

A look at the first century church A-01

Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

■ **Subjects:**

- ◆ Back to celebrate those old Testament feasts?
- ◆ **Questions and more questions.**
- ◆ What is legalism, and what is pleasing God?
- ◆ Comparison between legalism and pleasing God.
- ◆ **A word of Caution** - Rabbi Schneider - Blessville, MI
- ◆ More Questions and Answers.
- ◆ **Prophetic application** “The Lord’s Feasts” for each Believer
- ◆ **Conclusions.**

A look at the first century church A-02

Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **Series subjects: - focus is on nr 6, 7 , and 8.**
 - ◆ 1. The importance of God's Word, and "words" (Heb 4:12).
 - ◆ 2. The sources used by Jesus and the disciples
 - ◆ 3. The 1st century churches had NO New Testament, only the Hebrew Scriptures.
 - ◆ 4. First Century church "services", Constantine - Roman Emperor, introduced the recognition of buildings as churches. Why anything Jewish was removed from the church. Syncretism defined. Church councils still fighting Jewish influences seven hundred years later.
 - ◆ 5. The Scriptural definitions of 3 words: Righteousness, Covenant, and Holiness.
 - ◆ 6. Passover, Unleavened Bread, Day of Firstfruits, 3 "connected" feasts.
 - ◆ 7. Shavuot or Pentecost.
 - ◆ 8. Rosh HaShannah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles.

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **Questions:**
- **WHY** would followers of Jesus go back to celebrate those old Testament Jewish feasts of Leviticus 23?
- What does that have to do with worship of The Lord?
- Have we not been told these feast days were done away with?
- Were not these feasts non-sense and **legalistic?**
- Do we have to become Jewish in order to serve The Lord?
- Don't we put ourselves "under the LAW" when we do Old Testament things?
- Is the Old Testament relevant today?

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- To answer these questions inevitably leads to answering:
- **More Questions:**
 - ◆ **What is legalism?**
 - ◆ **Can obeying Deuteronomy 6 - to teach our children God's ways - be legalistic?**
 - ◆ Deu 6:6-7 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: (7) 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.
 - ◆ **Can pleasing God be wrong?**
 - ◆ **What is the difference between legalism and pleasing God?**

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **Answers:**
- **Jesus speaks firmly AGAINST legalism: Mat 23:2-4, Mar 7:5-13 (LITV)**
- **Mat 23:2-4** saying, The scribes and the Pharisees have sat down on Moses' seat. Then all things, whatever they tell you to keep, keep and do. But do not do according to their works, for they say, and do not do. For they bind heavy and hard to bear burdens, and lay *them* on the shoulders of men, but they do not desire to move them with their finger.
- **Mar 7:5-13** Then the Pharisees and scribes questioned Him, Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands? 6 And answering, He said to them, Well did Isaiah prophesy concerning you, hypocrites; as it has been written: "This people honors Me with the lips, but their heart is far away from Me; 7 and in vain they worship Me, teaching *as* doctrines the commandments of men." *Isa. 29:13* 8 For forsaking the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men: immersings of utensils and cups, and many other such like things you do. 9 And He said to them, Well do you to set aside the commandment of God so that you may keep your tradition? 10 For Moses said, "Honor your father and your mother;" *Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16* and, "The one speaking evil of father or mother, let him expire by death." *Ex. 21:17* 11 But you say, If a man says to his father or mother, Corban, (which is, A gift!) whatever you may profit by me. 12 And you no longer allow him to do anything for *his* father or mother, 13 making the Word of God of no effect by your tradition which you delivered. And many such like things you do.
- **The difference between legalism and to seek to please God is found in the heart.**

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **ANSWERS:**
- Difference between Worship and obedience:
- Responding to God in worship and obedience to His Word is evidence of our gratefulness for His gift to us.
- Comparison between legalism and pleasing God:
 - ◆ Legalism is focused on a **system**.
 - ◆ Desiring to please God is focused on a **relationship**.
 - ◆ Legalism is focused on **the minimum** of what is required.
 - ◆ Desiring to please God is focused on **love from within**.

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **Comparison between legalism and pleasing God:**
(continued)
 - ◆ Legalism asks “**How can I meet the requirements?**”
 - ◆ Desiring to please God asks, “**What is the Lord telling me about His desires through His instruction?**”
 - ◆ Legalism is horrid, for if it were possible to **earn a relationship with God**, in and of ourselves, Christ’s death was pointless.
 - ◆ Desiring to please God is obeying His command—to love Him with all our heart, mind, and soul. **Loving God can never be legalistic.**

A look at the first century church A-08

Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- *Excelent resource is the book:*
- *“A Family Guide to the Biblical Holidays, with activities for all ages, by Robin Sampson and Linda Pierce, ISBN: 978 097 018 1602*

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **A word of caution from Rabbi K. Schneider,**
- *TV program “The Jewish Jesus”, March 2014.*
- Since the 1960-ies many Jewish people found the Messiah.
- Many Messianic Synagogues were formed.
- Jewish Messianic Judaism movement started growing faster.
- Also, among Gentile Christians there was an awakening of the Jewish roots of the Church.
- These awakenings among Jews and Gentiles do point to the prophetic times we now live in.
- As with any move of The Spirit, **there are dangers with the interpretation of how we as believers react to the move of The Holy Spirit.**

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **WARNING #1** *Rabbi K. Schneider, March 2014*
 - ◆ “Stay on course”, both, for Jews and Gentiles, see Yehuah in all that one does.
 - ◆ Keep things in balance.
 - ◆ Feasts are shadows of things to come, Jesus is the substance.
- **WARNING #2**
 - ◆ Do NOT put the FOCUS on “Jewish things”.
 - ◆ Be careful with Hebrew language.
 - ◆ Answer: Jesus is the center.
 - ◆ Do NOT stop to make and keep Jesus at the center.

