

**Lesson Booklet:**

***APPOINTED TIMES***

## Lesson Booklet: *APPOINTED TIMES*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

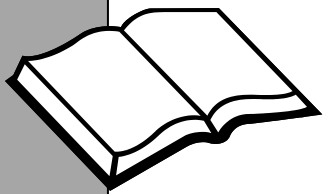
The purpose of this text is to aid the reader in a better understanding of various truths found in the Holy Scriptures and discovering for themselves how the Scriptures apply to their lives. It is the desire of this work that through this study of the Scriptures each learner will be brought closer in their relationship to their Creator as a result of these lessons.

Presented on the following pages is a series of one page lessons associated with the topic of the “*Appointed Times*”, also commonly referred to as the “*Sabbaths*”. The lessons contained in this booklet are intended only to introduce the subject at hand; further more in-depth resources are available in the online library where you obtained this booklet. Each lesson has been optimized to work best for use in a small group, but is also appropriate for individual review. In fact, if you plan to meet with others to work through this lesson book, it is highly recommend that you work through the lessons ahead of time to find answers in Scripture, as most lessons welcome discussion. When prompted for discussion, *opinions* should be heard and discussed, of course. However, a Scripture verse or passage should accompany discussions as the foundation for what the belief or opinion is based on. Study tools, such as a printed concordance or searchable Bible software to help you find the location of a Scripture that you may be having a hard time remembering, are encouraged for use with these lessons. Please remember always to study the Scriptures in context of the full passage to ensure that it properly accompanies the topic being discussed.

Concerning the source used for these lessons, please note that all Scripture quotations in this book are taken from the King James Version of the Bible. The purpose in using this particular English translation is simply because of its wide acceptance and the fact that it is public domain in the United States, allowing the text to be freely quoted without copyright restriction. From the start, readers are encouraged to have his or her preferred translation of their Bible alongside for reference while reading along.

In addition, traditional Christian terms and names are *intentionally* used throughout this lesson book to reach a larger scope of readers and help those who may be beginners in this knowledge learn with ease. Occasionally, the need to employ the use of a Hebrew term or phrase may present itself for a clearer understanding of Scripture; when this occurs, the corresponding English meaning is always supplied.

# Salvation



## Scripture Highlight

### John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

## Discussion

The Scripture verses below are often called “The Romans Road to Salvation” – read them aloud, share your personal story of Salvation, and discuss why each of these verses from the book of Romans is so important and what they mean to you:

- Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”  
Romans 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”  
Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”  
Romans 8:1 “*There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”  
Romans 8:38-39 “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”  
Romans 10:9-13 “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

## Study

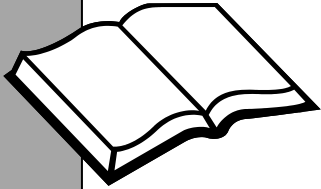
As was done above, New Testament verses are often studied when discussing salvation. However, the New Testament often directly quotes Old Testament verses when discussing our Savior. Below is a list of *only a few* Old Testament Scriptures that reference characteristics of our Messiah. Divide this list among yourselves, read each, and share their relevance. There are many more such verses; if you know other relevant verses not listed here, share those as well:

Genesis 3:15	<i>Seed of a Woman</i>
Genesis 22:17-18	<i>Seed of Abraham</i>
Genesis 49:8-10	<i>Seed of Judah, symbolism</i>
Genesis chapters 21-24	<i>Parallels to Isaac's life</i>
Genesis chapters 37-50	<i>Parallels to Joseph's life</i>
Exodus chapter 12	<i>Passover Lamb</i>
Numbers 24:17	<i>Star out of Jacob</i>
Deuteronomy 18:15-19	<i>A prophet like Moses</i>
Isaiah 7:14	<i>Virgin and Child</i>
Isaiah 8:8	<i>Immanuel</i>
Isaiah 9:6-7	<i>A Son is Given</i>
Isaiah 11:1	<i>Stump of Jesse</i>
Isaiah 40:3	<i>Reference to John as voice</i>
Isaiah chapter 53	<i>Suffering Servant</i>
Jeremiah 23:5-6	<i>Branch of David as King</i>

Hosea 11:1	<i>Called out of Egypt</i>
Micah 5:2	<i>From Bethlehem</i>
Zechariah 9:9	<i>Riding in on a Colt</i>
Zechariah 11:12-13	<i>Betrayed for 30 pieces of Silver</i>
Malachi 3:1, 4:5-6	<i>Preceded by a Messenger</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Chronicles 17:14	<i>Establish a Throne Forever</i>
Book of Ruth	<i>Symbolism Bride and Redeemer</i>
Book of Esther	<i>Obedient Bride and Salvation</i>
Psalms 2:7	<i>Decree of Begotten Son</i>
Psalms 16:8-10	<i>Promise of Resurrection</i>
Psalms 22:1,16	<i>Forsaken and pierced</i>
Psalms 110:4	<i>Priest in order of Melchizedek</i>
Proverbs 30:4	<i>Who ascended and descended?</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Chronicles 17:14	<i>Establish a throne forever</i>

*Research to find MANY more!*

# If You Love Him



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **John 14:15**

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

### **John 14:21-23**

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

### **Daniel 7:25**

And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

### **Hebrews 10:26**

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

### **James 1:22**

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21**

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

## ***Study***

### **Christ is our example**

The theme of the other lessons that you will be participating in is associated with the various Appointed Times called the Sabbaths. You will learn from these lessons how these times are associate with our Heavenly Father's plan for us through the role of our Messiah. They have great meaning to study. However, simple knowledge of the Sabbaths is not the same as engaging in and keeping them for yourself. As our example, Christ, our Messiah, kept the Sabbaths Himself. So did His disciples. Do you also strive to be His disciple?

