The Feast of Tabernacles

The Appointments with God

- 1. The Holy Days were given to us by God as appointments between Himself and His people.
- 2. The holy days look backwards and forwards.
- 3. These are the "Lord's feasts" and so should be celebrated by all people who belong to Him.
 - "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'These are my appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies." - Leviticus 23:2

The Command to Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles

"So beginning with the fifteenth day of the seventh month, after you have gathered the crops of the land, celebrate the festival to the LORD for seven days; the first day is a day of rest, and the eighth day also is a day of rest. On the first day you are to take choice fruit from the trees, and palm fronds, leafy branches and poplars, and rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. Celebrate this as a festival to the LORD for seven days each year. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come; celebrate it in the seventh month. Live in booths for seven days: All native-born Israelites are to live in booths so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of Egypt. I am the LORD your God." - Leviticus 23:39-43

The Hebrew Calendar

| Month 1 | Month 3 | Month 7 |
|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Passover | | Trumpets |
| Unleavened Bread | Pentecost | Day of Atonement |
| Firstfruits | | Tabernacles |
| Former Rains | | Latter Rains (Joel) |
| Fulfilled | Fulfilled | NOT Yet Fulfilled |

Some General Thoughts About the Feast of Tabernacles

- 1. It has several names: Sukkot; Feast of Booths, Feast of Tabernacles; Feast of Ingathering.
- 2. The word Sukkah means "hut."
- 3. This feast was celebrated with relief and thanksgiving.
- 4. This feast is the reason Thanksgiving was originally celebrated in North America. American pilgrims celebrated this feast.

God's Desire to Dwell With Us

- 1. God walked with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden.
- 2. God had the people build a tabernacle so He could dwell among them.
- 3. Jesus Christ came that He might dwell (tabernacle) with us. "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." - John 1:14
- 4. The Lord is taking all of us home to live with Him someday.
 - "In my Father's house are many rooms; in it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

- John 14:2.3

Why Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles?

- 1. It is a reminder of God living among His people and caring for them in the wilderness.
- 2. It is a reminder that all of our blessings come from the Lord. "So beginning with the fifteenth day of the seventh month, after you have gathered the crops of the land, celebrate the festival to the LORD." - Leviticus 23:39
- 3. It is a reminder of the blessing of God's Word.
 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God." - Colossians 3:16
- 4. It is a reminder of the temporary endurance of material things. "We are aliens and strangers in your sight, as were all our forefathers. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope." - I Chronicles 29:15
- 5. For Christians, it is a reminder of the Holy Spirit living within us. "And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us." - Romans 5:5

Jesus' Fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles

- 1. At Jesus' triumphal entry they thought He was setting up His Kingdom, as they read in Psalm 118:25 each year in the Feast of Tabernacles.
 - "The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" - Matthew 21:9
- 2. Jesus will return to dwell with us forever.
 - "For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God... And so we will be with the Lord forever." - 1 Thessalonians 4:16.17
- 3. Our best response is to live with thankfulness and readiness.

The Fall Feasts of the Lord

Week 9

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