

The
PATHWAY



from the Feasts of God
to the Fruit of the Spirit,
to the oil of Anointing

Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	iv
1. TAKE FOR YOURSELF FRUIT	1
2. You Need A Tree To Produce Fruit	3
3. Symbolism Of A Tree	4
4. ATTRIBUTES OF A RIGHTEOUS TREE	6
5. THE GENTILES ARE GRAFTED INTO THE NATURAL OLIVE TREE	14
6. PRACTICAL APPLICATION	19
A. The Covenantal Roots: Commitment to man	19
6.1 Initial Covenantal Relationship	19
6.2 Under Noah	20
6.3 Under Abraham	21
6.4 Under Moses	24
6.5 Under David	25
6.6 Under Jesus the Messiah	27
B. Covenantal Roots: The Feasts and the Harvest	31
C. Covenant with Man and the Feasts of God in Relationship	34
7. THE FEASTS OF GOD AS A PATHWAY OR A SHADOW OF THE WALK OF HOLINESS (FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT)	39
1. Shabbat	41
2. Feast of Pesach / Passover	45
3. Feast of Unleavened Bread	49
4. Feast of First Fruits	54
5. Feast of Shavout/ Pentecost	58
6. Feast of Rosh Hashannah (Trumpets)	64
7. Feast of Yom Kippur / Atonement	69
8. Feast of Succot / Tabernacles	74
9. The Feast of one extra Day: Shemmi Atzerit	79
CONCLUSION	84

INTRODUCTION

Prov. 12:28 “Life is in the **way of righteousness** (moral and spiritual rectitude in every area and relation), and in its **pathway** there is no death but immortality (perpetual, eternal life).”

We find that God has expressed a clear directive that His people must keep His Commandments, *inter alia*, to keep a specific set of memorials or feasts.

In this study we analyze the requirements of specific feasts in the physical or natural and search for its spiritual equivalent in the New Testament.

As we progress through this study we see that there is a direct correlation between the **feasts** described in **Leviticus 23** and the **fruits of the Spirit** described in **Galatians 5:23**.

It is clear that the cycle of feast days is not just a day of celebration, but marks a **specific spiritual moment in time** when we are able to strengthen our individual bond with God and raise our sights to fulfill our potential.

Each one of these times (*mo'adim*) which means “**meeting place**” is really a time to meet / tabernacle with God.

Just as these times/meeting place events are holy, so too must we:

1) Realize that the **holiness of the day** challenges us to think about the ordinary, hum-drum daily existence, to reflect and see whether we are meeting the spiritual goal reflected in this day

2) realize that our **dedication** and **commitment** in celebrating these days will **empower** us with **spiritual strength** to handle the mundane chores of the everyday lifestyle

AND

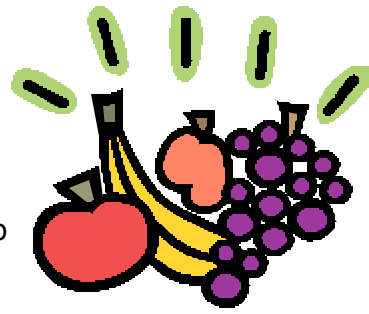
3) celebrate each year and day with the realization that God has given us a new opportunity to achieve our destiny. Said differently, you don't put on a jacket in winter to remind you of last years' snow, but because it is cold now.

We need to return to our roots.

No tree can live without its root.

No man without his family.

1. TAKE FOR YOURSELF FRUIT



We see that God commands His children to keep the feasts :

Lev 23:1-2 “1 *THE LORD* said to Moses,
2 Say to the Israelites, The **set feasts** or **appointed seasons** of the Lord which you shall proclaim as holy convocations, even My set feasts, are these:”

God goes on to set the framework or foundation for **NINE** feasts . God describes the terms and conditions for the feasts:

1. Shabbat
2. Pesach/Passover
3. Unleavened bread
4. First fruits
5. Shavout / Feast of Weeks / Pentecost
6. Rosh Hashanna / Trumpets
7. Yom Kippur – Day of Atonement
8. Succot/ Tabernacles
9. The Feast of One Extra Day: Shemmi Atzerit

