

The Biblical Autumn Feasts

Parashat Emor ([V'yikra/Leviticus 21-24](#)) 5782, B"H

In the springtime, we looked at the [Biblical Spring Feasts](#).

As we near autumn, today let's revisit that passage of Scripture from Leviticus that describes the feasts, but this time we will focus on the Biblical Autumn Feasts! *Most people call them the Biblical Fall Feasts and I do admit it is easier to say . . . but since . . . Adam and Eve and the Fall . . . yeah I just personally prefer the word autumn. It's just me, I know. A little too obsessed with linguistics. Go ahead and call them the Fall Feasts, it is perfectly fine* ☐

This post will be a quick overview on the autumn feasts. In future posts I will help us look more deeply at each of these.

Are you familiar with the autumn Biblical feasts?

[The Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles](#) are the special days outlined in the Bible that are celebrated in autumn.

Each of the Biblical Autumn Feasts can also be called by its Hebrew term:

The Feast of Shofars = Yom Teruah*

The Day of Atonement = Yom Kippur

The Feast of Tabernacles = Sukkot

***Note:** *Yom Teruah is more widely known as Rosh HaShanah. Yom Teruah is the literal translation for the "Feast of Trumpets" and is more Biblical. Rosh HaShanah signifies "Head of the Year" meaning this is a celebration of the Jewish New Year.*



Just like the Biblical Spring Feasts, Messiah Yeshua (Jesus Christ) fulfilled the prophetic meaning of each of these Biblical autumn feasts (*moedim*). The Hebrew word “*moedim*” more literally means “appointed times.” These are appointments that God made for us – the appointed feast times to meet with our Creator! What a privilege! Throughout the year, we gather to experience these feasts. The Autumn Feasts are no exception, in fact, they are extremely **eschatologically significant** because they point us to the end of days.

The Feast of Shofars (Yom Teruah)



The Feast of Shofars is more commonly called “The Feast of Trumpets” in English. But most people who think of a trumpet think of a beautiful brass instrument in the marching band. This autumn feast has nothing to do with those! A more correct translation is the “Feast of Shofars.” The ram’s horn was used as an instrument – an alarm to warn and even alert the enemy.

Have you ever heard several shofars played at the same time? The sound is awe-inspiring.

If you want to have a profound experience, find a place where the shofars will sound this Yom Teruah (Rosh Hashanah)! You will undoubtedly be touched by the sheer magnitude of the sound and inspired by all it represents for God’s people.

It is like a rehearsal. We will know what to listen for the day the trumpet (*shofar*) sounds:

[“He will send out His angels with a great *shofar*, and they will gather together His chosen from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” Matthew 24:31](#)

I love to hear my boys practicing their shofar skills a few days before Yom Teruah! It is a wonderful way to bring in the

Hebrew New Year!



The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)

Another one of the Biblical autumn feasts is *Yom Kippur*. This is the most solemn occasion on the Jewish Biblical calendar. This is a day of fasting as people ask for forgiveness for the sins committed during the past year. When the Temple was still standing, this was the day when the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies to make atonement on behalf of the people.

Today, we know that Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) has provided our atonement (Hallelujah!!!) so most followers of the King of all kings participate by fasting and praying for Israel.



The Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)



Immediately after *Yom Kippur*, Jewish and Messianic believers begin setting up their *sukkahs* (outdoor tabernacles) for the upcoming Biblical autumn feast known as the Feast of Tabernacles (*Sukkot*).

The Feast of Tabernacles (*Sukkot*) is great fun! Many English

speakers know this feast as the Feast of Booths. But booths? That's a little hard for us to understand, unless you have seen an actual *sukkah*.

A *sukkah* is a tabernacle – a temporary structure intended for nonpermanent residency!

