



Topic: "YHWH's Appointments" Pt 52
Scripture: Leviticus 1:1-2a
Definition: "Living in the Presence of YHWH"

YHWH'S APPOINTMENTS

Moedim = Appointed Times

This last year we have looked at the 8 appointments of YHWH found in Leviticus chapter 23. One weekly appointment and 7 annual appointments.



But what does that have to do with us today? How is it being applied concerning the overall text and content of Scriptures? Were these just for the Israelites and the Levitical Priests?

Consider such verses as these...



Leviticus 22::4 Any man of the seed of Aaron... then...
22:10 AND no stranger shall...

This is speaking of being holy before YHWH

22:18 Speak to Aaron, and to his sons, and to all the sons of Israel, and you shall say to them, Any man of the house of Israel, or of the aliens in Israel,

22:29-33 And when you sacrifice a sacrifice of thanksgiving to YAHWEH, you shall sacrifice it of your free will; it shall be eaten on that day; you shall not leave any of it until morning; I am YAHWEH. And you shall keep My commandments and shall do them; I am YAHWEH. And you shall not profane My holy name, and I shall be counted holy among the sons of Israel; I am YAHWEH, who is sanctifying you, who is bringing you up out of the land of Egypt, to become your Elohim; I am YAHWEH.

Exodus 12:49 One law shall be to the native, and to the visitor, the one staying in your midst.

Leviticus 24:22 One judgment shall be for you whether an alien or a native; for I am YAHWEH your Elohim.

Numbers 15:15-16 As for the congregation, there shall be one statute both for you and for the alien that lives with you, a never ending statute throughout your generations; as you are, so shall the alien be before YAHWEH. There shall be one law and one ordinance both for you and for the alien that lives with you.

Numbers 15:29 And the priest shall atone for the soul that errs when he sins through ignorance before YAHWEH to atone for him. And he shall be forgiven, both the native among the sons of Israel, and the alien that lives among them; one law shall be to you for him who acts in error.

“There are not separate laws for Israelites and Gentiles grafted into Israel, but one Torah for everyone.”



The Scriptures are like a blueprint. Blueprints have divided sections that deal with all aspects of the building of a building.

So the Scriptures contain within its pages the elements of creating a covenant person (people) the way the YHWH deems for them to be. A means to bring them into fellowship with Him.

Part of Exodus lays out the bases on which we are to develop our lives to be in His (YHWH's) presence. To be His people. He tells us what to do in order to be able to conduct ourselves in a way that keeps us encamped around the tabernacle, i.e. the presence of YHWH.



Leviticus, the Hebrew book of Vayikra means “He (YHWH) called.” Within its pages we find instructions on how we are to conduct ourselves in a manner that pleases the Father. To not do so separates us from Him and socially from His people.

One of our biggest hangups is the whole thing of animal sacrifice. We struggle with the very concept. Even sometimes questioning YHWH and Yahshua's logic for having Yahshua be our sacrificial lamb.

Sacrificing of animals seems so barbaric. But we must remember that in ancient times (and in many cultures today) it was the main way for the people to buy favor with their gods. The problem was/is that these so called gods are unpredictable, fickle and you never know if they are going turn on you, ignore you and possibly kill you.



It is in this cultural setting that we see Israel's Elohim is totally different. He does get angry with their sin and human corruption but He is a loving and gracious

El. He loves His creation. His anger is never arbitrary. It is always righteous in His actions.

It is in this setting that YHWH provides a clear way for Israel to know with confidence that they are forgiven. And in spite of their corruption they are safe to live in the presence of YHWH.

That makes Leviticus a revolutionary concept for its day, but wait...Its revolutionary for us today as well.



Remember I said that it is a guide to how we are to conduct our lives so that we can remain in the presence of YHWH? Encamped around the Tabernacle? Now fast forward to Hebrews and apply these guides for living before a Holy and Righteous Elohim. And you have the way in which we are to go.

Walking in the Way as Messiah Yahshua walked.

The blueprints of Leviticus gives us great detail, along with each appointment with YHWH to measure how we are keeping (guarding these principles, statutes and instructions) the Torah.

The Appointed times keeps us close by reminding us how much we need YHWH and how often we wander off. Compare the truth of the Exodus story. Redemption, salvation, as setting free to be in the presence of their Elohim. Yet, too often we see them wandering in the wilderness. Always by their own choice. Always by their own choosing. Always because they want to do it there way.

YHWH's way always brings us close to Him.

Our way always takes us away from YHWH. Wandering in the wilderness of this life.

Let's get back to His ways! Let's abandon ourselves in the warmth of His forgiveness and giver of life...Real Living!

