Deut 31:29 For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt *yourselves*, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.
- Jer 23:20 The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.
- Jer 30:24 The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have done *it*, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it.
- Eze 38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.
- Dan 2:28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;
- Dan 10:14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision *is* for *many* days.
- Hosea 3:5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

God has appointed days and times

Are these promised times and appointments of His Plan of Redemption dependent upon

- Israel
- Church

being wonderful and faithful?

No!

Who is Wonderful and Faithful?

Is 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2 Tim 2:13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Will Jesus Christ keep His appointments with Israel when they get their act together?

No, God acts “for My name’s sake” (6x in the prophets)

Will Jesus Christ keep His appointment with the Church (Rapture) when the Church gets its act together?

No, because the Church never gets its act together (consider Laodicea vomited)

Rather, the Church will suffer “for My name’s sake” (9x)

Personal application

When is your appointment with the Lord (John 14:1-3) Who knows the number of our days?

No one knows!

Are you ready? Are you always ready?

Are you ready to meet Jesus Christ face-to-face?

Does that meeting put joy or fear in your heart, a blessed hope or a great dread?

1 John 3:1-3 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

Amos 4:12 because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God

Are you justified by faith alone, a saving faith that can be seen in the good works in your life?

When the Feast of Weeks is completely fulfilled and Jesus Christ returns to the **clouds** for His Bride, will you be caught up...or left behind?

Do you have a burning passion for the lost who are dying and going to hell every day?

Are you afraid to engage the lost with something as simple as “Do you know the Lord?”

Eyes closed...stand up if you want to be ready for your appointments with the Lord

- Salvation
- Empowering of the Holy Spirit