

INTRODUCTION:

- How many are reading or have read the Bible in a year?
 - How many skipped Leviticus?
 - We will be studying Leviticus 23.
- Anyone know what this is? YHVH (yod-hey-vav-hey). It is God's name. Yahweh. The ancient Hebrews did not use vowels in their writings.
- God's name appears nowhere in the English Bible.
 - What do we see in place of His name? The LORD.
- God's name appeared 7,000 times in the Old Testament.
 - Stopped appearing around 300 years before Christ when the Hebrew scholars wrote the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the OT) and substituted Adonai.
 - The Hebrew scholars took the Commandment Don't take Yahweh's name in vain and were afraid they would use it in vain, so they outlawed writing it and speaking it.
- King James kept this tradition and substituted it for “The LORD”.
- The only Bible I have found that uses God's real name is [The Scriptures Bible](#), and they use the Hebrew characters for YHVH.
- Jehovah – In 1518 a Franciscan Friar and Confessor to Pope Leo X named Galatinus translated the 4 Hebrew letters with the Latin letters and the vowels of Adonai producing the artificial name form Jehovah. Scholars say it could be older going back to possibly 1100 AD. Scholars disagree on when it appeared, but all agree it is a human construct. Including the Anchor Bible Dictionary, Jewish Encyclopedia and Brown, Driver and Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon.
- All the names you see there are how the Hebrews would pronounce them. It uses only the Hebrew names.
- Another thing you will notice in the names there are none that start with J. The letter J didn't exist until 16th century and was not common in writings until the 17th Century.
- So, Jesus was not the Messiah's name, it was Yehoshua or Yeshua meaning God saves.
 - We get Jesus from the Greek translation of Yeshua which is Iesous.

- Yeshua means God Salvation or God Delivers or God rescues.

THE SEVEN FEASTS:

- What does Leviticus 23 cover?
 - The 7 Feasts of Yahweh. I want to look at these 7 feasts and show how they are a picture of Christ and His redeeming work.
 - Over the next 3 Sundays I want to show you how these Feasts Days that God commanded His people to follow were a rehearsal for the coming Messiah. It was God's dress rehearsal for when the real Messiah would show up in 3BC.
 - Old Covenant Israel's 7 holidays or feasts are discussed in both Covenants.
 - We see the Jews and Jesus participating in them all the way through ACTS and Paul references them in his letters. But, only in Leviticus do we see all 7 in chronological order of when they were to take place. *Show Slide of all 7 for Spring and Fall.*
 - Most ancient Near Eastern cultures held annual agricultural feast celebrating the gifts of the gods or goddesses.
 - In the spring and in the fall. These festivals were to appease the gods so they would bless their harvest. Hittites, Babylonians would offer grains, livestock and strong drink (beer), grapes (wine), but the Israelite festivals were different, the cycle of Holy Days was God's way of pointing them to their coming Messiah.
1. Passover
 2. Unleavened Bread
 3. First Fruits
 4. Pentecost
 5. Trumpets
 6. Day of Atonement
 7. Feast of Tabernacles
- There are 7 in total. What does the number 7 in the Bible symbolize? It is Yahweh's number symbolizing perfection. Where do we see 7 in the Bible?
 - 7 Days in the Creation week. God's Sabbath was on the 7th day.

- There are 7 men in the OT who are labeled "a man of God". Moses, David, Samuel, Shemaiah, Elijah, Elisha and Igdaliah.
- Mathew 13 Jesus gives 7 parables in 47 verses.
- In Revelation there are 7 churches and 7 Angels over seeing these, Churches.
- Jesus performed 7 miracles on the Sabbath.
- Jerusalem historically was believed to be built on 7 hills.