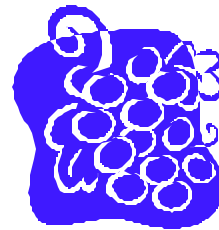
There are a number of similarities, e.g. specific days on which we are commanded not to work

BUT

Critically we find that each event is described as a **FEAST**

The word **FEAST** has the connotation of a harvest – a harvest of something edible, i.e. of a **FRUIT**

Finally at the **Feast of Succot/Tabernacles**, we find the following verse:



Lev 23:40 “40 And on the first day you shall **take the fruit** of pleasing trees [and make booths of them], branches of palm trees, and boughs of thick (leafy) trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days.”

What is equally important is the following statement :

“... and it shall be a statute **forever** in your generation”

So what do we have so far?

FEAST = FRUIT = FOREVER

Another very important point to be established is the wording / expression in the first part of the verse:

Lev. 23:40: “Take for **yourself** ”

We see here that I **must do something for myself** – I cannot rely on the work and faith of others to earn the right to holiness in the Kingdom of God.

Alpha and Omega – God the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

God spells out a lifestyle of righteous living in the Old Testament.

Does the same apply in the New Testament? As we go to **Rev. 22:2** we find that God tells us that in the New Jerusalem we will find:

a manifestation of the permanency of a fruitful life.

Rev 22:2 “*2 Through the middle of the Broadway of the city; also, on either side of the river was the **tree of life** with its **twelve varieties of fruit**, yielding each month its fresh crop; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing and the restoration of the nations.*”

In the time of the fulfillment of God's plan we find fruitfulness in season, **all the time.**



2. YOU NEED A TREE TO PRODUCE FRUIT

A Tree Produces Life

There is an inherent virtue in the Tree of Life to enable it to preserve life.

Gen 2:16,17 *“16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;
17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and blessing and calamity you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*



It would appear that the Tree of Life had the power to bring a sinful person to life. This is evident when God speaks and says:

Gen 3:22 *“22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man has become like one of Us [the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit], to know [how to distinguish between] good and evil and blessing and calamity; and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also from the **tree of life** and **eat**, and **live forever** — “*

The fact seems to be verified when, through the power of Jesus we find this force of eternal life and fruit in the end times.

Revelation 22:1 -3 *“1 THEN HE showed me the river whose waters give life, sparkling like crystal, flowing out from the throne of God and of the Lamb
2 Through the middle of the Broadway of the city; also, on either side of the river was **the tree of life with its twelve varieties of fruit**, yielding each month its fresh crop; and the leaves of the tree **were for the healing and the restoration of the nations.**
3 There shall no longer exist there anything that is accursed (detestable, foul, offensive, impure, hateful, or horrible). But the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall worship Him [pay divine honors to Him and do Him holy service].”*

3. SYMBOLISM OF A TREE:

a) A Tree represents the Kingdom of the Messiah

God proclaims the tree which He has planted, referring to **Jesus** as the Messiah,



Ezek 17:23 *“23 On the mountain height of Israel **will I plant it**, that it may bring forth boughs and bear fruit and **be a noble cedar**, and under it shall dwell all birds of every feather; in the shade of its branches they shall nestle and find rest.”*

will flourish, i.e. will stand above all of the other trees once again

Ezek 17:24 *“24 And all the trees of the field shall know (understand and realize) that I the Lord have brought low the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have **made the dry tree flourish**. I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it.”*

b) God sees Man as a Walking Tree

God has planted us, man, on this Earth with an expectation that we will function and be a fruitful, walking tree.

Mark 8:24 *“24 And he looked up and said, I see people, but [they look] like trees, **walking**.”*

Seen dimly, through the eyes of someone who has poor eyesight we should be tall, straight, purposeful, a mark in a dimly lit world. This also speaks of **purpose** – going forward to meet our destiny.

c) Trees are a Symbol of Righteousness

Clearly as a tree planted in His world, God expects us to reflect Him and declares us a **planted** tree of righteousness.

