

The Fall Holy Days: The Feast of Tabernacles Part One



Scriptures

- **John 7:2,10, 14, 37-39**

²Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near.

¹⁰But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up...

¹⁴But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and began to teach.

³⁷Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

- **Leviticus 23:34**

"Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'On the fifteenth of this seventh month is the Feast of Booths for seven days to the Lord. On the first day is a holy convocation. For seven days you shall present an offering by fire...On exactly the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the crops of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the Lord for seven days.

Now on the first day you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days.

- **Deuteronomy 28:47-48**

Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things; therefore you shall serve your enemies.

Other Scriptures

- I Cor. 10:11
- James 1:17

Main Points

- "Booths" is another name for tabernacles. Sukkah is Hebrew for Tabernacle.
- Sukkot is plural in Hebrew for many tabernacles.
- Many Christians see little application for the Hebrew Bible for their lives, but it can be a blessing for them; written to the whole Church.
- This feast was important to Jesus.
- On the day that Jesus spoke about coming to him for rivers of living water, the priests were conducting a special ceremony, pouring water on the alter.

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- These signified the winter rains they needed and prayed for to help their crops. A shadow of what Father would pour out for them
- These also represented the “latter rains” associated with Messiah.
- The water being poured out represented the coming of the Messiah and the Spirit of the Lord being poured out.
- Jesus declared himself to be the source of that Spirit and Messianic giver of life.
- Leviticus 23 is one of the most important chapters in the Bible, outlining the feasts.
 - Each one of God’s 7 Holy Days is a shadow of the ministry of Messiah Jesus.
 - God’s Holy Days in the 7th month:
 - 1. Feast of Trumpets
 - 2. Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)
 - 3. Feast of Tabernacles
 - Principles of the Feast of Tabernacles:
 - 1. It is a Holy Convocation
 - 2. Practice Gratitude
 - 3. Attitude of Rejoicing
- The Three Pilgrim Feasts: (all the children of Israel were asked to return to Jerusalem in a pilgrimage.)
 - 1. Unleavened Bread
 - 2. Pentecost
 - 3. Feast of Tabernacles
- When we cultivate an attitude of gratitude, we are walking in alignment with the Holy Spirit.
- The Feast of Tabernacles is a reminder not to take for granted all the things we enjoy in life.
- Is there anything in your life you have taken for granted?
- Our Father is a faithful Father!

Discussion Questions

1. Jesus used the Feast of Tabernacles as a way to teach the Jewish believers of His day about the living waters that could come from believing in Him as Messiah. They were dependent upon the waters of rain to give life to their crops in order to feed and sustain them, but the spiritual waters that come from belief in Jesus would fill the thirsty and gush from them outward. Have you received from Jesus the living water through faith? How is the river flowing out of you? Is it a trickle or a waterfall? Ask Him to turn up the flow today.

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2. How important is gratitude to Father God? How was gratitude shown by His people in Jesus' day? How can you show it to Father today? Are there some specific things for which you might need to show Him gratitude today? Gratitude and joy are hands laced and open as He fills them with Himself.

3. Tabernacles reminded the children of Israel that for 40 years they lived in the wilderness with God's supernatural supply of everything they needed. This holiday reminds us of God's faithfulness to meet our needs every day of our life from youth to old age. Worship Him as the Provider—there is no need to fear.