Search and find some accounts in the New Testament where the Weekly Sabbath, as well as other Holy Days, were observed by Christ and others.

## ***Group Study & Discussion***

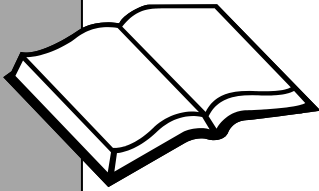
### **The love of the truth, or believing a lie?**

Our Heavenly Father loves the special days that He ordained in Leviticus 23, but Amos 5:21-23 and Isaiah 1:14 both state that He hates other false feasts that people create that He did not command. Read the passages in Amos and Isaiah above as well as the following scriptures: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:10-12 and 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:4-7, 3:7-8 and Hosea 4:6.

Discuss together what delusions and lies might have deceived people in the past and the present day world. Have the Appointed Times (Sabbaths) been changed? Is it OK to believe a lie, if others do as well? Is it OK to have knowledge of the truth, but do something else?

After the discussion, plan to read Leviticus 23 on your own to be prepared for future lessons you will share together.

# The Law is Good



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **Romans 7:12**

Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

### **Acts 24:14**

But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

### **1<sup>st</sup> John 3:4**

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

### **Romans 7:7**

What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

### **Jeremiah 31:33 (referred to again in Hebrews 8:10)**

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

### **Romans 2:13-15**

(For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

### **Titus 2:11-15**

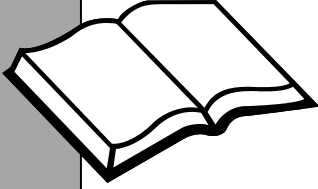
For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

## ***Discussion***

### **The Law, also known as *The Torah*, is good**

Perhaps because “all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God,” (*Romans 3:23*), many have chosen to remain in sin? Is this an acceptable attitude (perhaps look back at *Hebrews 10:26*, printed in the previous lesson)? Is this what “grace” teaches us? Perhaps you heard that one can choose to make the law void through faith? Read *Romans 3:31* for one answer to this. Do you have another? Perhaps you heard that our Heavenly Father has or will break, alter, or change his covenant? Read *Psalms 89:34* and *Matthew 5:18-19* for some answers. If you have more Scripture based answers to share, share them. If time permits, search through *Psalms* chapter 119 and share verses that portray the proper attitude towards The Law/Torah.

# The Sabbaths are a Commandment



## Scripture Highlight

### Leviticus 23:3

Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work *therein*: it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

### Exodus 20:8-11

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates: For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

## Study

The prophet Isaiah speaks much about the Sabbath, and the proper attitude towards it. Review the following Scriptures from the book of Isaiah and answer the associated questions concerning the Sabbath:

- Isaiah 56:1-2
- Isaiah 58:13-14
- Isaiah 66:22-23

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1. Is a person blessed by keeping the Sabbath?
  2. What is our Heavenly Father's response to us keeping the Sabbath properly?
  3. Does the Sabbath continue in the future?

## Discussion

Is keeping the Sabbath really a commandment, or just a suggestion?

What are some things that one should and should not do on the Sabbath?

If you keep the Sabbath each week, share with others about your experience keeping it.

What other Scriptures can you share about the Sabbaths not presented in this lesson?

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*See also Deuteronomy Chapter 5 and Zechariah 14:16.*

## Questions

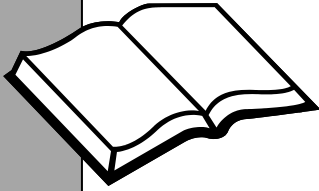
### Ask yourself these questions

How do you feel honestly about the Sabbaths – Do you call the Sabbaths a delight?

Do you keep the Sabbaths as best as you can – If not, will you try keep the Sabbath better?



# When is the Weekly Sabbath?



## Scripture Highlight

### Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

### Leviticus 23:3

Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work *therein*: it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

## Study and Discussion

### A week at a glance:

The Scriptures above clearly tell us when the weekly Sabbath was first created and what day of the week it is:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						"the seventh day <i>is</i> the Sabbath of rest"

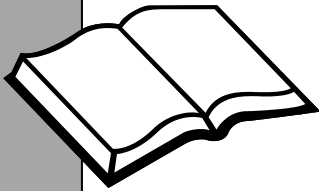
### Learning from Genesis, Chapter 1

The phrase "And the evening and morning were the \_\_\_\_\_ day" is repeated at the conclusion of each of the six days of creation work before the seventh day of rest is created in Chapter 2. From this, the reader can easily recognize that each day begins and ends at sunset. Using this knowledge, we can adjust the modern day presentation of the week to see that the weekly Sabbath begins at sundown on what we now know as Friday and ends the following sundown on Saturday:

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						"the seventh day <i>is</i> the Sabbath of rest"

Question: Is this the day of the week that you have always known as the weekly Sabbath? Or, did you learn to keep another day holy instead? Share your story.

# The Sabbath in the New Testament



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **Psalms 111:7-10**

The works of his hands *are* verity and judgment; all his commandments *are* sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, *and are* done in truth and uprightness. He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend *is* his name. The fear of the Lord *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.

### **Deuteronomy 7:9**

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he *is* God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

### **Deuteronomy 4:40**

Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong *thy* days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever.