Isaiah 61:3 *“3 To grant [consolation and joy] to those who mourn in Zion—to give them an ornament (a garland or diadem) of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, the garment [expressive] of praise instead of a heavy, burdened, and failing spirit—that they may be called **oaks of righteousness** [lofty, strong, and magnificent, distinguished for uprightness, justice, and right standing with God], the **planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified**.”*

Not only are we a **planted** righteous tree but God declares that we are **green olives**.

Ps 52:8 “8 But I am like a **green olive tree** in the house of God; I trust in and confidently rely on the loving-kindness and the mercy of God forever and ever.”

We can now make the following association:

MAN = RIGHTEOUS TREE - GREEN OLIVE

Ps. 52:9 “9 I will thank You and confide in You forever, because **You have done it [delivered me and kept me safe]. I will wait on, hope in and expect in Your name**, for it is good, in the presence of Your saints (Your kind and pious ones).”



4. ATTRIBUTES OF A RIGHTEOUS TREE

4.1 Planted by God

Every good tree, and man, were planted by God in the Garden of Eden, and God uproots and plants.



Gen 2:8,9 “8 And the Lord God **planted a garden** toward the east, in Eden [delight]; and there He put the man whom He had formed (framed, constituted).

9 And out of the ground the Lord God made to **grow every tree that is pleasant** to the sight or to be desired—good (suitable, pleasant) for food; the tree of life also in the center of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of [the difference between] good and evil and blessing and calamity.”

Deut 29:28 “28 And the Lord rooted them out of their land in anger and in wrath and in great indignation and cast them into another land, as it is this day.

4.2 Multiply to form a Grove of trees

Man is called to establish a grove of trees i.e. to multiply and show God’s goodness and blessing.

Gen 21:33 “33 Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the Name of the Lord, the Eternal God.”



God’s promise of blessing when we leave our Egypt and walk to His Mount Sinai as a **holy priesthood** is that we will **inherit a grove of olives which we did not plant**, i.e. we will see ideas / concepts which have been in the open for years and realize how to use this to our benefit.

Josh. 24:13 “13 I have given you a **land for which you did not labor** and **cities you did not build**, and you **dwell in them**; you **eat from vineyards** and **olive yards you did not plant**.”

4.3 The Root of God’s Trees are Righteous

a) God gave man the ability, through the acceptance of Jesus as Messiah and the power of the Holy Spirit to live a holy life. God makes an everlasting, all encompassing **Covenant** with man which forms the foundation of our lifestyle.

Eph. 3:17-18 *“17 May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you **be rooted deep** in love and founded securely on love,
18 That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God’s devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it];”*

Prov 12:3 *“3 A man shall not be established by wickedness, but **the root of the [uncompromisingly] righteous shall never be moved.**”*

b) Those who are unfaithful, i.e. those who do not believe in Jesus as Messiah and who do not keep His Commandments will be uprooted.

Prov 2:22 *“22 But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the treacherous shall be **rooted out** of it.”*

Matt. 15:13 *“13 He answered, Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be **torn up by the roots.**”*

4.4 A Tree with Righteous Roots brings forth Righteous Branches

In Romans we are promised that if the root is holy, so too will be the branches.

Rom 11:16 *“16 Now if the first handful of dough offered as the firstfruits [Abraham and the patriarchs] is consecrated (holy), so is the whole mass [the nation of Israel]; and **if the root [Abraham] is consecrated (holy), so are the branches.**”*

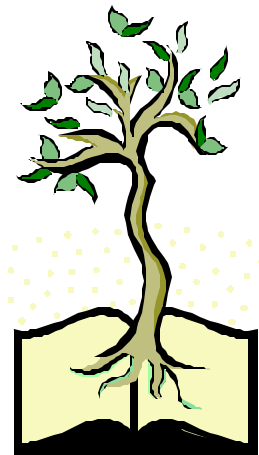
With this basis in mind we can go back to the Old Testament promise and see that a branch will come forth,

Is 11:1 *“1 AND THERE shall come forth **a Shoot** out of the stock of Jesse [David’s father], and **a Branch out of his roots shall grow and bear fruit**”*

Rom. 15:2 *“2 Let each one of us make it a practice to please (make happy) his neighbor for his good and for his true welfare, **to edify him [to strengthen him and build him up spiritually].**”*

We know that the Messiah will come from the Root of Jesse– a Covenantal Son of the Promise.

