



# LEVITICUS 23:9-14, 22

## LESSON: BRINGING FIRSTFRUITS — May 13, 2018

### INTRODUCTION:

**Chapter 23** The Lord speaks to Moses so he can speak to the children of Israel regarding the feasts of the Lord to proclaim as holy convocations. "*Convocation*" is a holy day; a holy assembly called and the people are gathered together reforming from all forms of work which some including the Sabbath and etc. to bring focus of the Lord's blessings. Israel celebrates seven Lord's feasts proclaimed as holy convocations. Six days to work and the seventh to be the Sabbath rest. Saturday was their Sabbath rest on which no servile work was to be done. However, Christ's resurrection changed our Sabbath, the day for weekly worship/rest to Sunday, the first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). The Israelites worked and rested at the end of the week, but we rest first and then go forth to serve the Lord on the remaining. Now Moses is to talk to them about holy festivals they are to observe, called "*feasts*." "*Feasts*" did not mean just eating but appointed times to celebrate God's intervention in history or His daily care. Six days they were to work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, a holy convocation, a Sabbath of the Lord in all their dwellings. It was not one of the annual "*feast*" days, but was recognized every seventh day. And the Jewish people were expected to honor it. To dishonor it meant death (Num. 15:32-36) (23:1-3).

There are seven feasts Israel celebrated...

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <u>Passover</u>               | } The Spring Feasts |
| 2. <u>Unleavened Bread</u>       |                     |
| 3. <u>First Fruits</u>           |                     |
| 4. <u>The Weeks or Pentecost</u> | } The Fall Feasts   |
| 5. <u>Trumpets</u>               |                     |
| 6. <u>Atonement</u>              |                     |
| 7. <u>Tabernacles</u>            |                     |

#### Symbolisms -Already Fulfilled

Passover represents the Death of Christ.  
 Unleavened represents the Burial of Christ  
 First Fruits represents the Resurrection of Christ.  
 Pentecost represents the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

#### Symbolisms -Not Yet fulfilled

Trumpets represent the Rapture of the Church  
 Atonement represents the Second Coming of Jesus.  
 Tabernacles represent the Millennial Reign.

...in which they made offerings—a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings each upon its own day by fire unto the Lord. And holy convocations were proclaimed. <sup>1</sup>The meaning appears to be; these are the yearly appointed times (*seasons*) on which they hold holy convocations and offer to Yahweh sacrifices.

1. The first Feast began the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first month in the evening (sundown). This is **THE LORD'S PASSOVER**— reminding and marking Israel's deliverance from Egypt and a celebration that the lamb was slain and the blood sprinkled on the door posts of each Israelite home. It reminded the people of how God passed over the Israelites in Egypt when He saw the blood applied to the doorposts. (23:4-5). Christ is our Passover Lamb (Exodus 12; 1 Corinthians 5:7). He saved us! He is our Redemption.

<sup>1</sup> <http://biblehub.com/commentaries/leviticus/23-38.htm>  
[www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html](http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html)

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

2. The second Feast began the 15<sup>th</sup> day (*the day after the Passover*) of the same month and is called **THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD**— reminding and marking the time when the Jews ate only unleavened bread with their meals. <sup>2</sup> "*Unleavened*" means that there is no yeast in the bread. Thus, it does not 'rise' or 'get bigger'. Bread that does not rise is flat bread. Leaven depicts sin, and when they cleansed all the yeast from their homes, it reminded the people that they were leaving the old life behind and entering a new way of living. During this feast they were to eat unleavened bread for 7 days (**23:6**). Jesus is the Bread of Life having no sin.

On the first day of this festival, all the people had to gather together for the holy convocation to worship God and all ordinary work must end. They were to also do the same on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. So, the beginning and the end of this week were holy days with no work. And on each of the seven days they were to offer gifts by fire to the Lord (**23:7-8**).

## LESSON: I. INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE OFFERING LEVITICUS 23:9-13

**23:9** And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,— The Lord continues to speak to Moses.

**23:10** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:— Now again Moses is to speak to the children of Israel, giving them instructions concerning the offering of their first harvest of the firstfruits. When they enter the land the Lord gives them (The Promised Land), they are to bring a sheaf of the firstfruits to the priest which are the first harvest they reap in that land.