## ***Study and Discussion***

There is a belief out there that the “for ever” mentioned in the Scriptures presented above somehow ended, and that the statutes regarding the Sabbath, likewise, ended somehow – that, perhaps, the Sabbath was just an Old Testament practice. In the New Testament book of Acts alone, Paul the apostle, goes to synagogues on the Sabbath (Acts 13:14, Acts 18:4), teaches on the Sabbath (Acts 13:42-44, Acts 17:2), baptizes on the Sabbath (Acts 16:13-15), and even declares that Scripture has been taught from earliest times on the Sabbath (Acts 15:21). The Sabbath is also recorded in the gospels.

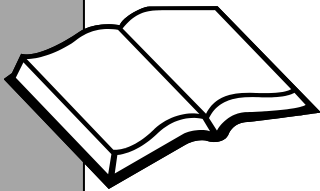
### **Lookup the following Scriptures to *prove* each statement to yourself and discuss with others:**

- Our Messiah is called Lord of the Sabbath.  
Matthew 12:8, Mark 2:28, Luke 6:5
- Our Messiah heals on the Sabbath.  
Matthew 12:13, Mark 3:5, Luke 6:10, Luke 13:13, John 5:9, John 9:14
- Our Messiah teaches on the Sabbath.  
Mark 1:21, Mark 6:2, Luke 4:16, Luke 4:31, Luke 13:10

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Question: Did you read this lesson, but not look up any of the Scriptures referenced on it? In 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:21, Paul states “Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” We can do this by looking up Scripture references.

# Religion/Tradition



## Scripture Highlight

### Matthew 15:3

But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

### Matthew 12:38-40

Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

## Study

### The Sign of Jonah

Many people today transgress the Sabbath because of tradition. The sign of Jonah described above can help people understand the Sabbath better by finding error in some modern traditions. The erroneous tradition of *Good Friday* and *Easter Sunday* does not pass the three days and three nights test given by the sign of Jonah:

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	2	3					

As you will learn in later lessons, there are other Sabbaths than the weekly Sabbath that occur at various times during each year. Observing the situation where the three days and nights begin in the middle of the week on the yearly Sabbath of *Passover* and then ending after the *Weekly Sabbath* (which is actually the dawn of another yearly Sabbath called *Firstfruits*), one can easily see a situation that passes the test of the sign of Jonah:

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3							

## Discussion

### 2nd Timothy 2:24-25

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

Considering the instruction to Timothy above, and other instructions such as those in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13 on love, discuss the *importance* of properly sharing your beliefs with others.

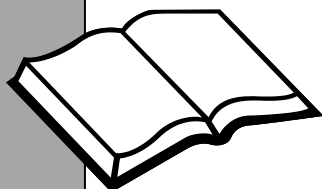
## Research and Sharing

Research from the Scriptures to discover what we are to do or not do on the weekly Sabbath. Find related topics, such as how we are blessed from keeping the Sabbath and other commandments.

Next, share your findings with others who also have a love for the Sabbath.

Finally, discuss *how* you and others can best share the truth of the Sabbath to those who do not have this knowledge or are simply caught up in Religion and/or Tradition.

# Overview of the Appointed Times



## Scripture Highlight

### Leviticus 23:2

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, *Concerning* the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim *to be* holy convocations, *even* these *are* my feasts.

### Exodus 12:38

And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, *even* very much cattle.

### Leviticus 24:22

Ye shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the LORD your God.

### Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

### Colossians 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*: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

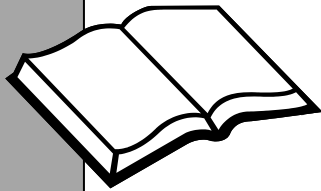
## Study

The *Scripture Highlight* above proclaims who's Feasts the Sabbaths are which our Heavenly Father has given us to enjoy. Many people believe that the Sabbaths are for Jews only. These Sabbaths are for everyone. Remember, those from Judah and all of the other Hebrew tribes came out of Egypt, along with many others that joined themselves to Israel.

Upcoming lessons will focus on the many Appointed Times other than the Weekly Sabbath. In preparation, please take time to read through chapters 23 and 25 in the book of Leviticus. As an overview, below is a quick list of all of the Sabbaths:

<i>English Name</i>	<i>Hebrew Name</i>	<i>Leviticus Verse</i>
Sabbath	Shabbat	23:2
Passover	Pasach	23:4-8
Unleavened Bread	Hag HaMatzah	23:4-8
Firstfruits	Bikkurim"	23:9-14
Pentecost	Shavuot"	23:15-22
Trumpets	Shofarim / Yom Teruah,	23:23-25
Day of Atonement	Yom Kippur	23:26-32
Tabernacles	Sukkot	23:33-44
Sabbatical Year	Shmita	25:1-55
Jubilee Year	Yovel / Yobel	25:8-55

# Passover



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **John 1:29**

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

### **Revelation 5:12**

Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

### **Matthew 7:7-8 (see also Luke 11:9-10)**

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

### **Revelation 3:20**

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

### **1st Corinthians 5:7-8**

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: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

### **Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## ***Study***

### **Our Savior is our Passover Lamb**

Christ is the same Lamb of God spoken of in the book of Revelation and introduced in the very first chapter of John.

The following are the chapters where “The Passion of Christ” begins in each of the four gospels:

*Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, and John 13*

Review these chapters. Take special note that every account begins with a phrase similar to “it was Passover.”

## ***Discussion***

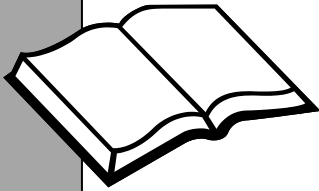
### **The Wedding Supper of the Lamb?**

Passover, known in Hebrew as Pesach, is a reminder of Christ’s Sacrifice for us. Consider Christ’s statements on earth in Matthew 7:7-8 and Luke 11:9-10 about us knocking and the door being opened.

