

***The Long War Against God:  
The Nation Is Delivered Again - by a Faithful Woman  
through the Sovereignty of God! - Part 6***

**Our Theme Verses:**

***1 Cor. 10:1-6, 11***

1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

6 Now these things were our examples [or “types”], to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. . . [or be idolaters . . . or be fornicators . . . or tempt Christ . . . or murmurers . . .

. . .

11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples [or, “types”]: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world [or “ages”] are come.

***Gal. 4:21-26***

21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?

22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

23 But he [who was] of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman [was] by promise.

24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

***Rom. 15:4*** For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

**Review:**

- For nearly a year now we have been focused on Satan's Long War Against God and how he has used every available means to thwart God's plan through the Seed of the Woman promised in Gen. 3:15. Indeed, as he knew, that plan would lead to his destruction. And if he can destroy the Royal Line, he has succeeded! Nearly seventy years the children of Israel were then in captivity and eventually Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians were conquered by the Persians. During this time of transition, the stage was set for the Esther-related events to unfold: The story, as it develops, is all about how God has prepared his own to be the "pillars of the earth", in this case, Jews named Mordecai and Esther. Satan has in parallel prepared his own, an evil man named Haman, a Canaanite (a descendant of Agag!). Haman was set above all the princes of the kingdom by the king of Persia himself, Ahasuerus, and so he became second in power and glory only to the king himself. In fact, Haman demanded and received worship from the Persian people as if he were God himself requiring that everyone bow before him. Since Mordecai refused to bow before him Haman proposed an ordinance whereby all the Jews in the kingdom would be killed (Esther 3:10-13).**
- As we have seen, the book of Esther is really a four act drama followed by an epilogue of great significance for the nation of Israel and also for us. In our last fellowship we considered that Epilogue. The Epilogue is about the establishing of The Festival of Purim as a REMEMBRANCE of God's great and miraculous salvation of the Jews in that time and is still celebrated by Jews today. It arose out of the circumstances we find revealed in the book of Esther. We saw the outline last time of how this Festival of Deliverance still has a profound prophetic meaning today and point to the future redemption of Israel in the Great Tribulation (and Millennial Kingdom). The Epilogue of the book of Esther focuses on the Fast and Festival of Purim which has been established "forever" as a sacred time of remembrance and reflection on how God will always keep his promises regarding the Gen. 3:15 promise regarding the Seed of the Woman. We will address that festival in our next fellowship.**
- So while Satan had very well prepared Haman for the execution of his plan to exterminate the Jews, the Lord had prepared and now has raised up (as always) even more "pillars of the earth", weak ones indeed, to be his instruments in defeating Satan each step of the way to this final doom at the end of the Millennial Kingdom as the book of Revelation reveals.**

- ***The bottom line is that The Long War and the Redemption promised in Gen. 3:15 is really in the center of all of God's working on this earth, EVEN WHEN WE ARE CONSIDERING THE MANY DETAILS OF THE STORY AS WE HAVE SEEN IT REVEALED IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER. Have we truly grasped this in its fullness -- or are we just beginners still? Lord willing today will us gain much as we continue in our studies of the blessed word of truth found here in these scriptures.***
- ***But the one of the keys to understanding, as we have been learning all along in this study from week to week, is that God knows the end from the beginning and that the events of Biblical history have MEANING, that is, they are not merely the perfectly preserved history of the times. They are that -- but they are much, much more. They have MEANING. They often foreshadow events to come. There is prophecy hidden in these events and persons from the past. We have seen this in our studies of Esther already and will see even more of it as we continue in this series of studies.***
- ***The fact of prophecy itself requires this. For God to ordain future events as he so clearly does requires him to intersect in human affairs often during the course of history. The realization of this provides one of the great encouragements for the believer. 1 Cor. 10:11 makes this so clear: "11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples [or, "types"]: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world [or "ages"] are come." Do you grasp this critical point? GOD HAS INTERSECTED WITH HUMANITY OFTEN, AND THE RECORDING OF THAT IN THE WORD OF GOD IS TO BE OUR CONSTANT REMINDER THAT HE IS NOT FINISHED YET!***

