

Leviticus and the Sacrificial System

Lesson 9 – Appointed Times, Feasts, Sacred Days

Text

Leviticus 23; Exodus 12:2-14; 20:8-11; 31:12-17; Deut 16:1-16; 26:1-10

Introduction

Leviticus 23 lists the appointed times, feasts, and sacred days for the people. These times are considered as a Holy Convocation (sacred assembly). The Sabbath, listed separately, is a weekly observance. All the others are observed annually based on the Hebrew Calendar. There are two new years in the Hebrew calendar, religious and civil. Based upon Ex 12:2, Abib/Nisan is the first month, but the Jewish civil New Year is celebrated in the seventh month of Tishri with the Feast of Trumpets.

Hebrew Calendar (Based on Ex 12:2)

1. Abib or Nisan (Mar/Apr)	(Ex 12:2-37; 13:4; Neh 2:1)	7. Ethanim or Tishri (Sept/Oct)	(1 Kings 8:2)
2. Iyar or Zif (Apr/May)	(1 Kings 6:1)	8. Marchesvan or Bul (Oct/Nov)	(1 Kings 6:38)
3. Sivan ((May/June)	(Est 8:9)	9. Chisleu (Nov/Dec)	(Zech 7:1)
4. Tammuz (June/Jul)	(Ezek 8:14)	10. Tebeth (Dec/Jan)	(Est 2:16)
5. Ab (Jul/Aug)		11. Sebat (Jan/Feb)	(Zech 1:7)
6. Elul (Aug/Sept)	(Neh 6:15)	12. Adar (Feb/Mar)	(Est 3:7)

Not everyone agrees on that actual number of these special times. Not counting the Sabbath, there are generally considered to be seven of these special times. Some consider the Passover and Feast of Unleavened bread to be a single feast, and others add the feast of firstfruits to that. Some count the last day of the feast of booths (tabernacles) as a separate day, making the total eight. For this lesson, we will assume that there will be eight plus the Sabbath.

Other Special Times

Two other feasts not mentioned in Leviticus are Purim and Hanukkah (Feast of Dedication, Festival of Lights). These are celebrated but were never commanded by the LORD.

Questions

1. List the Appointed times and feasts mentioned in Lev 23.

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1. | 4. | 7. |
| 2. | 5. | 8. |
| 3. | 6. | 9. |

2. List nine times in Lev 23 where “*Holy Convocation*” (Sacred Day) (NASB) is used:

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1. | 4. | 7. |
| 2. | 5. | 8. |
| 3. | 6. | 9. |

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3. According to Ex 20:8-11, why was the Sabbath to be observed?
4. What day and time was the Passover lamb killed?
5. What day was the Passover lamb selected?
6. When does the Feast of Unleavened Bread begin, and how long does it last?
 - 1.
 - 2.
7. Give the verse in Lev 23 that supports the idea that the first day of unleavened bread is a special sabbath.
8. When was the Feast of Firstfruits celebrated?
9. Why does Lev 23:10 state that the Feast of Firstfruits is to be celebrated AFTER they enter the land?
10. What offerings were to be made at the Feast of Firstfruits?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
11. From Lev 23:15, what day starts the countdown to the Feast of Weeks?
12. What admonition is given about the harvest in Lev 23:22?
13. What was done on the first of the seventh month?
14. What day is the tenth day of the seventh month?
15. List two key thoughts about the Day of Atonement.
 - 1.
 - 2.
16. The Feast of Booths starts on what month and day?
17. What was to be completed before the beginning of the Feast of Booths?
18. What were the people required to do for seven days during the Feast of Booths? Why?
 - 1.
 - 2.
19. From Lev 23:36, what was done on the eighth day after the seven days of the Feast of Booths?
20. Discuss Messianic and New Covenant applications and importance of these days.