At the Last Passover meal, Christ said in Luke 22:16 that He would not eat the Passover supper again until it finds an even greater future fulfillment in the coming Kingdom of God. Could this future fulfillment be the Wedding Supper of the Lamb spoken of in Revelation 19:9?

# Unleavened Bread

## Scripture Highlight



### Leviticus 23:4-8

These *are* the feasts of the LORD, *even* holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons. In the fourteenth day of the first month at even *is* the LORD's passover. 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. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work *therein*.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come

### 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 5:6

Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

### Hebrews 10:26

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

### John 14:15-17

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

## Study and Discussion

### A time of Remembering

The week of unleavened bread is a time of remembering that our Messiah brought us out of sin and into righteousness. We all strive for righteousness in our personal walks. At one point, when Paul was in a hurry to get to Jerusalem for a yearly Sabbath day, he only very briefly mentions his past cares and troubles, because his focus is on finishing his “course” or walk:

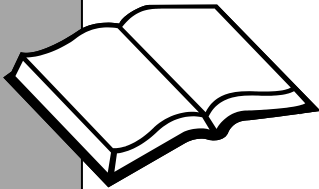
### Lookup the following Scriptures discuss with others:

- Acts 20:24
- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:24-27
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:7-8
- Romans 8:37
- Hebrews 6:10
- Psalms 58:11

For further study, consider reading the promises written about in the letters to the many churches in the book of Revelation written specifically to “him that overcometh” (Revelation 2:7, 2:11, 2:17, 2:26, 3:5, 3:12, 3:21).

# Firstfruits

## Scripture Highlight



### Leviticus 23:10-11

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: And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:20-23

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

### Matthew 27:52-53

And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

### Deuteronomy 16:16-17

Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

## Study

### When do the yearly Sabbaths begin?

Exodus 13:4 and Deuteronomy 16:1 clearly tell us when the year begins: the month of Abib (also called "Aviv"), which is the first month of spring when the barley crop in Israel is ripe ("abib") enough for harvesting to be used for Firstfruits. Passover is on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this first month and can occur on any day of the week. The week of Unleavened Bread begins on the next day, the 15<sup>th</sup>. Firstfruits always begins at sundown at the conclusion the regular weekly Sabbath (ie: "Saturday" evening) that occurs during this very special week.

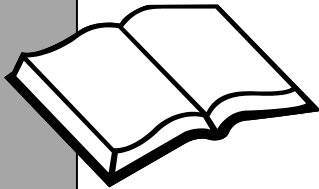
### Template of a month of Abib (Abib 1st month):

						Sabbath

Research to discover when the month of Abib began this past year and calculate out when Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Firstfruits occurred. If needed, use the provided "Template of a month of Abib" above; start by marking the 1<sup>st</sup> day, when the first moon of the new year was sighted and then count out to Passover on the 14<sup>th</sup> mark it, and so forth.

# Pentecost

## Scripture Highlight



### Acts 1:4-5

And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

### Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

### Acts 2:1-4

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

## Study

### The Timing of Pentecost

Leviticus 23:15-22 describes how to count out Sabbaths after Firstfruits to the day after the Seventh Sabbath. This day is the Sabbath of Pentecost. Below is an example of how this is done:

						Sabbath
Firstfruits						1
						2
						3
						4
						5
						6
						7
Pentecost						

## Discussion

### Rewarding Obedience

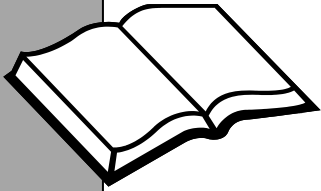
Three times a year on specific yearly Sabbath days, men are to appear before their Heavenly Father, and not appear empty handed. This commandment is repeated three times: Deuteronomy 16:16, Exodus 23:14-17, and Exodus 34:22-23.

At the end of the description of Pentecost in Leviticus 23, verse 22 includes the commandment to not to glean the corners of one's field when the harvest is gathered – to leave this for the poor. This commandment was already given in Leviticus 19:9 and is again repeated in Deuteronomy 24:19. This is yet another commandment that is repeated three times; hence, showing emphasis through repetition.

Consider Boaz's obedience to this commandment in the book of Ruth and his finding a bride. Discuss how obedience is associated with the Bride of Christ. Discuss, also, how the obedience of the disciples to keeping Pentecost led to them being filled with the Holy Spirit in Acts chapters 1 and 2.



# Trumpets



## Scripture Highlight

### Matthew 24:36

But of that day and hour knoweth no *man*, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

### Matthew 24:42

Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

### Matthew 25:13

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

## Discussion

### By design, the exact timing of this yearly Sabbath/Feast day is unknown

Leviticus 23:24 states: “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.” The italicized word “*day*” in this verse is a word that has been added by the translators to help with the flow of the reading. With further research one will discover that a day starts in the evening and that the first “*day*” of the month is actually noted by the sighting of the new moon. One might be able to predict the fall season that begins in the seventh month, but it is our Heavenly Father who knows the day and hour.

By now, you may have realized that these *Appointed Times* have prophetic meaning (see *Colossians 2:16-17*). Do parables, such as The Wedding Feast (*Matthew 22:2-14 / Luke 14:16-24*), The Ten Virgins (*Matthew 25:1-13*), or the contrast between the Faithful Servant and Wicked Servant (*Matthew 24:43-51*) have prophetic meanings related to keeping all the Sabbaths?

## Study

### When do the yearly Sabbaths occur in the fall?

The yearly Appointed Times (or “Sabbaths”) that occur during the fall will occur in the seventh biblical month. On the first day of this seventh month, trumpets are blown at the sighting of the first sliver of the new moon to declare this special Sabbath known as the Day of Trumpets! The day of Atonement will occur on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of this month and the eight days associated with the yearly holy days of Tabernacles will begin on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of this month. Research to discover when these holydays began this past year and mark the dates on the calendar template to the right.

