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Teaching

The Festivals in the Fall

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Why say it that way?

1. They are NOT seasonal festivals!

2. They are NOT agricultural festivals!

3. They ARE His festivals!

The month of Tishrei: meaning “beginning”

- **Rosh Hashanah: The Head of the Year**

- **Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement**

- **Sukkot: Booths**

- **Simchat Torah:** Rejoicing in Torah

The celebration of the end and the beginning of the annual cycle of Torah reading .

Rosh Hashanah: The Head of the Year

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Rosh Hashanah: The Head of the Year

New Year?? There are four:

- 1. First day of the month of Nisan; dedication of the Tabernacle.**
- 2. Tu b'Shevat on the 15th of Shevat (February) "the new year of trees".**
- 3. First day of Elul – the annual renewal of the tithing of cattle.**
- 4. ROSH HASHANAH –**

Rosh Hashanah: The Head of the Year

Also known as Yom ha-Din;

The Day of Judgment

Adonai said to Moshe, "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'In the seventh month, the first of the month is to be for you a day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation announced with blasts on the shofar. Do not do any kind of ordinary work, and bring an offering made by fire to Adonai.' " (Lev 23:23-25 CJB)

. . . .all the people gathered with one accord in the open space in front of the Water Gate and asked `Ezra the Torah-teacher to bring the scroll of the Torah of Moshe, which Adonai had commanded Isra'el. `Ezra the cohen brought the Torah before the assembly, which consisted of men, women and all children old enough to understand. It was **the first day of the seventh month.**

(Neh 8:1-2 CJB)

‘Ezra blessed Adonai, the great God; and all the people answered, "Amen! Amen!" as they lifted up their hands, bowed their heads and fell prostrate before Adonai with their faces to the ground.

(Neh 8:6 CJB)

They read clearly from the scroll, in the Torah of God, **translated it, and enabled them to understand the sense of what was being read.**

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(Neh 8:8 CJB)

On **the second day**, the heads of fathers' clans of all the people assembled with the cohanim and L'vi'im before `Ezra the Torah-teacher **to study the words of the Torah.** (Neh 8:13 CJB)

Implications for us:

1. To REMEMBER!!!
 2. To finish up.
 3. To prepare to begin anew.

To commit once again to the study of Torah – to seek G-d's way and will as we serve Yeshua our Messiah.

Moses ben Jacob

Rosh Hashanah is a time of self-reflection, a day to ask ourselves – really ask ourselves –

- 1. What is it that drives our attitude and behavior?**
- 2. What is it that we really want for ourselves out of life?**
- 3. Are we acting in a way that makes progress toward our vision of a good life, or are we actually acting in a way that inhibits us from progressing?**

Rosh Hashanah is a day to take back control and to master those things that may have been mastering us.

The “Betweens”

The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are referred to by two phrases:

- **Aseret Yemei Teshuvah:** The Days of Repentance
What we are doing.
- **Yamim Noraim:** Days of Awe
What they do to us.

Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement

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The “Right Before”

Erev Yom Kippor – the day before

1. Mincha the afternoon prayer PLUS the Vidui (with the beating of breasts)

2. Seudah ha-mafseket (the meal that interrupts),

a large and festive meal preceding the fast.

Some people request a mikvah, some will dress in white. Another tradition is the lighting of three candles two representing the two tablets of the command and one for the soul.

Yom Kippur: Day of Atonement

Shabbat Shabbaton

"Is this the sort of fast I want, a day when a person mortifies himself? Is the object to hang your head like a reed and spread sackcloth and ashes under yourself? Is this what you call a fast, a day that pleases Adonai?

Here is the sort of fast I want — releasing those unjustly bound, untying the thongs of the yoke, letting the oppressed go free, breaking every yoke, sharing your food with the hungry, taking the homeless poor into your house, clothing the naked when you see them, fulfilling your duty to your kinsmen!" Then your light will burst forth like the morning, your new skin will quickly grow over your wound; your righteousness will precede you and Adonai's glory will follow you. (Isa 58:5-8 CJB)

- A day of quintessential holiness. . . .
- A day to face your self, to return and become whole again. . . .
 - A day of self – examination & denial...
- A day being and NOT doing. . . .

A day for

“NO”



Ours is not a faith of monasteries and isolation. It is a faith in which all believers participate in the highest and most common of activities.

