

Feast of Tabernacles
(Time to Get Super Happy)

2019



There are many layers of meaning to the Feast of Tabernacles

BUT

there is one layer that I want to emphasize in this message in order to help us properly celebrate this Feast which will be arriving in just a few more days.

Scripture instructs us to celebrate all of the Feasts of God

BUT

There is one Feast in which He not only instructs us but specifically commands us to be happy for a total of seven days.

Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles

- *Lev 23:33-36 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the Lord. 35 On the first day (Monday, Oct 14, 2019 at 10:30am) there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it. . . . On the eighth day (Monday, Oct 21, 2019 at 11:15am) you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. . . .*

*Backdrop to this Feast Celebration is to
Be Super Happy*

- *Lev 23:40-42 And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days. 41 You shall keep it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. . . . You shall celebrate it in the seventh month.*
- *This is the first time in the OT where the word “rejoice” is mentioned. . . . we are not only to celebrate this Feast but we are to “rejoice” in it for seven days.*

*Every year we are to celebrate all of the Feasts of the LORD
(Passover/Days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement)
but the crescendo of our celebrations arrives when we get to the
Feast of Tabernacles.*

*God not only instructs us but commands us to celebrate this Feast
with extreme.... “Rejoicing”*

Extreme happiness, extreme cheerfulness, extreme joy!!!

*We are to celebrate this Feast with an
extra measure of
happiness, cheerfulness, elation, and joy
for seven days!!!*

*Not only during the two High Sabbath Days that fall during this
Feast celebration but for
all seven days of the Feast plus the Last Great Day!!!*

Feast of Ingathering

(Another Name for Feast of Tabernacles)

- Ex 23:14-16 "Three times (all of God's Festivals fall within three pilgrim Feasts where people were to go to Jerusalem) you shall keep a feast to Me in the year: 15 You shall keep the 1) Feast of Unleavened Bread (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days.... at the time appointed in the month of Abib,....none shall appear before Me empty); 16 and the 2) Feast of Harvest, the firstfruits of your labors which you have sown in the field; and the 3) Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you have gathered in the fruit of your labors from the field.

The Feast of Tabernacles was also referred to as the Feast of Ingathering because it was observed after the crops of fruit and nuts (autumn harvested crops) had been harvested and gathered.

After the end of working this harvest, it was time for a "Harvest Celebration"....they went to celebrate this Feast and they did it with a great amount of "Rejoicing-Happiness-Cheerfulness-Joy".

This Feast Was An End of the Year Harvest Festival

- *Deut 16:13-17 "You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. 14 And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter (celebrating this Feast with your entire household makes it extra joyous), your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates. 15 Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast. . . . in the place which the Lord chooses, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice.*

*We are to celebrate this Festival with an
“extreme level of joy”.*

*We are to “Rejoice before the LORD”
for seven days.*

Consequences of Not Rejoicing and Not Being Thankful

- *Deut 28:47-48 "Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything, 48 therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you.*
- *Here are the consequences for those who do not worship God with a grateful heart....with "joy and gladness" for the blessings God has given them....key to happiness is gratefulness.*

How to Prepare for this Feast

- Deut 14:22-27 *"You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year. 23 And you shall eat before the Lord your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks (the biblical principle is to save your money all year...the closer you come to obeying this principle, the better you and your family will be able to rejoice during the Feast), that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always (the ultimate goal to following this principle of saving your money is to fear God and draw closer to Him).*

How to Prepare for the Feast

- *24 But if the journey is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, or if the place where the Lord your God chooses to put His name is too far from you, when the Lord your God has blessed you, 25 then you shall exchange it for money, take the money in your hand, and go to the place which the Lord your God chooses. 26 And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.*

How Can We Rejoice in the 21st Century?

- *For those who have children, make the Feast special for them with Feast gifts. Parents are duty bound to help their children to rejoice during this Feast by doing special things for them.*
- *It is said that “the key to a man’s heart is through his stomach, but this applies also to women . . . everyone enjoys a fine meal. . . a meal that is an upgrade to what you usually have throughout the year. . . a fine cut of meat, a juicy steak, a avored delicacy, a favorite drink that you usually can’t afford during the year, . . . set the table with nice dishware and enjoy meals with family, . . . make the seven days of the Feast special.*

How Can We Rejoice in the 21st Century?

- *For your wife or girlfriend who needs a little bit of “retail therapy”, buy them a nice gift (nice dress, necklace, flowers, something special) and if you can’t afford this, at least do “extra nice things” for them....treat them extra special.*
- *In other words, make the seven days of the Feast as special as you can for one another so that you and your entire family will always look forward, not only to each of God’s Holy Days, but also to the Feast of Tabernacles....the only Feast that carries God’s command to “Rejoice Before the LORD”.*

What Does “Rejoicing Before the LORD” Really Mean?

- *The ultimate goal with all this “rejoicing” with all of these material-physical-temporary things is to “draw you and your family closer to your Heavenly Father, draw you closer to your Savior-Jesus the Messiah, and to draw you closer to all of His Feasts and to His Torah.*
- *All these physical celebrations mean nothing if they are detached and disconnected with the worship of God. They become idol worship when they are disconnected from God.*
- *Through technology, you can listen every day to Feast messages.*

During the Feast we will learn more about the meaning of this Feast and how it fits into God's Plan of Salvation.

But for now, plan on celebrating this Feast with God's commandment in mind...to

"Rejoice Before the LORD"