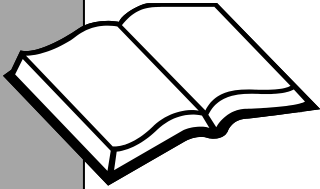
### Template of a Seventh month:

						Sabbath

Paul mentions in *Colossians 2:16-17* that these Sabbath days that you are studying are a shadow of things that were and are to come. The spring feasts studied earlier describe things that our Messiah did for us nearly two millennia ago. The fall feasts, however appear to concern our future. Revelation, the last book of the bible, includes many mentions of trumpet blasts. Find mention of some of these trumpet blasts. Is there a connection?

# Atonement

## Scripture Highlight



### Hebrews 2:17

Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

### Revelation 5:3-10

And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

## Study and Discussion

### We have a High Priest!

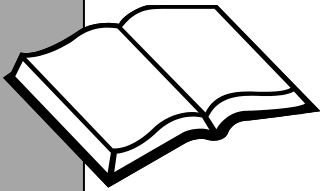
Christ is our High Priest who makes atonement for us. Where His sacrifice on Passover allowed us *personal* redemption for all who accept Him, in His role as High Priest, Christ makes atonement (often nicely translated as “reconciliation”) for all of His *people’s sins as a whole*.

The book of Hebrews discusses this role in depth. In addition to verse 2:17 above, lookup other verses in the book of Hebrews such as 7:27, 9:24-28, and 10:10-14 and discuss. In addition, try to find other verses in the New Testament that may have something to do with this atonement, such as 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:2, Romans 3:25, and 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18.

### Two Goats

Leviticus chapter 16 describes in detail instructions for how Aaron was to perform certain tasks pertaining to the Day of Atonement. Among these instructions are very specific details on how to handle two goats. In Zechariah chapter 3, two prominent figures are mentioned – one is rebuked, while the other is blessed. In Revelation 20:7-10, the same figure that is rebuked in Zechariah 3:2 faces final judgment. Read these passages and discuss how they might pertain to the imagery presented in Leviticus 16.

# Tabernacles



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **Revelation 21:1-3**

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

### **Deuteronomy 16:13-15**

Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine: And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that *are* within thy gates. Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

### **John 14:1-4**

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it* were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

## ***Scripture Highlight***

## ***Discussion***

### **The Transfiguration**

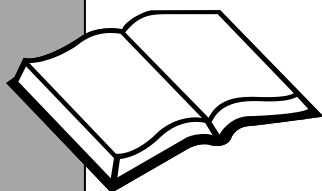
When Christ appeared transformed with Moses and Elijah (Matthew 17:4, Luke 9:33), the three disciples thought to build tabernacles for each of them. Do you think that perhaps they thought the new heaven and earth had finally come, and the tabernacle of God was to then be with men?

---

### **A Wedding Feast**

In the traditional Hebrew wedding ceremony, the bride and groom are married under what might be thought of as a tabernacle/sukka. Our Messiah, who is often called the bridegroom, will return for His bride. This event is often called "*The Wedding Supper of the Lamb*." The New Testament has many references to bride and groom concerning our relationship with our Messiah – parables in Matthew 25 and Matthew 22/Luke 14 directly relating to this subject. Is it possible that the feast of tabernacles is a yearly reminder of this event that is yet to come?

# The Sabbatical Year



## Scripture Highlight

### Leviticus 25:3-5

Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard. That which groweth of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap, neither gather the grapes of thy vine undressed: *for* it is a year of rest unto the land.

### Deuteronomy 15:1-2

At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this *is* the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth *ought* unto his neighbour shall release *it*; he shall not exact *it* of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD'S release.

### Deuteronomy 31:10-12

And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles, When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that *is* within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law:

## Study

### Patterns of Seven

One might ask, “Why does the land need to rest every seven years?” Do the math to find the answer: calculate how many weekly Sabbaths there are in one year, then multiply that number by seven. Amazed? During a regular year, the land works to produce for us while we rest on the Sabbath. Those lost Sabbath days accumulate and the land itself needs to rest.

### A few “seven year” periods of time in Scripture:

The concept of counting by sevens is a very common one in the Scriptures. Examine the list below to recognize a few periods of seven years:

Genesis 29:20-30	<i>Jacob served 7 years for each Leah and Rachel</i>
Genesis 41:26-54	<i>Joseph, Pharaoh's dream of 7 years</i>
Leviticus 25	<i>Description of 7 (and 49) year periods of time</i>
Leviticus 26	<i>Description of 7 year curses for disobedience</i>
Judges 6:1-25	<i>Israel oppressed by Midian for 7 years</i>
Judges 12:9	<i>Ibzan judged Israel 7 years</i>
2 Samuel 24:13	<i>David presented with choice of 7 years of famine</i>
2 Kings 8:1-3	<i>Elisha speaks of the 7 years of famine</i>
Jeremiah 34:14	<i>At the end of 7 years, release from slavery</i>
Ezekiel 39:9	<i>A prophecy of fire for 7 years against Gog</i>

## Discussion

### What shall we eat?

One might ask, “What shall we eat the seventh year?” This precise question is asked and answered in Leviticus 25:20-21. Read this passage and discuss the blessings for obedience presented in the first half of Leviticus chapter 26. If you have kept the Sabbatical year(s) in the past, share with others your experiences and helpful advice.