Jer 23:5 *“5 Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up to David **a righteous Branch** (Sprout), and He will reign as King and do wisely and will execute justice and righteousness in the land.”*



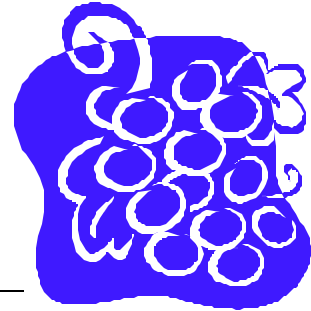
Zech. 3:8 “8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your colleagues who [usually] sit before you—for they are men who are a sign or omen [types of what is to come]—for behold, I will bring forth My servant **the Branch**.”

The branch is **strong** and righteous.

Ps 80:15 “15 [Protect and maintain] the stock which Your right hand planted, and **the branch** (the son) that You have reared and made strong for Yourself.”

4.5 A Tree with Righteous Branches Bring Forth Righteous Fruit

The Fruit of the tree will be reflected by the **root system** (we are grafted into the **Covenant**) and the fact that we are **grafted into the sap** flowing through the stem (the life of a **Holy Spirit filled walk**).



Prov 11:30 “30 **The fruit** of the [uncompromisingly] righteous is a **tree of life**, and he who is wise captures human lives [for God, as a fisher of men—he gathers and receives them for eternity].”

Rev 22:14 “14 Blessed (happy and to be envied) are those who **cleanse their garments**, that they may have the authority and right to [approach] **the tree of life** and to enter through the gates into the city.”

Not only will we bring forth fruit but it will be:

- **In season**

Ps 1:3 “3 And he shall be like a **tree firmly planted** [and tended] by the streams of water, **ready to bring forth its fruit in its season**; its leaf also shall not fade or wither; and everything he does shall prosper [and come to maturity].”

- **A reflection of our spiritual purpose and destiny**

Romans 6:20-22 “20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.
21 But then what benefit (return) did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? [None] for the end of those things is death.
22 But now since you have been set free from sin and have become the slaves of God, you have your **present reward in holiness and its end is eternal life**.”

- A source of provision for us, to sustain us, to give evidence of God's blessing over our lives.

Is 3:10 "10 Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, for they shall **eat the fruit of their deeds.**"

Jer 17:10 "10 I the Lord search the mind, I try the heart, even to give to every man according to his ways, according to **the fruit** of his doings."

Jer 21: 14 "14 And I will punish you according to **the fruit** of your doings, says the Lord. I will kindle a fire in your forest, and it will devour all that is round about you."

Micah 7:13 "13 Yet shall the earth be desolate because of those who dwell in it, for **the fruit** of their doings."

- A reward for our works of living a righteous lifestyle, lovingly obeying God.

John 4:36 "36 Already the reaper is getting his wages [he who does the cutting now has his reward], for he is **gathering fruit** (crop) unto life eternal, so that he who does the planting and he who does the reaping may rejoice together."

- Our fruit will be in the likeness of God

Rom 6:5 "5 For if we have become one with Him by **sharing** a death like His, we shall also be [**one with Him in sharing**] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God]."

4.6 A Tree with Righteous Fruit Will yield Pure Oil

God requires that we come into the Tabernacle of Mercy, and that our lamp (menorah) should be burning with our love for Him based on a foundation of **pure olive oil**.



Ex 27:20-21 "20 You shall command the Israelites to provide you with **pure oil of crushed olives for the light**, to cause it to **burn continually** [every night].

21 In the Tent of Meeting [of God with His people], outside the veil which sets apart the Testimony, Aaron and his sons shall keep it burning from evening to morning before the Lord. It shall be a statute to be observed on behalf of the Israelites **throughout their generations.**"

Our lives and the fruit of our obedient living must make a **river** of oil.