PASSOVER:

- Today I want to explore 2 of the 7. The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.
 - Read Leviticus 23:4-8
- Difference between the NIV and ESV. Holy Convocation. Hebrew word for Convocation means rehearsal.
 - The Festivals were to be a Holy Rehearsal and would serve as a dress rehearsal of prophetic events that would happen in their future. God's prophetic calendar.
 - All through the OT we see these events speaking of the coming Messiah.
 - This was how God pointed them to their Messiah.
- When we study The Feasts, we are in its essence studying Jesus.
- This study of the Feast Days is a study in Typology.
 - Typology is a method of biblical interpretation whereby an element found in the OT is seen to refigure one found in the NT.
 - Did you know the people who wrote NT are interpreting for their readers the OT.
 - The initial element is called the **TYPE**, and its fulfillment is called the **ANTI-TYPE**. Hosea 11:1 - Matt 2:13-15.
 - Say you are about to turn a corner around a building, and you see shadow of a person that is the type of that person and as you run into the real person that is the antitype. Paul said to the Corinthians for now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face... it is the same idea. The Israelites were experiencing The **TYPE**.
 - Who is the **ANTI-TYPE** of Adam? Paul called Christ the last Adam and he called the feast a type Colossians 2:16-17

- The Passover is the foundational feast and the other 6 are built upon it.
- Notice what God tells Moses. Exodus 12:6.
- Read “Scriptures” compare it to ESV.
 - There is a strange grammatical construction here. There was a lamb for each household, but the Hebrew reads like there is one lamb for the congregation of Israel. In this we see the responsibility of all Israel in the crucifixion of Christ.
- Now the other thing I want you to notice about the original Hebrew is the lamb was to be killed "between the 2 evenings".
 - Your Bible will say Twilight.
 - Not to spend a lot of time here, but the days and evenings for the Israelites were evening to morning for their days unlike us it is Midnight to Midnight.
 - The Hebrews day started at sundown or right around 6:00PM and went to 6:00PM 1 full day.
 - They considered the morning to be from 6:00AM to 12:00PM and the evening from 12:00 to 6:00PM.
 - The lamb was to be sacrificed on Passover at 3:00PM right in the middle of the evening of the first day and the start of the next day which began in the evening at 6:00PM.
 - That is why it says between the 2 evenings. This was **ALSO** the 9th hour of the day when the lamb was to be killed. Matt 27:46.
- Passover occurred in the spring of each year on the 14th day of the Hebrew month called Nisan (march/April). They lived by a lunar calendar so it hard to nail down exact months. What was the Passover? Exodus 12:1-3 On the 10th day. They are to keep the lamb a male 1 year old for 4 days in the house to be inspected to ensure it had no blemishes. **Show video of lamb**
 - Slit the throat of the lamb and place some of the blood on the door post and lintel of the house in which you eat it.
- Who is the antitype of the lamb? John the Baptist introduces Him as Lamb God who takes away the sins of the world.
 - What did I say Yeshua meant in Hebrew?
 - Notice the lamb was a substitute. If you were an Israelite and wanted your household to escape death, you had to kill an innocent creature. If you did this

The LORD would except the life of that animal in place of the life of your first born child.

- NT talks about who as the first born? Colossians 1:15/18, Revelation 1:5, Romans 8:29 and Hebrew 12:23.
- 4 Times. The #4 in the Bible is symbolic for Creation. On the 4th day God finished the material creation. The 5th and 6th were adding the furnishings.
- There are 4 seasons in a year, 4 regions of the earth N, S, E, W. 4 great elements Earth, Air, Fire and Water
- Eve is only mentioned 4 times in the entire Bible
- There are 4 Prophetesses in the OT, Miriam, Deborah, Huldah, Noadiah.
- 4 Women in the genealogy of Jesus. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Wife of Uriah.
- Who was the wife of Uriah?
- Exodus 12:12-13 / Exodus 12:6 – To be killed between the evenings.
- Yeshua died at the exact moment the Priest was killing the lamb at the Temple.
- **Exodus 12:46 / John 19:32-36**
- To be saved you had to kill an innocent, and then have faith that lamb and the blood that was spilled would save you from death. What is the Type? Who is the Anti-Type? The first 4 books of the Bible all are about Jesus
 - John 5:44-47
- Put your faith in Christ b/c His blood saves you.

THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD:

- The second feast followed right behind the Passover on the 15th day of Nisan.
- It started at 6:00PM. No leaven was to be eaten, and no work was to be performed. It was considered a "High Sabbath".
- Read Leviticus 23:6-8
- Just like the weekly Saturday Sabbath.
- The OT called these days that fell outside of the normal Saturday Sabbaths, "High Sabbaths" and only the Gospel of John records this. John 19:31.
- This feast of unleavened bread lasted 7 days and the Israelites were to eat unleavened bread for those appointed days.