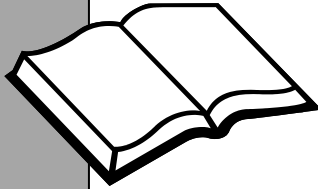
### Further Study

Both Leviticus 25 and Deuteronomy 15 in their entirety should be studied in detail for a greater understanding of this special Sabbath rest unto the land. Note that this specific commandment is also mentioned in Exodus 23.

### What shall we eat?

# The Jubilee Year

## Scripture Highlight



### Leviticus 25:10-13

And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout *all* the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family. A jubile shall that fiftieth year be unto you: ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather *the* grapes in it of thy vine undressed. For it *is* the jubile; it shall be holy unto you: ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. In the year of this jubile ye shall return every man unto his possession.

### Leviticus 25:2

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD.

### Isaiah 37:30 (also 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 19:29)

And this *shall* be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat *this* year such as groweth of itself; and the second year that which springeth of the same: and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof.

## Scripture Highlight

## Study

### A Pattern Practiced Every Spring

The next Jubilee year is 2045. Look back to the chart presented on the lesson on how the day of Pentecost is calculated each year, then examine the chart below and find the pattern:

						Sabbath
1996						2002
						2009
						2016
						2023
						2030
						2037
						2044
2045						

## Discussion

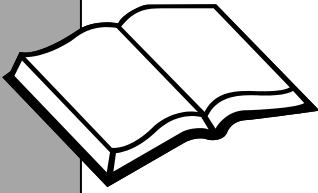
### 3<sup>rd</sup> year offering

The Jubilee year is a year of release and forgiveness. As you have studied, every seven years a release of debts is also made. However, there are always those in need that we must remember to help, not because of debt, but because of our blessing and increase due to obeying our Heavenly Father's commandments. One such ordinance is a commandment found in Deuteronomy 14:28-29 and 26:12. Read these passages and discuss how you might help others.

### Blessings or Curses

Leviticus 26 is a chapter that details both blessings and curses due to either obedience or disobedience. The description of the curses begins at verse 14. The curses overlap in seven year patterns during a 49 year Jubilee cycle. Read and discuss how these blessings or curses have affected you and your nation during the current Jubilee cycle. See also Deuteronomy 28.

# The Sabbaths are a Sign



## ***Scripture Highlight***

### **Exodus 31:15-17**

Six days may work be done; but in the seventh *is* the sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth *any* work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, *for* a perpetual covenant. It *is* a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

### **Ezekiel 20:20**

And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I *am* the LORD your God.

### **Deuteronomy 6:6-8**

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

## ***Study and Discussion***

In addition to the *Scripture Highlight* above, read also Exodus 13:9, Deuteronomy 11:18, and the entirety of Ezekiel chapter 20 and discuss. The Sabbaths are a sign to you so that you know who you are serving.

### **Concerning Prophecy**

The books of Daniel and Revelation contain much prophecy. With your knowledge of the Sabbaths, review the following passages and discuss in relation to the Sabbaths:

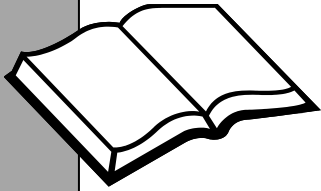
- There is much talk about another mark these days: “mark of the beast”  
Revelation 13:16 & 20:4
- The enemy seeks to “change times and laws”  
Daniel 7:25
- There is a seal of God that is looked for  
Revelation 7:3, 9:4, & 14:1

### **Why are People Marked, and Who does it?**

Spiritual markings are not random. They are for a reason. Both righteousness and sin cause one to receive a mark. Review Psalms 37:37 and Job 10:14, then ask and answer the question: “*Why* are people marked, and *Who* marks them?”

# Running the Good Race

## Scripture Highlight



### John 2:1-11

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*. And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare *it*. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: *but* thou hast kept the good wine until now. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

### Acts 20:24

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:24-27

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

## Discussion

Surely there is a reward for the righteous (this statement is paraphrased from *Psalms 58:11* and *Proverbs 23:18*). Consider that the first miracle of Christ was at a wedding feast. This fact is *very* significant! Discuss some parables and your deeper insights into the various Appointed Times that you have learned about and how they may be associated with each other.

On more than one occasion, The Apostle Paul relates his journey in life to keep the faith as a race – one that he is determined to win. He is determined not only to receive the gift of salvation, but also to strive for righteousness (see *Isaiah 61:10* which describes two separate articles of clothing). Discuss with others how you might journey together in your pursuit of righteousness while doing the many things you have learned from the lessons presented in this booklet.



# Calendar Exercise

## The Spring

As an exercise to better understand when the yearly Sabbaths occur in the spring, try using this tool. Since Scriptural days begin in the evening, determine ahead of time whether you will be writing down dates of the evening, or the following day.

To begin, Write the modern date that the new moon is sighted on the first month of spring in the box below:

**Modern Date that the new moon is sighted in the spring to begin the first Hebrew Month**

Next, count out to the 14<sup>th</sup> day and write that date on the first line of the chart below, then fill the days that follow:

Modern Date	Hebrew Day	Yearly Sabbath Days
	14	Passover
	15	Day 1 of Unleavened Bread
	16	Day 2 of Unleavened Bread
	17	Day 3 of Unleavened Bread
	18	Day 4 of Unleavened Bread
	19	Day 5 of Unleavened Bread
	20	Day 6 of Unleavened Bread
	21	Day 7 of Unleavened Bread

Firstfruits will occur on the day of the week after the *Weekly Sabbath* in the chart above. Write the date after the *Weekly Sabbath* from the chart above into the box below:

**Modern date for Firstfruits**

Firstfruits

Finally, the Yearly Sabbath of Pentecost will occur on the first day of the week after seven Sabbaths have been fulfilled from Firstfruits. So, count out fifty days from the date of Firstfruits in the box above and write that date in the box below:

**Modern date of Pentecost**

Pentecost

## The Fall

As an exercise to better understand when the yearly Sabbaths occur in the Fall, try using this tool. Since Scriptural days begin in the evening, determine ahead of time whether you will be writing down dates of the evening, or the following day.

