

Series – God gives us Reasons to Celebrate

Celebration of His Presence *Festival of Booths*

Exodus 12 & 23, Leviticus 23, Numbers 28 & 29, Deuteronomy 16

God loves parties! The nation of Israel had 7 national parties. Jesus loves parties! His first miracle was at a wedding celebration. He mentions parties in many of His parables, but He also was known for celebrating Himself:

“The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, ‘He’s a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!’ Luke 7:34

Month	Feast	Celebrated	Christ fulfilled	Event	Concept
1	Passover	Deliverance from Egypt	Passover Lamb	Crucifixion	Justification
1	Unleavened Bread	Flight into wilderness	Body of Christ	Burial	Sanctification
1	First fruits	Beginning of harvest	First Fruit	Resurrection	Glorification
3	Weeks	Wheat harvest	Holy Spirit sent	Pentecost	Power
7	Trumpets	Sabbath	Gathering	Meeting in sky	Rapture
7	Day of Atonement	Sacrifice for sin	Shed His Blood	2 nd coming	Remnant
7	Booths	Tabernacle	Dwelling in us	New Heaven	Eternal dwelling

All celebrated 1. History, 2. Harvest, 3. His Story -for us to see, learn and celebrate today.

4 Fulfilled by Christ while here on earth

Passover – Christ was identified as the Lamb of God and died as a sacrifice for sin

John 1:29, 36 “Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Unleavened Bread – He was sinless *2 Corinthians 5:21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

First Fruits – Christ is resurrected – *1 Corinthians 15:20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

Pentecost – Christ sent the Holy Spirit upon His disciples *Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

The Seven were made into three – three times a year all men of Israel must come to Jerusalem and celebrate *Jesus said I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life*

The final 3, Trumpet, Day of Atonement and Booths or Tabernacles are yet to be completed

3 Parts of Festival of Booths or Tabernacles or Shelters

1. Trumpet -Proclamation of the beginning of the holy days, - looked to the future fall of Jericho at the sound of the trumpets and ultimately to the Trumpet of the Lord at the time of the rapture of believers

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

2. Day of Atonement – Day of repentance and confession, - looks ahead to Israel seeing Jesus as the Christ and repenting when He comes visibly again as He promised.

Zechariah 12:10 “Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on the people of Jerusalem. They will look on me whom they have pierced and mourn for him as for an only son. They will grieve bitterly for him as for a firstborn son who has died.

John 19:36-37 These things happened in fulfillment of the Scriptures that say, “Not one of his bones will be broken,” and “They will look on the one they pierced.”

3. Booths (also called Day of Tabernacles or Ingathering or Shelters) **Read Leviticus 23:33-44**

I. What was its beginning and how was it celebrated by Israel

A. It commemorated the journey from slavery to the promised land and the fruitfulness of the land

During the 40 years in the wilderness God dwelt among them in the Tabernacle

They were brought in only by His grace into the land “flowing with milk and honey”

B. They celebrated it by living for 7 days(plus a bonus day) in "booths" made of branches

Joyously - They offered praise to the Lord and extensive sacrifices

Expensive worship - On the first day 13 bulls, two rams and 14 sheep – each day one less bull for a total of 71 bulls, 15 rams, 105 Sheep and 8 goats.

C. Later the Pouring out of Water and the Festival of Lights were added to the celebration

Water was carried from the pool of Siloam and poured out before the Lord – celebrating life.

Huge golden lampstands (75 feet, 25 meters high) filled with oil and set ablaze –the Glory of God

II. How will it be fulfilled by Christ

A. He has already begun – it began in the incarnation

John 1:14 So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

“Made His home” literally pitched His tent or tabernacled among us.

B. He comes to us in salvation and dwells in us

John 14:23 Jesus replied, “All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.

C. We become the Temple where God lives as Father, Son and Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you?

1Corinthians 6:19 Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,

D. He is also the fulfillment of the living Water and the Light

John 7:38 Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’”

John 8:12 Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.”

III. What will be the final fulfillment

A. He is the only way to have fellowship with God

Ephesians 2:18 Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.

B. He is the joy and glory of God in us

John 16:24 You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C. He is the Temple in Heaven

Revelation 21:22 I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

D. He will dwell forever among His redeemed people

Revelation 21:3-4 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”

What does this mean for us today?

Do we keep celebrating the Jewish festivals? – No but we should study to see Christ in them.

Colossians 2:16-17 So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. They are only a shadow of the reality we have in Christ

Instead we should

1. Remember the faithfulness of God in the Past
2. Rejoice in the goodness of God in the Present
3. Revel in the glory of God prepared for our future

Practical steps - Write down

1. a specific way that God has been faithful in the past.
2. how God is showing His goodness to you right now.
3. a specific future blessing that you can rejoice in.

Share what you have written down with others!!