

## DELIVERANCE FROM BONDAGE—A LESSON IN ALL THE FEASTS

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Each of the God's Feast Days, from the Sabbath to the Last Great Day, celebrate a memorial of God's ability to save us from bondage, sin, death and an enemy.

### The Sabbath

In the two chapters known for their list of the Ten Commandments, the Lord gives two reasons for the Sabbath:

- **Exodus. 20:11** – 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.
- **Deuteronomy 5:15** – And remember that thou was a servant in the land of Egypt, and *that* the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the Sabbath day.

### Unleavened Bread

The second reason given for the Sabbath in Deuteronomy 5:15 links the Sabbath and Unleavened Bread together because they share a memorial of the Exodus. This begins to give us the idea that perhaps all of God's Feasts are part of His Sabbath Commandment. Here we compare the Sabbath and Unleavened Bread to see that they are both portrayed as memorials of the rescue from Egypt.

- **Exodus 13:7-10** – Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters. And thou shall show thy son in that day, saying, *This is done* because of that *which* the LORD did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt. And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes, that the LORD'S law may be in thy mouth: for with a strong hand hath the LORD brought thee out of Egypt. Thou shall therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.

### Pentecost

But there is another piece of evidence found in Deuteronomy 16 that connects another Feast to the same memorial:

- **Deuteronomy 16:10-12** – And thou shall keep the Feast of Weeks [Pentecost] unto the LORD thy God with a tribute of a freewill offering of your hand, which thou shall give unto the LORD thy God, according as the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.... And thou shall remember that thou was a bondman in Egypt: and thou shall observe and do these statutes.

### The Feast of Trumpets

The Feast of Trumpets is the only Feast that falls on a new moon. Here we see it in Psalm 81, a Psalm of deliverance, where the Bible includes this feast in the same memorial:

- **Psalm 81:3-10** – Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. For this *was* a statute for Israel, *and* a law of the God of Jacob. This he ordained in Joseph *for* a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: *where* I heard a language *that* I understood not. I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots. Thou called in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. *Selah*. Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me; there shall no strange god be in thee; neither shall thou worship any strange god. I *am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.

### **The Day of Atonement**

We can see a future incidence subtly shown for the Day of Atonement in Daniel 8:13-14 How long will the Little Horn persecute? For “2300 evening-mornings, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed” as Christ saves us finally from the bondage of our sin and those who would rule over us.

This theme of deliverance is also seen in a second way on the Day of Atonement.

- **Leviticus 25:9** – Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

The Day of Atonement marks the announcement of the Jubilee on the 50<sup>th</sup> year when the slave would go free, the land would revert to its owner and all would finally be brought home.

### **The Feast of Tabernacles**

The Feast of Tabernacles has many lessons. But one of the most profound of these is about the Lord covering us under His shelter—or the booth, *sukkot* or tabernacle. This lesson brings to mind the many texts that say He will cover us with His wings and under His feathers we will find refuge. The most outstanding of these texts is in Isaiah 26:20 through Isaiah 27:1 where the Lord gives the people who live through the 7 Last Plagues the comfort that He will shield them. Along with this promise comes the guarantee that He will destroy the serpent who has enslaved us in sin and in death.

- **Isaiah 26:20-21 – Isaiah 27:1** – Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you; hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, until the indignation is past. For behold, the LORD comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth will also disclose her blood, and will no more cover her slain. In that day the LORD with His severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; and He will slay the Dragon that is in the sea.
- **Psalm 57:1-3** – Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; and in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge until these calamities have passed by. I will cry out to God Most High, to God who performs all things for me. He shall send from heaven and save me; He reproaches the one who would swallow me up. *Selah*. God shall send forth His mercy and His truth.

- **Psalm 91:1-4** – He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust.” Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

### **The Last Great Day**

The Last Great Day, the final Feast of the year, holds the direct promise of freedom from the grave and death. It is shown in Jesus’ words:

- **John 6:39-40** – This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”
- **John 6:40-44** – And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.” ... No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.
- **John 6:53-54** – Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”
- **John 7:37-38** – On the Last Day, that Great Day of the Feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

### **The Sabbath Commandment**

A real pattern is developed here.

- **The Sabbath** – “The LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm.”
- **Unleavened Bread** – “With a strong hand hath the LORD brought thee out of Egypt.”
- **Pentecost** – “Thou shall remember that you were a bondman in Egypt.”
- **Trumpets** – “I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots. ... I *am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt.”
- **Tabernacles** – “He shall send from heaven and save me.”
- **The Last Great Day** – “And I will raise him up on the Last Day.”

The Sabbath was given to us as a memorial of deliverance from slavery, and the rest of the Feasts hold this same memorial purpose. This shows the Feasts and the Sabbath to be linked together as part of God’s Sabbath Commandment. From beginning to end, all the lessons of the Feast Days reveal God’s Plan of Salvation and prove His ability to save us. ☐

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