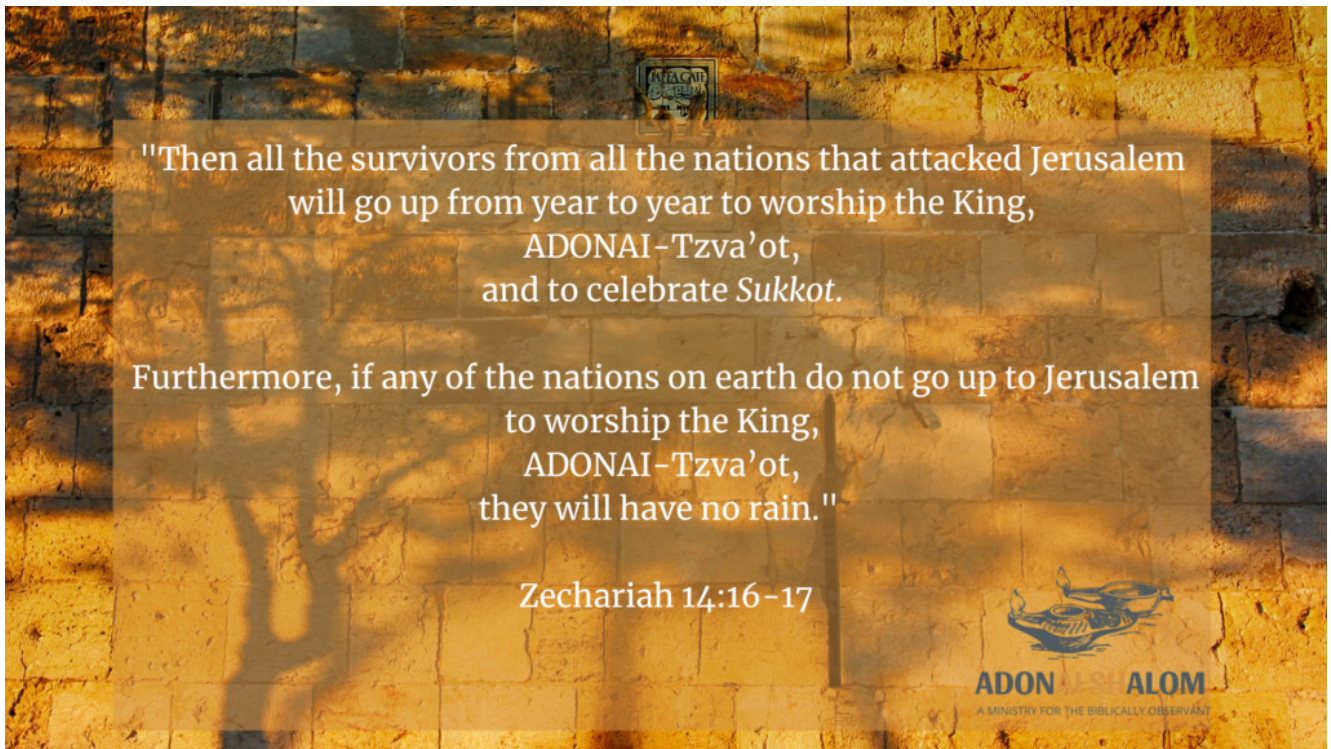
This feast is a lot like camping (but better) and lasts for a whole week! It is definitely family-friendly!

If you'd like some ideas on how to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, check out this post I wrote about [ways our family celebrates Sukkot](#). And make sure you get your [FREE printable Selfie Scavenger Hunt for Sukkot!](#)

It is said that the best time to visit Israel is during the autumn feast of *Sukkot*. The entire nation sets up their temporary structures. The *sukkahs* are decorated and there is plenty of food. Did you know it is *commanded* to be joyful during these holy days of Sukkot? It is truly a celebration that the LORD chose to dwell with us.

Zechariah prophecies of a future time when **all the nations will celebrate *Sukkot***, so it is certainly something we ought to learn about and participate in to understand the full meaning of our Scriptures! It really *is* like a dress rehearsal for the last days!

[“Then all the survivors from all the nations that attacked Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, Adonai-Tzva’ot, and to celebrate Sukkot. Furthermore, if any of the nations on earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, Adonai-Tzva’ot, they will have no rain.”](#)
[Zechariah 14:16-17](#)



Zechariah 14:16-17

I encourage you to learn more about the Feast of Tabernacles as autumn draws near. A fun project (especially if you have boys) is to build a backyard *sukkah*! Invite your friends and neighbors, and you will have a wonderful time of fellowship as you live out the Word of the LORD!

For a more thorough, theological look at the Sukkot and the spiritual meaning of it, I encourage you to check out my [post: "Living Water at the Feast of Tabernacles: Exploring John 7."](#) You will discover the reason "why" our Messiah proclaimed that He is the Living Water!

If you have questions about the Biblical autumn Feasts we would truly love to help you! And most importantly, if you have questions about the Messiah, please let us know and we would love to share the Good News with you. We hope that following the LORD at His Word is important to you and hope that this post will help you in your faith journey! Please subscribe so you don't miss any new posts! Shalom!

L'shanah tovah! May you have a very happy New Year!

The 7 species of the land of Israel

Parashat Eiqev/Eikev/Ekev ([D'varim/Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25](#)) 5782 B"H

7 species promised to the land of Israel

Today, let's look at the 7 kinds or "species" promised to the land and people of Israel in Deuteronomy.