- Also, three instructions were given for The feast of unleavened bread.
 - The number 3 is the number of completeness, solid, entirety. The spies brought back 3 things signifying the completeness of the land God was giving to Israel, Grapes, Figs and Pomegranates.
 - There are 27 books in the NT 3 cubed. Jesus prayed 3 times in the garden. There were 3 hours of darkness while Christ was on the cross and 3 persons in one of God.

1. Special sacrifices were to be made in the temple each of the seven days. An animal burnt offering.

2. The first and seventh day of the feast was to be a High Sabbath. Unless one of those days fell on a Saturday then it would be called just a Sabbath.

3. No leaven. It was to be cleaned out of your house. Exodus 13:7. God's command carried with it the death penalty. It was simply not enough to NOT eat it, but do not touch it or have it hidden in your house.

- When Judas accepted the dipped bread from Jesus at the last supper and left, it was symbolic of removing all the leaven from the house on preparation day and we see in John 19:14. “Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover, it was the 6th hour.”
 - How many of you have been taught that the LORDs Supper was on Passover the 14th Day of Nisan?
 - This was before Israel could eat the Passover meal.
 - The Passover lamb was slain at 3:00PM on the 14th of Nisan. It was then prepared and roasted with the 3hours left of the day.
 - The lamb was then eaten at around 6:00PM the start of the Feast of Unleavened Bread on the 15th Day of Nisan.
 - The Last Supper was not the Passover meal, big reason is there was no lamb and John 18:28 – “Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas into the Praetorium, and it was early, and they themselves did not enter, so they would not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.”
 - The Sun went down and that began the 14th Day of Nisan. After the sun set is when Jesus and the Apostles and Disciples eat a meal together that is called The Last Supper
 - From Johns gospel we see the Last Supper, Judas Betrayal, and Jesus’ trail and crucifixion, all occurred before Israel eat the Passover. All of this happened on the 14th day of Nisan, the day of preparation. This is when they cleansed out the leaven to get ready for the 15th day of Nisan which would begin about 3 hours after Jesus died as I showed earlier.

- Why the focus on unleavened bread?
 - Many say that leaven symbolizes sin. However, the Bible does not say that.
 - Leaven is used both positively and negatively. Matthew 13:33 and Luke 13:20 talk about the Kingdom of Heaven being like Leaven.
 - Leaven was a symbol of influence. And Jesus said to them Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees in Matt 16:6.
 - Look at Exodus 12:33-34
 - Israel was rushed out of Egypt. Some translations use Yeast, but that is not the same. Yeast is a modern industrial product and did not exist during the Ancient Hebrews time.
 - The Israelites were told to keep the Days of Unleavened Bread as a memorial of the time Yahweh liberated them from the bondage of slavery from Egypt.
 - If being freed from slavery from Egypt is the **TYPE** what is the **ANTI-TYPE**? Freedom from Sin and Death.

- The Exodus took place during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It started at the beginning of the feast at 6:00PM which became the 15th day of Nisan, and they all crossed the Red Sea at the end of this 7 day feast.

- The Feast of Unleavened Bread is all about deliverance.

CLOSING:

- The Passover and The Feast of Unleavened Bread were merged into one 8 day Feast once the Israelites were in the Promise Land.
 - The number 8 in the Bible symbolizes Born Again or New Creation.
 - It is hard to separate these feasts the Passover and unleavened bread, because deliverance is only possible b/c of Passover.
 - At 3:00PM on the 14th Day of Nisan the Passover lamb was sacrificed and on the 15th day of Nisan the children of Israel ate the Passover meal and shortly after that they left the bondage of slavery.
- Nearly 1600 years later the **ANTI-TYPE** our spiritual deliverance from sin and death took place on the very same dates. On the 14th day of Nisan at 3:00PM our Savior died on the cross of Calvary and on the 15th day of Nisan we were delivered from sin and death. **TYPE** and **ANTI-TYPE**.