

Eight Days that Changed the World – Part II

Festivals (miqra: Holy Convocations)

The Sabbath

1. Passover: 14th of Nissan
2. Unleavened Bread: 15th of Nissan
3. Festival of First Fruits: Sunday following the Passover
4. Festival of Weeks (Pentecost): Seven Sabbaths (49 days) after First Fruits
5. Festival of Trumpets
6. The Day of Atonement
7. Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)

Jesus Cleanses the temple in preparation for Passover and unleavened bread

- [Exo 12:15] 'Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. For whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.
- [Exo 12:19] 'For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, since whoever eats what is leavened, that same person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether [he is] a stranger or a native of the land.
- [Exo 13:7] "Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days. And no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor shall leaven be seen among you in all your quarters.
- [Exo 34:25] "You shall not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leaven, nor shall the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover be left until morning.

Israel is referred to as God's vineyard, fig tree or planting

Judges 9:8–15; Isa. 3:14, 5:1–7; Jer. 12:10; Ezek. 17:2–10; 19:10–14

The first fruits of the harvest belong to God

[Exo 23:19] "The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God. You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

- [Neh 10:35] And [we made ordinances] to bring the firstfruits of our ground and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, to the house of the LORD;
- [Neh 10:36]
- to bring the firstborn of our sons and our cattle, as [it is] written in the Law, and the firstborn of our herds and our flocks, to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God;
- [Neh 10:37]
- to bring the firstfruits of our dough, our offerings, the fruit from all kinds of trees, [the] new wine and oil, to the priests, to the storerooms of the house of our God; and to bring the tithes of our land to the Levites, for the Levites should receive the tithes in all our farming communities.

Israel must yield spiritual fruit as his covenant people

- [Psa 1:1-3] Blessed [is] the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight [is] in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, **That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither**; And whatever he does shall prosper.
- [Jer 17:8-10] For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit. "The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], And desperately wicked; Who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, [I] test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

The time had come for God's people to yield fruit that would bless the world

[Isa 27:6] Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob; Israel shall blossom and bud, And fill the face of the world with fruit.

Application

Sin must be removed from our life.

Jesus came to set us free from the law of sin and death. We must not walk in the flesh but in the Spirit. The flesh/Law brings a curse, but those who walk in the Spirit are not under the Law.

WE MUST ALSO PRODUCE FRUIT. Parable of the sower and the seed

[Luk 8:14] "Now the ones [that] fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

[Gal 5:22-24] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those [who are] Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.