

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

MORNING MESSAGE

“God’s Calendar”

Leviticus 23:4

INTRODUCTION

- A. Leviticus is the third book of the Pentateuch; the five books of Moses
- B. Leviticus follows the book of Exodus
  - 1. Jerry Vines, “Exodus tells us how God gets His people out of Egypt; Leviticus tells us how God gets Egypt out of His people. Exodus is God dealing with sinners; Leviticus is God dealing with saints. Exodus is a book of deliverance; Leviticus is a book of dedication. Exodus tells us the way out; Leviticus tells us the way in. Exodus tells us God’s approach to us; Leviticus tells us our approach to God.”
- C. Leviticus 23 is one of the most remarkable chapters in the Bible
  - 1. It records the Seven Feasts of Israel
    - a. The seven feasts are: (1) Passover; (2) Unleavened Bread; (3) Firstfruits; (4) Pentecost; (5) Trumpets; (6) Atonement; and (7) Tabernacles
  - 2. What are these Seven Feasts about?

I. THE MESSAGE OF THE FEASTS

- A. The Feast of Passover (23:5-6)
  - 1. This feast was a celebration of Israel’s deliverance from Egypt
- B. The Feast of Unleavened Bread (23:6-8)
  - 1. This feast also looked back to Israel’s deliverance from Egypt
- C. The Feast of Firstfruits (23:9-10)
  - 1. This feast marked the beginning of harvest season
- D. The Feast of Pentecost (23:15-16)
  - 1. This feast was celebrated 50 days after the Feast of Firstfruits
- E. The Feast of Trumpets (23:23-24)
  - 1. This is the first feast of the fall
- F. The Feast of Atonement (23:26-27)
  - 1. This was the most serious day on the Jewish calendar
- G. The Feast of Tabernacles (23:33-34)
  - 1. This feast was a reminder of when they wandered in the wilderness on the journey from Egypt to the Promised Land

II. THE MEANING OF THE FEASTS

- A. The pictorial meaning
  - 1. The Feast of Passover pictures Jesus as the Lamb of God who shed His blood on Calvary’s cross
    - a. 1 Corinthians 5:7, “For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us”
  - 2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is a picture of the sinless life of Christ
    - a. Hebrews 4:15, “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin”
  - 3. The Feast of Firstfruits is a picture of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead

- a. 1 Corinthians 15:20, "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept"
  4. The Feast of Pentecost is a picture of the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus
    - a. Ephesians 2:13, 15, "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were afar off are made nigh by the blood of Christ...for to make in himself of twain (two) one new man"
  5. The Feast of Trumpets is a picture of the rapture of the church
    - a. 1 Thessalonians 4:16, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God"
  6. The Feast of Atonement is a picture of the Jews repenting for their years of unbelief
    - a. Zechariah 12:10, "and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son"
  7. The Feast of Tabernacles is a picture of the Millennial Kingdom
    - a. Revelation 20:1-2, "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up"
- B. The personal meaning
1. The Feast of Passover means Jesus died for you
  2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread means Jesus wants you to be holy
  3. The Feast of Firstfruits means you have been raised with Jesus to spiritual life
  4. The Feast of Pentecost means the Holy Spirit dwells in you and wants to use you
  5. The Feast of Trumpets means when Jesus returns you will be raptured or resurrected
  6. The Feast of Atonement means you will stand to give an account of your life at the Judgement Seat of Christ
  7. The Feast of Tabernacles means you are a pilgrim here, this is not your home, and God is preparing a mansion for you

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Pastor's Guest Reception in the Fellowship Hall
2. Super Weekend, February 5-7
  - Friday, February 5, Super Concert with the Annie Moses Band, 7 p.m.
  - Saturday, February 6, Super Cruise-In Car Show, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
  - Sunday, February 7, Super Connection Groups and Super Morning Worship
3. Wednesday Night, Sermon Series from Hebrews 11
4. Today's altar flowers were placed in honor of Bill & Christine Fish's 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
5. Ushers will receive your offering as you exit