***[Your comments / questions?]***

### **Introduction**

***We have such a great scripture here that will form the backdrop of all that we shall consider from God's word of truth today and next time, Lord willing. Indeed, our entire series has been based on this same reality, that God intersects with history by working mightily in human hearts as Paul outlined for us in the first 11 verses of 1 Cor. 10. Verse 11 says it so well: "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples [or, "types"]: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world [or "ages"] are come."***

**Consider the meaning of this well as we proceed today. We will soon consider the Feast of Purim as we mentioned already several times recently. But for a proper background of that we must look into other scriptures and shall do that today.**

### **I. Celebrations of Remembrance - The Mosaic Feasts**

**Seven yearly Feasts recorded there are foundational for understanding both the Mosaic Law and Israel's future. The reason is simple: God foreshadowed his plan for Israel in their calendar and in therefore in their annual Feasts. Although all seven are not actual "feasts" in our sense of the word, they are all critical to the yearly life of the Jewish people and all point both back to Israel's deliverance from bondage in Egypt and forward to Israel's eventual deliverance and salvation, both physically, in the coming tribulation and 1000 year kingdom, and spiritually, as Messiah brings to his people the benefits of redemption.**

**Leviticus 23 records in detail those seven "feasts". Let's consider them in sequence.**

#### **1. Feast of Passover (The Feast of Deliverance & Salvation)**

**The 14th day of the 1st month, Nisan**

**Exo 12, Exo 13:6-8, Lev 23:5, Deut 16:3-8, Num 28:16**

**Lev. 23:5**

**5 In the fourteenth [day] of the first month at even [is] the LORD'S passover.**

***And then remember Paul's exhortation in 1 Cor. 5:***

**[READ ] 1 Cor. 5:7:** "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:"

***Perhaps you are beginning to see the glory in all of God's working as we see how these feasts are presented. Paul says it so well also in Col. 2:***

**[READ ] Col. 2:16-17** "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]:

**17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ."**

#### **2. Feast of Unleavened Bread (a week long observance celebrating the purity of the true bread of life, our Lord Jesus**

**Christ)**  
**15th day of the 1st month (Abib/Nisan)**

**Lev 23:6-7, Num 28:17-18**

***Travel to the Sanctuary in Jerusalem required of all men, to present themselves before the Lord (Exo 23:14,17, Exo 34:22, Deut 16:16).***

**Lev. 23:6** And on the fifteenth day of the same month [is] the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

***If we would have true understanding, we would know well how each of these feasts and solemn occasions in the Jewish calendar as established by Moses has a deep meaning regarding Israel's Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. Here it is that the unleavened bread was used as a celebration of the purity of the true Bread of Life which is our Lord Jesus.***

- 3. The Feast of First Fruits (celebrates the spring replanting by the Lord AND the glorious resurrection from death to life of our savior)**

***The 16th day of the 1st month, Nisan***

***Exo 34:25-26, Lev 23:10-14, - Late Passover Num 9:10-11***

***Barley harvest - Firstfruits presented to the Lord (Lev 23:10-11)***

**Lev. 23:10** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

***Again, Firstfruits has a grand significance indeed in regard to our Lord Jesus raised from the dead.***

- 4. Feast of Pentecost (celebrating the early summer harvest and new bread from the land)**

***Travel to the Sanctuary in Jerusalem required of all men, to present themselves before the Lord (Exo 23:14,17, Exo 34:22, Deut 16:16).***

***Exo 34:22, Lev 23:15-21, Acts 2:1, Acts 20:16, 1 Cor 16:8***

***Occurs 50 days after the day of first fruits / barley sheaf waving (16 Nisan), on or about the 6th day of the third month (Sivan).***

***Lev. 23:15-21***

**15** And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; [they are] the firstfruits unto the LORD.

18 And ye shall offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year, and one young bullock, and two rams: they shall be [for] a burnt offering unto the LORD, with their meat offering, and their drink offerings, [even] an offering made by fire, of sweet savour unto the LORD.