Moshe (Moses) continues to speak to the Israelites

[Deuteronomy/D'varim 7:12-11:25](#) continues Moshe's (Moses') speech to the Israelites, reminding them of all the wonders of the LORD's deliverance and encouraging them toward blessing as they continue toward the Promised Land. Contained within these verses are the revelation of the 7 species that would be part of the land of Israel.

This passage reiterates that Israel will see increase "[little by little](#)" ([Deuteronomy/D'varim 7:22](#)) and that the duty of the people was to remain faithful to the God of Israel and His commands so that they would continually experience abundant provision and blessing.

People of the Promise

We know that the Israelites struggled to maintain a positive

outlook. Many of them failed to look with the eyes of faith toward a better future. Many of them grumbled and complained. *They had heard of a Promised Land, but would they grasp onto its promise? Would they themselves live to see that Promised Land? Would they walk as people of the Promise or would they continue to walk around in circles?*

How many of us today know intellectually of God's promises but fail to continually walk in His path, choosing instead to try our own routes only to wind up back where we started with feelings of unaccomplishment and frustration?

The life of faith can be challenging. But while we may break our own promises or have others do so to us, God is faithful and He will never break His promises to you.

For those who would trust in the God of Israel as people of the promise, 7 species or special "kinds" of provision awaited them in the Promised Land.

7 Promised Species in Israel

I don't know about you, but when I hear the word, "species," I tend to think of animals.

We're planning a zoo trip for the kiddos in the coming weeks, so I have lions, tigers, and bears on my mind. I have one child who says he has never seen a live penguin (*not true, but he was very young last time we were at the zoo*) and another who claims kangaroos don't exist because he has never seen one (*so I really hope this zoo has an Australia exhibit . . . a lesson on doubting Thomas might be better for him than the zoo, but I guess we will start with the zoo!*)

Back to Israel's 7 species.

In [Deuteronomy/D'varim 8:8](#), Scripture is talking about **agricultural species**. God promises that the land of Israel will be a land of

1. [wheat](#)
2. [barley](#)
3. [vines](#)
4. [figs](#)
5. [pomegranates](#)
6. [olive oil](#)
7. [honey](#)



The Seven Species of the Land of Israel

The LORD promises that [“you will eat and be full, and you will bless ADONAI your God for the good land He has given you.”](#) (Deuteronomy/D'varim 8:10).

"You will eat and be full,
and you will bless ADONAI your God
for the good land He has given you."

D'VARIM/DEUTERONOMY 8:10



"You will eat and be full, and you will bless ADONAI your God for the good land He has given you." D'varim/Deuteronomy 8:10
The 7 species are still found in Israel today as the LORD continues to bless that Holy Land.

And notice, of course, that there are precisely 7 listed! That perfect number reminds us of **the perfection of His provision.**

Grains & Fruits

If we analyze the seven species, we see that they can be described as either grains or fruits. Grains are so essential for basic sustenance, providing the main ingredients for bread, etc. Fruits give us sweetness and joy! It has become traditional to eat these 7 species of food on celebratory holidays such as the [Feast of Tabernacles \(Sukkot\)](#) and the [Feast of Weeks \(Pentecost/Shavu'ot\)](#).

So give thanks today for all of God's gifts, especially the provision of life-sustaining food. As the [autumn/fall Biblical feasts](#) draw near, perhaps you want to incorporate some of these delicious items on your family's table! Rejoice today, because Messiah Yeshua (Jesus the Christ) is Perfect in all of

His ways and He died and rose again so that we may join Him in the heavenly banquet.

Thanks for reading this short teaching about the 7 species of the land of Israel. If this blessed you, please share or leave a comment below! Shalom!

Living Water at the Feast of Tabernacles: exploring John 7

Water was drawn from the Pool of Siloam, brought to the Temple, poured on the altar, and berakhot (blessings) were said, thanking the LORD Most High for rain. That same pool of water would be the site where the blind man was healed and Messiah's healing ministry would expand.

How our family celebrates the Feast of Tabernacles

Here in the north, planning for Sukkot requires consideration of the temperatures, especially when Sukkot is in October. This year, Sukkot starts in September, so we may not be such Frozen Chosen this year. Even so, the evenings are definitely crisp, so soups and stews are some of the best foods to serve during the feast. I recommend planning at least a week in advance so you don't need to worry about your menu items during the feast.

Get your FREE Selfie Scavenger Hunt for Sukkot

Enjoy this activity with your friends, family, or entire congregation during the Feast of Tabernacles! Get this and other fun Biblical feast activities