3. The third Feast probably occurred on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of that first month; after The Feast Of Unleavened Bread. However, it is to happen when the Israelites enter the Promised Land, It is called **THE FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS** or **FIRST HARVEST**— reminding the children of Israel of how God provided for them. There "*firstfruits*" of harvest which was barley was to be brought to the priest; and the priest would offer it to the Lord. This was the first and best of the harvest chosen, and prepared in a bundle of cut grain called a sheaf. It was brought to the priest for the Lord. A "harvest" is a type of resurrection. Jesus represents the first fruit of the resurrection of them that slept (1 Corinthians 15:20). He was the first and perfect Firstfruit.

**23:11** And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. Some of the offerings that were tied to the feasts:

<sup>3</sup>The "*Wave Sheaf*"— When the sheaf was brought to the priest, he would present it to the Lord by waving it before Him. The Israelites' harvest season could not begin until the wave sheaf offering was offered to and accepted by God. The priest waves it the next day after the Sabbath. <sup>4</sup>God resurrected His Son from the dead. He became the perfect wavesheaf offering that would be waved the next day. The people recognized that the Lord is the provider of all crops.

**23:12** And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/leviticus-23-27-lbw.htm>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ucg.org/the-good-news/the-wave-sheaf-offering-a-ceremony-foreshadowing-salvation>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Bible.show/sVerseID/3414/eVerseID/3414>

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**year for a burnt offering unto the Lord.**

**The Burnt Offering** occurs on the same day that the sheaf is waved. It consists of a year old male lamb without defect to be wholly consumed by fire as a Burnt Offering that ascends up to the Lord. It was termed whole because the entire lamb was to be burned upon the altar (Lev.6:22). This is not the first Burnt Offering in the Bible. It originated in Genesis 8 in Noah's day, and each one would be different in some way or another including the animal to be burned, because as we go further, the Burnt Offering in the Feast of Pentecost is different (Lev.23:15). Therefore, in this verse God lets Moses know when and how the burnt offering is to be used. Jesus Christ represents the male Lamb without blemish, our burnt offering.

**23:13** And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the Lord for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin. Along with the Burnt Offering, a Meat Offering (*in some translations it's also called the Grain Offering or the Meal Offering*) is offered.

**"The Meat Offering"** is where no blood of an animal is to be shed. It consists of two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil. Instead of the usual one tenth of fine flour, they were instructed to use two tenth of fine flour that they might have a prosperous harvest. This offering is composed of fine flour and blended with olive oil. Neither incense nor frankincense is present in this verse, but it's in Leviticus 2. However, the blend of these ingredients by fire is to be presented that it would be a sweet savour unto the Lord!

Along with the Meat Offering, there is a **"Drink Offering"** which is a fourth part of a "hin." A "hin" is a unit of liquid measure equal to about one gallon. Therefore, a fourth part of a gallon may come to a quart. So, a quart of wine is poured out on the altar as an offering unto the Lord.

## II. FURTHER REGULATIONS LEVITICUS 23:14, 22

**23:14** And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. No one was to eat any of the harvest, until the first had been given to God. This was to be an everlasting statute for generations to come.

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**23:22** And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleanings of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the Lord your God. When it's time for reaping the harvest, the Israelites should not just thank God for their harvest by means of a ceremony, they should thank God by means of the way that they harvested their crops. And that would include leaving some food in the fields so that poor people and foreigners would find something to eat. The Lord left room for the poor, and for the stranger to be fed. God is I am, the Lord who is our God.

## SUMMARY:

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

The Lord speaks to Moses concerning the offering of their first harvest of the firstfruits when they enter the land the Lord has given them; also the offering they are to present unto God. They are to bring a sheaf of first fruits to the priest, which is called The Feast of First Fruits which is the first harvest they reap in that land (23:9-10). The priest would present the sheaf of firstfruits to the Lord by waving it before Him the next day after the Sabbath. *The Burnt Offering* occurs on the same day that the sheaf is waved. This offering consists of a year old male lamb without defect, to be wholly consumed by fire as a Burnt Offering that ascends up to the Lord. God let Moses know when and how this offering is to be used. Along with the Burnt Offering, a *Meat Offering* is offered (23:11-12). *The Meat Offering* is where no blood of an animal is to be shed. It consists of two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil. The blend of these ingredients by fire would be a sweet savour unto the Lord! A *Drink Offering* which is a fourth part of a "hin" of wine is offered and is poured out on the altar as an offering unto the Lord (23:13).

No one was to eat any of the harvest, until the first had been given to God. This was to be an everlasting statute for generations to come (23:14). When it's time for reaping the harvest, the Israelites were to leave some food in the fields, so that poor people and foreigners would find something to eat. The Lord left room for the poor, and for the stranger to be fed. God is I am, the Lord who is our God (23:22).