Job 29:6 “6 When my steps [through rich pasturage] were washed with butter and the rock poured out for me **streams of oil!**”

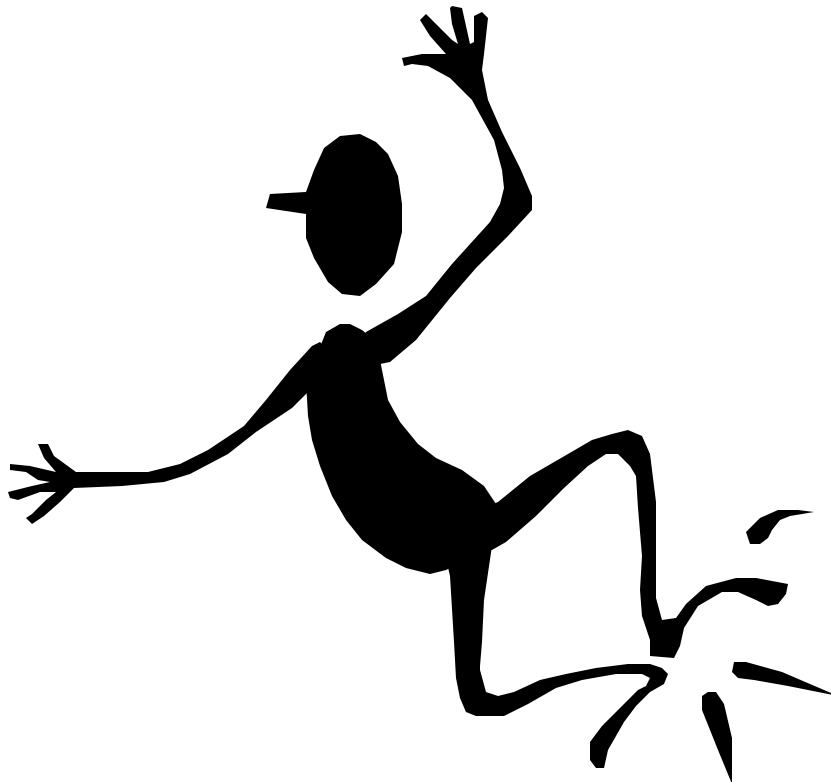
The oil in our lives must be so much that the oil is in abundance.

Ps 23:5 “5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my [brimming] **cup runs over.**”

We should be so clear as to our purpose and destiny, so focused on hearing and doing God’s Commandments that we can face life’s trials and tribulations with joy.

Ps 45:7 “7 You love righteousness, uprightness, and right standing with God and hate wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has **anointed You with the oil of gladness** above Your fellows.”