To begin, Write the modern date that the new moon is sighted on the seventh month in the box below:

**Modern Date that the new moon is sighted in the fall to begin the seventh Hebrew Month. This day is the Sabbath of Trumpets.**

Trumpets

Next, count out to the 10<sup>th</sup> day and write that date in the box below:

**Modern date for Atonement**

Atonement

Finally, count out five more days to the 15<sup>th</sup> day and write that date the first line of the chart below, then fill the days that follow:

Modern Date	Hebrew Day	Yearly Sabbath Days
	15	Day 1 of Tabernacles
	16	Day 2 of Tabernacles
	17	Day 3 of Tabernacles
	18	Day 4 of Tabernacles
	19	Day 5 of Tabernacles
	20	Day 6 of Tabernacles
	21	Day 7 of Tabernacles
	22	Day 8 of Tabernacles

This exercise was designed to fit on one page; however, there may be better tools out there for calculating these. If you know of one, share it with others. In addition, try finding out when the moon was sighted to start the Hebrew Year started in a previous year and use that date to begin this exercise for practice.



# Historical Notes

Passover: The story of the Exodus and every single detail of this miraculous event was a prelude of the time when our Messiah was going to be killed as our Passover Lamb – just as the Passover lambs gathered by the shepherd priests around Bethlehem were killed on this very same day, the 14<sup>th</sup> of the first month every year. Noah, Abraham, and Lot all kept this time of the year long before there was ever anyone known as a Jew.

Firstfruits: The Wave Sheaf day is the day our Messiah ascended to Heaven with the captives that were dead and brought back to life at this same time.

Unleavened Bread: The 7th day of Unleavened Bread is believed to be the day the Hebrews crossed the Red Sea putting Egypt and sin out of their lives for good.

Pentecost: The Feast of Pentecost is believed to be the day the Ten Commandments were given. Also on this very same day, the Holy Spirit was given to the Apostles. There are seven Sabbaths that occur before this day from the time of the Firstfruits. (\*see note below)

Trumpets: The Feast of Trumpets is the Feast that comes at a day or an hour that no man can know. Similar to the time that a baby is to be born, one cannot predict with certainty what exact day the mother is to give birth. No One Knows the Day or the Hour. This is believed to be the day our Messiah was born on, and it is also the same day He is going to come back on. This is why there is shouting for joy along with the blowing of party horns, known as shofars.

Atonement: The very somber Day of Atonement is the day when God himself said that *He* would die for our sins and put the blame back on the guilty one who caused it, Satan, who is then led away by a strong man on this very day. This is when you are cleansed and your sins are forgotten.

Tabernacles: The Feast of Tabernacles is a wedding party for 7 whole days. This is the day we are to be married to the Messiah. All of Christendom awaits this day, but far too many do not know or understand this day because they have done away with the laws that teach it.

The Last Great Day: The last day of Tabernacles is known as the 8th Day Feast which shows us that on this day Yehovah is going to come and dwell us. It is our new beginning.

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\* The time between Firstfruits and Pentecost each year is also teaching about the Jubilee Years of Leviticus chapters 25 and 26, as a Jubilee year occurs after seven complete Sabbatical Years. From counting the Jubilee years, one can know when the 7th Millennium Rest spoken of in Hebrews is to begin. Only by understanding the counting of the Jubilee Years, can one understand Daniel's 70 weeks prophecy: this is the 70 Jubilee Year prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 that is a proclamation of 70x49 years from the time Moses was given his commission at the burning bush for the Hebrews to leave slavery and become a nation 2451 years – or after 50 Jubilee Years – from creation, in the year 1386 BC.

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Two Jubilee years directly mentioned in Scripture:

2500 years after creation, or 1337 BC (the year Joshua entered the promised land):

**Leviticus 25:2-4** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD. Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

3136 years after creation, or 701 BC (Hezekiah is given knowledge of the Jubilee year as a sign):

**2nd Kings 19:29** And this *shall be* a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof.

More can be read about this king, Hezekiah, and his dealings with the king of Assyria, Sennacherib, by reading the accounts in Isaiah 37 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 32. One very appealing piece of archeology worthy of researching is *Sennacherib's Annals*, stone artifacts from this time period which are preserved in museums. Although there are numerous accounts of other Sabbatical years recorded by historians from Roman records and coins and most prolifically in the Jewish tombstones of Zoar, *Sennacherib's Annals* are most notable for describing Scriptural account of the siege of Jerusalem during Hezekiah's reign and thus allowing historians to put modern dates on these particular events described in Scripture.