19 Then ye shall sacrifice one kid of the goats for a sin offering, and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings.

20 And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits [for] a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs: they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.

**21 And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, [that] it may be an holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work [therein: it shall be] a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.**

*The Lord in his resurrection foreshadows the resurrection of all believers in his timing. He is "Christ the firstfruits" indeed, 1 Cor. 15:23.*

**5. Trumpets (celebrating the call to interrupt the harvest and enter a time of worship)**

*The 1st day of the 7th month, Tishri*

Lev 23:24, Num 29:1

*Strictly speaking, Trumpets is not actually a feast day.*

*Lev. 23:24* Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first [day] of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation.

**6. Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)**

*The day of atonement occurs on the 10th day of the 7th month, Tishri*

Lev 23:27, Num 29:7, Lev 16

*This also is not really a feast day. Instead, it is a day of recalling past sins and of repentance, or, as the O.T. describes it, it is a day for the "affliction of your souls" (Joel 1:14-15, Acts 27:9).*

*Lev. 23:27* Also on the tenth [day] of this seventh month [there shall be] a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and

ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

**7. Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkoth) - An eight day feast celebrating the regathering of Israel into the Land of Promise**

***Again, all men had to travel to the Sanctuary in Jerusalem and were required to present themselves to the Lord (Exo 23:14,17, Exo 34:22, Deut 16:16).***

***The first day was the 15th day of the 7th month, Tishri***

***Exo 34:22, Lev 23:34-36, 39-43, Num 29:12***

***All men were required to travel to Jerusalem for worship in the Temple (Exo 23:14,17, Exo 34:22, Deut 16:16).***

***The Fruit Harvest had finished and the offering of the Firstfruits was to be made to the Lord (Exo 23:19, 14:1-5)***

***Lev. 23:34-36***

34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month [shall be] the feast of tabernacles [for] seven days unto the LORD.

35 On the first day [shall be] an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work [therein].

36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it [is] a solemn assembly; [and] ye shall do no servile work [therein].

***[Note: Some of the above was taken from biblelight.net, and interesting site]***

***Let's look for a moment at the Passover, just to get a feeling for the depth of this teaching by Moses and the full meaning of it according to the entire revelation of the word of God.***

***There are so many details that could be considered, many types that could be identified and explained, and many parallels that could be drawn. But just consider the lamb that was sacrificed on Passover:***

***In Egypt, when the time had come for the nation of Israel to be delivered from their Egyptian bondage, God promised to bring death to every firstborn son in Egypt, whether Egyptian or Jewish (or even cattle). The only escape was revealed to be the blood of a lamb which was to be placed on the door posts and lintel of every home. This lamb that was slain prefigured or foreshadowed the coming Messiah. His blood would be shed***

**for the sins of the world.**

**The Old Testament prophet, Isaiah, could speak of Israel's Savior as a lamb:**

**[READ ] Is. 53:6-7**

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

**Paul and Peter both emphasize Christ as spotless and unblemished, as a lamb:**

**[READ ] 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.

**[READ ] Heb. 9:12-14**

**12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us].**

**13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:**

**14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

**[Your comments / questions?]**

- **So we have seen how in Israel's Feasts and in their yearly calendar God underscores his working in the past - AND in so doing also points to the FUTURE!**
- **Grasping this requires an essential ingredient - FAITH.**
- **And to remember properly what God has done in the past and then to by faith grasp fully on to what god will yet do in the future, this is our opportunity today.**
- **For Israel it bacame little more than religious ritual. What is it for us?**

**1 Cor. 10:6** Now these things were our examples [or "types"], to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.