

When This Life is Just a Memory

Leviticus 23:1-44

February 9, 2014

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Review & Introduction: Children's Sermon

Colossians 2:16–17

¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a *festival* or a new moon or a *Sabbath*. ¹⁷ *These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.* (Handout)

Key Idea

God appointed feasts and holy days to remind Israel of His acts of creation, deliverance, protection, and provision; and to announce Jesus to them.

III. The Fall “Seasons/Times” of the LORD

Leviticus 23:23b “...In the *seventh month*...”

“The ‘**seventh month**’ is set apart, just like the seventh day and the seventh year. In fact, the seventh month is to the other months of the year what the seventh day is to the other days of the week.” ¹

A. The Feast of Trumpets (Lev. 23:23–25)

Leviticus 23:23c–25

...on the *first day* of the month, you shall observe a day of solemn rest, a memorial proclaimed with *blast of trumpets*, a holy convocation. ²⁵ You shall not do any ordinary work, and you shall present a *food offering* (made by fire) to the Lord.”

1. The Significance of the “Blast”

Exodus 19:18–19 (Cf. Num. 10:1–2 – two silver trumpets)

¹⁸ Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the Lord had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it

¹ **Eveson, P. H.** (2007). *The Beauty of Holiness: The Book of Leviticus Simply Explained*. Welwyn Commentary Series (325). Darlington, England: Evangelical Press.

went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. ¹⁹ And as the sound of the **trumpet** grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder.

2. “Food offering” (Made by Fire)

3. The Trumpet Blast

1 Thessalonians 4:16 (Cf. 1 Corinthians 15:35–58)

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the **trumpet** of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

B. The Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:26–32)

Leviticus 23:27–32

²⁷ “Now on the *tenth day of this seventh month* is the **Day of Atonement**. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall **afflict yourselves** ^[2] and present *a food offering to the Lord*. ²⁸ And *you shall not do any work* on that very day, for it is a **Day of Atonement**, to make atonement for you before the Lord your God. ²⁹ For whoever is not afflicted on that very day shall be cut off from his people. ³⁰ And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people. ³¹ You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. ³² It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath.”

James 4:9–10 (Cf. Matthew 5:3–4)

⁹ Be wretched and **mourn and weep**. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ **Humble yourselves** before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

^[2] Traditionally, fasting, abstinence from sex, and refraining from personal grooming (HCSB – Lev. 23:27 Footnote)

Jeremiah 8:12–13

¹² Were they ashamed when they committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed; ***they did not know how to blush***. Therefore they shall fall among the fallen; when I punish them, they shall be overthrown, says the Lord. ¹³ *When I would gather them*, declares the Lord, *there are no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree; even the leaves are withered*, and what I gave them has passed away from them.”

C. The Feast of Booths (Lev. 23:33–36, 39–43)

Leviticus 23:33, 39-40, 42-43

³³ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁴ “Speak to the people of Israel, saying, On the *fifteenth day of this seventh month* and for seven days is the **Feast of Booths** to the Lord. ...when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the Lord *seven days*. On the ***first day*** shall be a solemn rest, and on the ***eighth day*** shall be a solemn rest. ⁴⁰ And you shall take on the first day the fruit of *splendid trees*, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days. ... ⁴² ***You shall dwell in booths for seven days***. All native Israelites shall dwell in booths, ⁴³ that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

Zechariah 14:16–19

¹⁶ Then everyone who survives of all the nations that have come against Jerusalem shall go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the **Feast of Booths**. ¹⁷ And *if* any of the families of the earth *do not go up* to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, *there will be no rain on them*. ¹⁸ And if the family of Egypt does not

go up and present themselves, then on them there shall be no rain; there shall be the plague with which the Lord afflicts the nations that do not go up to keep the *Feast of Booths*.¹⁹ This shall be the punishment to Egypt and the punishment to all the nations that do not go up to keep the *Feast of Booths*.

IV. Application: The Miracle of the Harvest!

Revelation 7:9–17

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, *with palm branches in their hands*,¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ...

¹⁴ ...“These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”¹⁵ “Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.”¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Key Idea

When we are gathered into God’s eternal joy and this life is a distant memory, we will never tire of singing of His deliverance out of sin, through this “wilderness” and into the joyful ingathering of His redeemed people.