



Topic: "YHWH's Appointments" Pt 18
Scripture: Leviticus 23:9-14
Definition: "First Fruits" Historical pt 2

YHWH'S APPOINTMENTS

Leviticus 23:9-14 Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Back to First Fruits



Observed in the early spring (March/April) on the day after Shabbat in the Passover/Unleavened appointed dates (Abib 14th and 15th [today as Nisan]).

Leviticus 23:9-11 "And YAHWEH spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the sons of Israel, and you shall say to them, When you come in to the land which I am giving to you, and have reaped its harvest, and have brought in the Omer, of the beginning of your harvest, to the priest, then he shall wave the Omer before YAHWEH for your acceptance; on the morrow of the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.'"

Vs 15 "And you shall number to you from the next day after the Sabbath, from the day you bring in the omer of the wave offering; they shall be seven complete Sabbaths;"

No where is Scripture will you find First Fruits being on the 16th of Abib. It is always the day after the Sabbath after Abib 15 (start of Unleavened bread).

This makes First Fruits and Shavuot **Always** on the first day of the week.

Meaning of First Fruits in Biblical Times

- The first to come in time
- A pledge or hope of the greater harvest to follow
- Specially dedicated to God
- Place where God's name lives (Jerusalem)
- Offering presented to Yahweh
- Give Yahweh praise, gratitude and humbled spirit.
- Take joy in all the good that Yahweh had given you (your house, the Levi and the foreigner living with you). Deuteronomy 26:1-11



A blessing we often miss:

...“and rejoice in all the good which YAHWEH your Elohim has given to you, and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the alien who is in your midst.” Deuteronomy 26:11

Note: the ‘first born’, whether human or beast, was also considered of God’s special possession and can be considered a type of first fruit. Exodus 22:29, 34:19

What was required?

- a burnt offering
- a meal offering
- a drink offering



Giving Yahweh the First Fruits, Israel acknowledged that all good things come from Him. Everything belongs to Yahweh.

It is a gesture that says we are expressing trust in God’s provision, not just in the first fruits but the harvest to come.

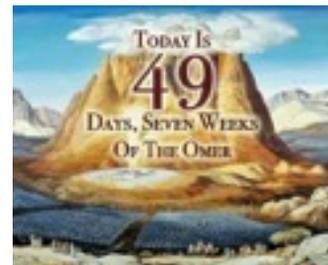
Note: the Feast of First Fruits was commanded before Israel left Egypt.

The Passover Connection:

4 Moed’s [appointed times] are associated with the giving of First Fruits in the Tanakh:

- Feast of Passover (Pesach) Exodus 23:16
- Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag Hamatzot) Leviticus 23:6
- Feast of First Fruits (Yom HaBikkurim) Leviticus 23:10
- Feast of Weeks (known as Shavuot [Pentecost]) Numbers 28:16

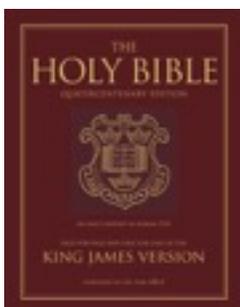
It is the observance of “First Fruits” in which the counting out (Omer) is to commence for 50 days. The day after is going to be the forth feast (and only summer feast), Feast of Weeks (Shavuot/Pentecost).

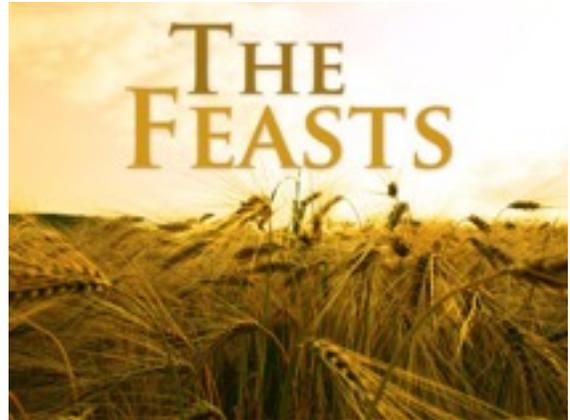


Another Note:

Often we use the terms “High Shabbats or High Sabbaths” to express the intent of the annual Moedim of YHWH (7 annual feasts).

“The [King James Version](#) may thus be the origin of naming the annual rest days "High Sabbaths" in English.” (High Sabbaths: Wikipedia)





There is a distinct difference and application (although similarities) in both the weekly Shabbat and the Annual Appointments. We find the appointments often referred to as “Feasts” in Scripture, not Shabbats. Shabbats are our weekly appointments with YHWH. These to are designed to bring us near to Him.

Next week: “First Fruits Applied”.