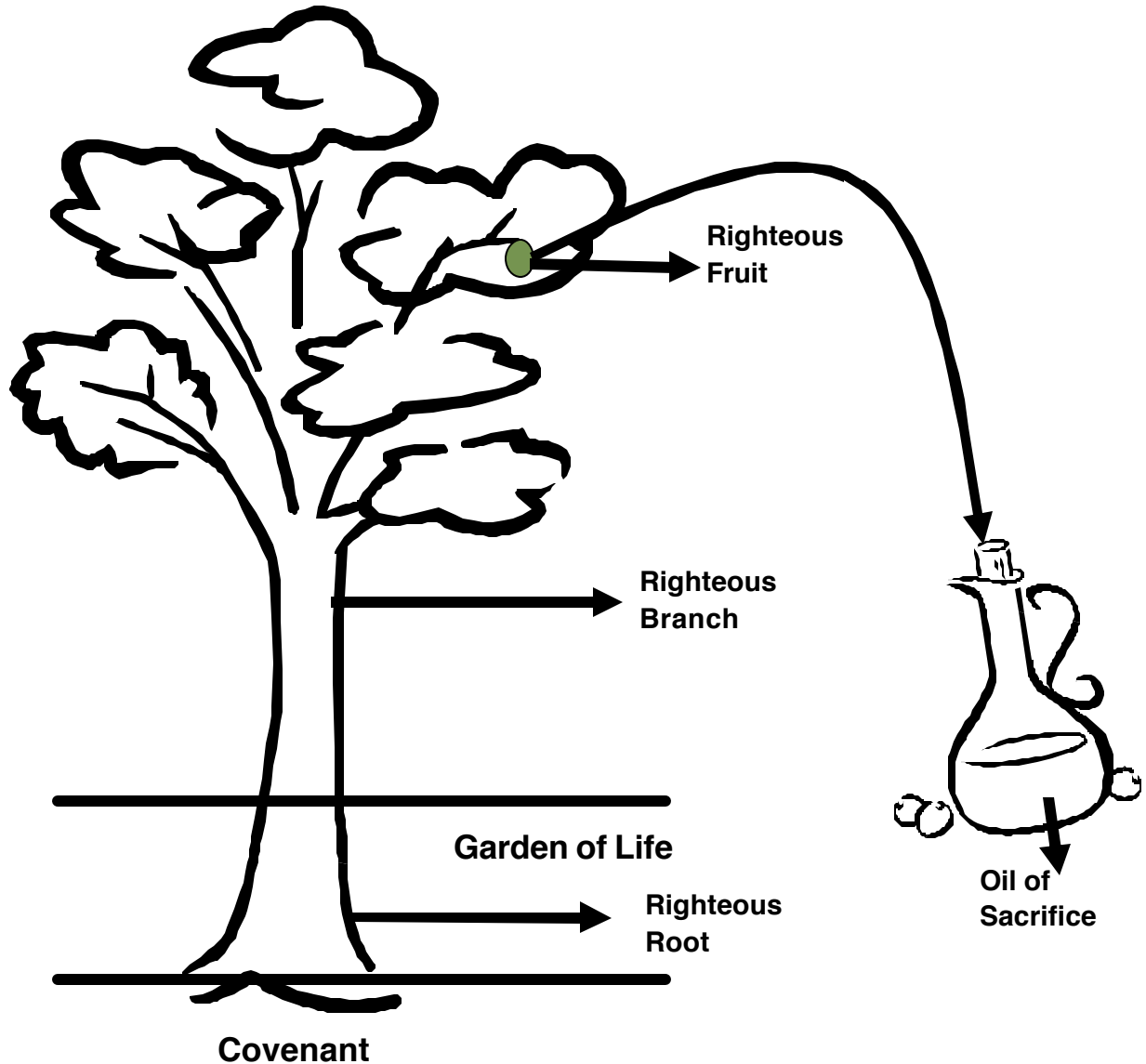
Hebrews 1:9 “9 You have loved righteousness [You have delighted in integrity, virtue, and uprightness in purpose, thought, and action] and You have hated lawlessness (injustice and iniquity). Therefore God, [even] Your God (Godhead), **has anointed You with the oil of exultant joy and gladness above and beyond Your companions.**”



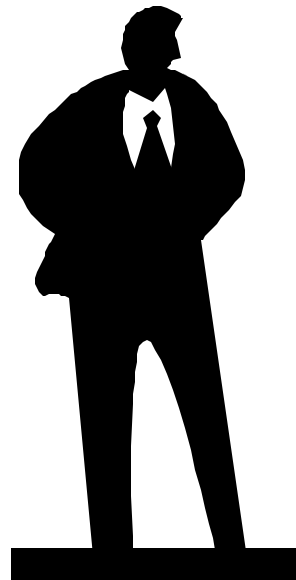
We can now make the following association:

Man = Olive Tree = Fruitful = Sacrificial Oil/
Holiness

RIGHTEOUS TREE = OIL OF SACRIFICE



Synopsis of the Parallel of man's life to that of a tree		
A. A tree inherent value is life	Gen. 3:22	When we eat of the Word of God, and are filled with His Holy Spirit, we draw life .
B. A tree represents the Kingdom of God.	Ezek. 17:23	As we draw life from God through our obedience to His Word / Torah, we become the living stones of His Tabernacle.
C. God sees man as a walking righteous tree	Is. 61:3	Whilst we may be stones in His Tabernacle, He wants us to impact the world and create a Godly environment.
D. We are the natural olive	Ps. 52:9	The Body of Christ is one unit made up of many parts .
E. The Root of God's Tree are righteous	Prov. 12:3	We, the natural olive , are rooted, standing on the Root – the Messiah
F. Good roots and branches will yield good fruit.	Ps. 80:15	The branch, grafted into the natural olive will draw life from the Source , God Himself.
G. Good roots and branches will yield good fruit.	Prov. 11:30	Our fruit will be in season, every month of the year, in abundance to meet every need – God provides.
H. Good fruit / olives when crushed will yeild pure oil.	Ex. 17:20-21	Obedience to God's Word will result in " Streams of Oil " and we will be able to declare that "my cup runneth over". Our menorah will burn continually for God to show the world that God is faithful.