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **WARNING #2 - continued** *Rabbi K. Schneider, March 2014*
 - ◆ John 5 talks about Jesus having life in Him.
 - ◆ Also Romans 7 talks about “the letter is NOT life”.
 - ◆ Rom 7:6 *But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.*
 - ◆ 2Co 3:6 *Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*
 - ◆ **Some Gentiles are taking pride in being a few % Jewish.**

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **WARNING #2 - continued** *Rabbi K. Schneider, March 2014*
 - ◆ Do NOT look for taking pride in Identity of Jewishness.
 - ◆ Philipians 3:2-3, true circumcision, the Believer's **Identity is in Jesus, NOT Jewishness!**
- *(Inserted:)* John 8:39 talks about Abraham is our Father,
- John 8:39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do **the works of Abraham.**
- *Note: For a nice explanation of "The WORKS of Abraham", see the April 19 letter from Dr. Garr. (came in the mail today)*

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **WARNING #3**
- Guard against being puffed up by knowledge.
- **WARNING #4**
- Guard against the Spirit of antagonism; some believers say, I do NOT call myself a Christian but Messianic Jewish believer.
- The truth is that **ALL Believers in the Resurrected Jesus**, the Messiah, are children of our Father Abraham by Faith and are grafted into the Abrahamic Covenant by Grace.
- *See references; Rom 4:16, Galatians 3:7, 3:9, 3:14, 3:29.*
- **WARNING #5**
- Some avoid the Gentile Church because of elements of paganism.¹²

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **WARNING #6**
- Off track theologically: some start emphasizing the Law because Jesus kept the Law..... didn't He?
- **Answer:** Jesus was keeping the TORAH, Instructions or Teachings, and is the only man to ever keep ALL the commandments perfectly, thereby "FULFILLING" the TORAH.
- Jesus did not come to do away with (or destroy) the Law, the TORAH, but to fulfill. See Matthew 5:17.
- Mat 5:17 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. (KJV)*
- **BUT,**

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **WARNING #6 - continued**
- **Rom 7:2-3 Husband dies free from the law, Jesus died.**
- **We as the “Bride of Christ” are free:**
- *Rom 7:1-3 how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? (2) For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. (3) So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.*
- **Rom 7:4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.**

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Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **WARNING #6 - continued**
- **Jesus His yoke is easy, burden light, yoke is His heart, His Spirit.**
- *Mat 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Mat 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: **and ye shall find rest unto your souls.***
- **Mat 11:30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**
- **Jesus wants us to be FREE,**
- **Jesus want us to have LIFE,**
- **Jesus does NOT want us to BURDEN,**
- **Jesus does NOT want us to return to that which HE paid for to get us FREE from!**
- **We are made perfect , HAVE full access to The Father and HE desires intimate fellowship **AS WE ARE!****

A look at the first century church A-17

Questions and Answers - The feasts of the Lord

- **Question: WHY did The Lord command these FEASTS?**
- **ANSWERS:**
- Christians are to celebrate these feasts to deepen our understanding of God's plan and His Word.
- God reveals His plan thru The Feasts.
- Sabbath - reminds us GOD "rested" after the creation "work", and it points to the future time His created ones are going to "rest" also during the Seventh Great Day.
- **Question: If today's children would be raised in the Biblical truth of the creation Sabbath and Passover redemption understanding, would they fall for the deception of evolution?**

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **ANSWERS: - continued**
- The Biblical feasts ARE teachings of His LOVE to us and how HE wants the Believers to know His plan for the future !!
- GOD wants us to know and understand our future !!
- Question: Can you now see WHY satan is so obsessed with having these feast eliminated from the Body of Believers?
- satan did it as early as possible in the Church history! It took him only a few hundred years and was one of the first things satan accomplished: Separate the Gentile Believer from the **ORDAINED** things of GOD!! he almost succeeded

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **ANSWERS: - continued**
- Always ask: Who benefits?
- Does satan look out for my well being?
- satan will quote **a half truth** but NEVER let you know at what **COST** it comes when you follow his advice!
- We have the answer by what Yeshua said in John 10:10
- Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (KJV)

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Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **CONCLUSIONS:**
- When we as Christians, (Community of Messiah), lose the knowledge of the "FEASTS OF THE LORD", we lose our "time line" in the prophetic plan of God.
- The Lord's feasts **connect us** to the "Prophetic fulfillment", and the Time Line of God.
- The benefit the believers receive is knowing about **the character** of God and **the plan** of God

A look at the first century church A-21

Questions and Answers - **The feasts of the Lord**

- **CONCLUSIONS:**
- We need to remember that our Righteousness comes thru Jesus (Yeshua), NOT by doing or observing the Feasts.
- Jesus fulfilled the Torah / Instructions or Teachings, because he is the only man to ever keep ALL the commandments perfectly.
- Jesus did not come to do away with (or destroy, or annul) the TORAH, but to fulfill. See Matthew 5:17.
- Jesus fulfilled the first 4 feasts literally, and in the future will fulfill the last 3 feasts.
- We remember and celebrate these feast because of our love for Jesus and they teach us about the purpose for which Jesus came into the world.