OUTLINE 08/03/25 Understanding The Feasts & Festivals Leviticus 23 (NIV)

Main Idea:

Leviticus 23 outlines seven annual feasts that God commanded the Israelites to observe. These feasts are not just historical commemorations, but are also seen as symbols pointing towards the person and work of Jesus Christ

1. The death, burial and resurrection of Christ

The Feast of Passover – Leviticus 23:4-8

- Commemorated the provision God made for the Israelites when the death angel struck all the firstborn in Egypt and the angel of death passed over the Israelite houses that had been marked by the blood.
- Fulfilled in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God's judgment of eternal death will not affect those who are covered under the blood of Jesus Christ.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread – Leviticus 23:6-8

- Commemorated the night God told the Jews not use any "leaven" in their bread, for they would not have time for it to rise before they left Egypt. Leaven is symbolic of "sin"!
- Fulfilled as the sinless Lamb of God was buried in the tomb to rise again in three days.

The Feast of First-fruits – Leviticus 23:9-14

- Commemorated the beginning of the spring barley harvest.
- Fulfilled when Jesus rose from the grave, the "firstfruits of those who are asleep"! (1 Cor. 15:20)

2. The coming of the Holy Spirit, the church age and rapture

The Feast of Pentecost - Leviticus 23:15-21

- Marked the end of the spring harvest observed by offering two loaves of "leavened" bread unto the Lord.
- Fulfilled 50 days after the ascension of Jesus Christ; the Holy Spirit came and baptized "two sinful loaves" Jews and Gentiles, into one body; the Church.

The Feast of Trumpets – Leviticus 23:23-25

• Marked the end of the summer harvest with the blowing of the "shofar" (trumpets) a hundred times, with the "last trumpet" a long, extended blast.

 Will be fulfilled on the day of the Rapture of all of those who received Jesus Christ as their Savior during the Church age, which began on the day of Pentecost. 1 Cor. 15

3. The second coming of Christ and the millennium

The Day of Atonement – Leviticus 23:26-32

- Commemorating a "day of solemnity" Israelites afflicted their souls for their own sins, and the sin of their nation, a goat was sacrificed and its blood poured out upon the altar, and a second goat was held by the priest and then driven into the wilderness to "take their sins away!"
- Will be fulfilled at the end of the Tribulation period when the Jews stand in awe at God's grace and they receive Jesus as their Messiah: The One whom God sent to atone for their sins.

The Feast of Tabernacles – Leviticus 23:33-44.

- Commemorating the 40 years their forefathers dwelled in tents in the wilderness.
- Will be partially fulfilled when the Jews who are saved during the Tribulation live in the Promised Land with the Lord Jesus for 1,000 years. Zechariah 14:16, Amos 9:11, Isaiah 65:17-20, 2:2-4, 11:11-12, 27:12-13.
- Will be finally fulfilled in eternity as the "tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people!" Revelation 21:3-4

How to Receive Christ:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for loving me even though I'm a sinner. I ask for your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sin and that You rose from the dead. I trust You as my Savior and follow You as Lord, from this day forward. Amen."

Join Us Next Week For: Leviticus On The Mount – Leviticus 19 & 24

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why are times of celebration and rest important?
- 2. What does Christ have to do with the Feasts and Festivals in Leviticus?