49 Year Jubilee Cycles (in columns sorted by "Millennial Days")													
Years Counting From Creation							Modern Counting of Years						
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
49	1029	2009	2989	3969	4949	5929	-3788	-2808	-1828	-848	133	1113	2093
98	1078	2058	3038	4018	4998	5978	-3739	-2759	-1779	-799	182	1162	2142
147	1127	2107	3087	4067	5047	6027	-3690	-2710	-1730	-750	231	1211	2191
196	1176	2156	3136	4116	5096	6076	-3641	-2661	-1681	-701	280	1260	2240
245	1225	2205	3185	4165	5145	6125	-3592	-2612	-1632	-652	329	1309	2289
294	1274	2254	3234	4214	5194	6174	-3543	-2563	-1583	-603	378	1358	2338
343	1323	2303	3283	4263	5243	6223	-3494	-2514	-1534	-554	427	1407	2387
392	1372	2352	3332	4312	5292	6272	-3445	-2465	-1485	-505	476	1456	2436
441	1421	2401	3381	4361	5341	6321	-3396	-2416	-1436	-456	525	1505	2485
490	1470	2450	3430	4410	5390	6370	-3347	-2367	-1387	-407	574	1554	2534
539	1519	2499	3479	4459	5439	6419	-3298	-2318	-1338	-358	623	1603	2583
588	1568	2548	3528	4508	5488	6468	-3249	-2269	-1289	-309	672	1652	2632
637	1617	2597	3577	4557	5537	6517	-3200	-2220	-1240	-260	721	1701	2681
686	1666	2646	3626	4606	5586	6566	-3151	-2171	-1191	-211	770	1750	2730
735	1715	2695	3675	4655	5635	6615	-3102	-2122	-1142	-162	819	1799	2779
784	1764	2744	3724	4704	5684	6664	-3053	-2073	-1093	-113	868	1848	2828
833	1813	2793	3773	4753	5733	6713	-3004	-2024	-1044	-64	917	1897	2877
882	1862	2842	3822	4802	5782	6762	-2955	-1975	-995	-15	966	1946	2926
931	1911	2891	3871	4851	5831	6811	-2906	-1926	-946	35	1015	1995	2975
980	1960	2940	3920	4900	5880	6860	-2857	-1877	-897	84	1064	2044	3024

(note: the number shown in each box is the completed number of years of that cycle or the last year of that particular 49 year cycle. A Jubilee Year occurs the following year.)

# Calendar Timing Review

To observe the calendar properly, it is important to understand the timing. Each new year does not start at midnight on January 1<sup>st</sup>, as the world commonly observes it, but rather at the first sighting of the new moon in the spring when the winter barley crops in Israel are in a state of ripeness called “Abib” (sometimes pronounced “Aviv”) in Hebrew. In fact, Scripture calls the first month of the year Abib:

**Exodus 13:4** – This day came ye out in the month Abib.

Abib is the first month of the year, a beginning of months:

**Exodus 12:1-2** – And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: *it shall be* the first month of the year to you.

The *Feast of Passover* is in this first month:

**Deuteronomy 16:1** – Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto the LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

The week long *Feast of Unleavened Bread* (which contains *FirstFruits*) is also in this month:

**Exodus 23:15** – Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

**Exodus 34:18** – The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.

Knowing when the year begins, that is when the month of Abib begins, is crucial to keeping the yearly appointed feasts at the proper time! Without seeking to discover when the year actually begins, one cannot know the proper time of the appointed times in the month of Abib or when to start counting out to Pentecost (known as the Feast of Weeks) which occurs on the day after seven Sabbaths have been completed from the Feast of Firstfruits. Many, by relying on preprinted calendars that mathematically *guess* on the dates of the appointed times years ahead of time, have been known to observe the holy in error in the amount of days and even over a month away from the proper time.

The Feast of Trumpets, that comes at a day or hour that no one but our father in heaven can know, announces the beginning of the seventh month of the year. By knowing when the first and seventh month begin, one can count out to the proper evenings in which the appointed feast times occur.

Index to timing of yearly appointed times as per Leviticus 23		
Leviticus 23:5	Passover	14 <sup>th</sup> day of the first month, known as Abib
Leviticus 23:6	Unleavened Bread	Starts the 15 <sup>th</sup> day of the first month (day after Passover)
Leviticus 23:10-11	Firstfruits	The day after the weekly Sabbath after Passover
Leviticus 23:15-16	Pentecost	The 50 <sup>th</sup> day after Firstfruits (day after 7 weekly Sabbaths)
Leviticus 23:24	Trumpets	The first day of the seventh month
Leviticus 23:27	Atonement	The tenth day of the seventh month
Leviticus 23:39	Tabernacles	Starts the 15 <sup>th</sup> day of the seventh month

# Calendar Examples

## Example of how Appointed Times occur in Arbitrary Spring and Fall Months

An Arbitrary Spring Month of "Abib"						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				new year 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	Passover 14	Unlvd Bread 1 15	16	17
Firstfruits 18	19	20	21	Unlvd Bread 7 22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

An Arbitrary Fall "Seventh" Month						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			Trumpet 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	Atonemt 10	11
12	13	14	Tabncles first day 15	16	17	18
19	20	21	Tabncles 7th day 22	Tabncles 8th day 25	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Example of counting out 7 Sabbaths to Pentecost

An Arbitrary Month of "Abib"						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				new year 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	Passover 14	Unlvd Bread 1 *	*	*
Firstfruits *	*	*	*	Unlvd Bread 7 *	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
*	*	*	*	*	*	Sabbath *
Pentecst *	*	*	*	*	*	*

It is important to note that the first day of the months in each of these examples could have occurred on any day of the week. Also note that the labels for the days of the week in the examples are shifted slightly to the right to remind the reader that days begin and end at sundown.

Another important observation is that the counting of Sabbaths between Firstfruits and Pentecost each year compares to the pattern one observes with the Sabbatical and Jubilee years. Consider the additional example of the current Sabbatical Cycle presented below:

### Current Sabbatical Cycle

Jubilee 1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	Sabbath 2002
2003	2004	2004	2006	2007	2008	Sabbath 2009
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Sabbath 2016
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Sabbath 2023
2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Sabbath 2030
2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	Sabbath 2037
2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	Sabbath 2044
Jubilee 2045						