But, there is one day, this day, **Yom Kippur**, when we are directed to transcend the world around us. A day for intentionally making every effort **to be in the world but not of the world**. It is indeed a day to focus on our spirits, our souls and to neglect the influence of our flesh.

Atonement:

To cover:

Torah, Writings & Prophets= **a doing**

To reconcile:

Apostolic Writings=**a done**

Why do we as followers of Yeshua observe Yom Kippur?

What about resurrection day?

Whose festival is Yom Kippur?

Who says to celebrate it?

Whose “festival” is resurrection day?

Who says to celebrate it?

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Sukkot: Booths

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Sukkot: Booths

" 'But on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the produce of the land, you are to observe the festival of Adonai seven days; the first day is to be a complete rest and the eighth day is to be a complete rest. On the first day you are to take choice fruit, palm fronds, thick branches and river-willows, and celebrate in the presence of Adonai your God for seven days. You are to observe it as a feast to Adonai seven days in the year; it is a permanent regulation, generation after generation; keep it in the seventh month. You are to live in sukkot for seven days; every citizen of Isra'el is to live in a sukkah, so that generation after generation of you will know that I made the people of Isra'el live in sukkot when I brought them out of the land of Egypt; I am Adonai your God.' " Thus Moshe announced to the people of Isra'el the designated times of Adonai. (Lev 23:39-44 CJB)

An agricultural festival??

NO!

Although this festival is “connected” to, **“when you have gathered the produce of the land,”** it is not an *agricultural festival!*

Remember that you were a slave in Egypt; then you will keep and obey these laws. "You are to keep the festival of Sukkot for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing-floor and winepress. Rejoice at your festival - you, your sons and daughters, your male and female slaves, the L'vi'im, and the foreigners, orphans and widows living among you. Seven days you are to keep the festival for Adonai your God in the place Adonai your God will choose, **because Adonai your God will bless you** in all your crops and in all your work, so you are to be full of joy!

(Deut. 16:12-15 CJB)

It is

- The festival of Adonai
- A celebration, “ in the presence of

Adonai your God for seven days.”

For the purpose

“of . . . so that generation after

generation of you will know that I

made the people of Isra'el live in sukkot

when I brought them out of the land of

Egypt; “

It is one of the three “pilgrimage” festivals.

- Sukkot
- Passover
- Shavuot

Interestingly Sukkot is one festival over which the Rabbis have and still have great debates. There are two basic perspectives:

1. It is figurative referring to “divine cloud cover” which led and protected Israel in the wilderness.
2. It is literally living in booths.

Regardless of any and every debate it is quite clear that G-d has commanded it and we can not err in obeying it literally.

But what's the deal here???

Aside from the plain command ----- Sukkot makes us remember.....

- Past bondage (Egypt / Sin)
- G-d's protection (Passover /
Resurrection)
- G-d's protection. (The Red Sea)
- G-d's provision. (The Wilderness)
- G-d's faithfulness. (Entering the
Promised Land)

Simchat Torah - “Joy of Torah”

Moshe gave them these orders: "**At the end of every seven years, during the festival of Sukkot** in the year of sh'mittah, when all Isra'el have come to appear in the presence of Adonai at the place he will choose, **you are to read this Torah before all Isra'el, so that they can hear it.** Assemble the people — the men, the women, the little ones and the foreigners you have in your towns — so that they can hear, learn, fear Adonai your God and take care to obey all the words of this Torah; and so that their children, who have not known, can hear and learn to fear Adonai your God, for as long as you live in the land you are crossing the Yarden to possess." (Deut. 31:10-13 CJB)

So, why bother with these old dusty festivals now that Messiah has come?

Aren't they just shadows of the coming of Messaiah? Yep!!!!

Weren't they "given to the Jews? Yep!!!!

If Messiah has come, why bother??

Why”

Just 4 reasons.

1. G-d commanded them – they are His festivals!!!!
2. Yeshua was Jewish, they were His festivals!!!
3. Paul kept them, they were His G-d’s and his Master’s festivals!!!
4. Be imitators of me, as I am of Messiah. (1Cor. 11:1 ESV)

Eph 2:19

So then you are no longer guests and foreigners, but you are **fellow citizens** with the set apart ones **and** members of the household of God,

Remember

Repent

Restore

Rejoice

Do these Festivals have anything to do with the Return of Messiah???

Yep!!!

So, what do they tell us?

He's coming !!!!! – Be ready!!!!