The Mystery: Man paralleled to a tree?

God tells us the the Torah / Word of God is a “tree of life” for those who grasp hold of it.

Why is a tree (olive) compared to the Torah?	
- a tree grows from the smallest of all seeds.	- Man understanding God’s Word grows from the smallest of revelations
- each season the tree reveals a new beginning (rebirth) and ending (winter/ death)	- every new generation continues to expand our understanding of God’s Word / Revelations .
- as we study the tree, each leaf, flower reveals some new aspect.	- every letter, punctuation, sentence has unique meaning for each situation in man’s life.
- the tree gives life to the birds that come to nest in it.	- as man makes his life in the Beauty and Truth of God’s Word, we find rest.



5. THE GENTILES ARE GRAFTED INTO THE NATURAL OLIVE TREE

We have seen that God has a plan with trees, that trees reflect an image of who and what God is.

We have seen that the tree planted by God has a righteous root, grows righteous branches, brings forth righteous fruit and will **reflect God's glory in the form of sacrificial/holy oil.**

Paul tells us that we **gentiles** are the **wild olive** and need to be **grafted** into the **natural olive** tree.

Rom 11:13-24 *"13 But now I am speaking to you **who are Gentiles.** Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I lay great stress on my ministry and magnify my office,
14 In the hope of making my fellow Jews jealous [in order to stir them up to imitate, copy, and appropriate], and thus managing to save some of them.
15 For if their rejection and exclusion from the benefits of salvation were [overruled] for the reconciliation of a world to God, what will their acceptance and admission mean? [It will be nothing short of] life from the dead!
16 Now if the first handful of dough offered as the firstfruits [Abraham and the patriarchs] is consecrated (holy), so is the whole mass [the nation of Israel]; and **if the root [Abraham] is consecrated (holy), so are the branches.**
17 But if some of the branches were broken off, while you, **a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among them to share the richness [of the root and sap] of the olive tree,**
18 Do not boast over the branches and pride yourself at their expense. If you do boast and feel superior, remember it is not you that support the root, **but the root [that supports] you.**
19 You will say then, Branches were broken (pruned) off so that I might be grafted in!
20 That is true. But they were broken (pruned) off because of their unbelief (their lack of real faith), and you **are established through faith** [because you do believe]. So do not become proud and conceited, but rather stand in awe and be reverently afraid.
21 For if God did not spare the natural branches [because of unbelief], neither will He spare you [if you are guilty of the same offense].
22 Then note and appreciate the gracious kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's gracious kindness to you—provided you continue in His grace and abide in His kindness; otherwise you too will be cut off (pruned away).
23 And even those others [**the fallen branches, Jews**], if they do not **persist in [clinging to] their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.**
24 For if **you** have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and **against nature grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much easier will it be to graft these natural [branches] back on [the original parent stock of] their own olive tree.**"*

From this passage, we learn that since the root/branch of God is holy, so we as a royal, set apart priesthood should be setting a standard of righteous living, (as the salt of the earth) so that Judah (the Jewish people) will thirst for a meeting with Jesus the Messiah.

As we go back to the Old Testament we find that there are:

➤ Two Olive trees:



Zech. 4:3 -14 “3 And there are **two olive trees** by it, one upon the right side of the bowl and the other upon the left side of it [feeding it continuously with oil].
4 So I asked the angel who talked with me, What are these, my lord?
5 Then the angel who talked with me answered me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, my lord.
6 Then he said to me, This [addition of the bowl to the candlestick, causing it to yield a **ceaseless supply of oil from the olive trees**] is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit [of Whom the oil is a symbol], says the Lord of hosts.**
7 For who are you, O great mountain [of human obstacles]? Before Zerubbabel [who with Joshua had led the return of the exiles from Babylon and was undertaking the rebuilding of the temple, before him] you shall become a plain [a mere molehill]! And he shall bring forth the finishing gable stone [of the new temple] with loud shoutings of the people, crying, Grace, grace to it!
8 Moreover, the word of the Lord came to me, saying,
9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundations of this house; his hands shall also finish it. Then you shall know (recognize and understand) that the Lord of hosts has sent me [His messenger] to you.
10 Who [with reason] despises the day of small things? For these seven shall rejoice when they see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel. [These seven] are the eyes of the Lord which run to and fro throughout the whole earth.
11 Then I said to him [the angel who talked with me], What are these **two olive trees** on the right side of the lampstand and on the left side of it?
12 And a second time I said to him, What are these **two olive branches** which are beside the two golden tubes or spouts by which the **golden oil** is emptied out?
13 And he answered me, Do you not know what these are? And I said, No, my lord.
14 Then said he, These are the **two sons of oil** [Joshua the high priest and Zerubbabel the prince of Judah, the two anointed ones] who stand before the Lord of the whole earth [as His anointed instruments].

AND

➤ **in the New Testament that there are two witnesses:**

Rev. 11:4 *“4 These [witnesses] are the **two olive trees** and the two lampstands which stand before the Lord of the earth.”*

As we couple this to the words of Paul in **Romans 11** we realize that there is a double meaning.

1. This represents both Judah and Ephraim / Israel
2. This represents the Jews and the Gentiles.

God only has one Bride

Paul tells us that although we live in the natural, God no longer wants us to see in the natural but in the spirit.

We are to become **One New Man**.

Eph 2:14-16 *“Ephesians 2:14-16 (AMP)
14 For He is [Himself] our peace (our bond of unity and harmony). He has **made us both [Jew and Gentile] one [body], and has broken down (destroyed, abolished) the hostile dividing wall between us,**
15 By abolishing in His [own crucified] flesh the enmity [caused by] the Law with its decrees and ordinances [which He annulled]; that He from the two might create in Himself **one new man** [one new quality of humanity out of the two], so making peace.
16 And [He designed] **to reconcile to God both [Jew and Gentile, united] in a single body by means of His cross**, thereby killing the mutual enmity and bringing the feud to an end.”*

We can now make the following association:

MAN = OLIVE TREE = ONE NEW MAN = SACRIFICIAL OIL

PRINCIPLE: Everything, which is to be established in the Spiritual, must first be established in the natural/physical.

1 Cor 15:46 *“46 But it is not the spiritual life which came first, but the physical and then the spiritual.”*

We find an Old Testament example, which defines the transformation.

A. Restore to

Ezek 36:24 *“24 For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all countries and bring you into your own land.”*

Restore in :

Ezek 36:25-26 “25 Then will I **sprinkle clean water upon you**, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness; and from all your idols will I cleanse you. 26 **A new heart will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**”

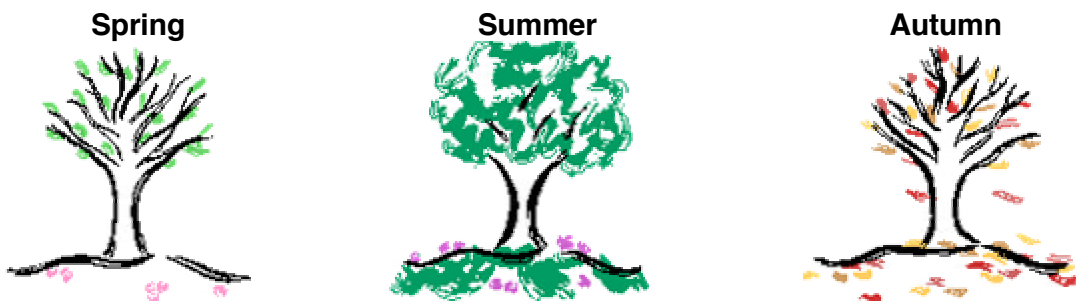
B. We find the confirmation of this principle in the New Testament.

Heb 8:1-13 “... and so I withdrew My favor and disregarded them, says the Lord.
10 **For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will imprint My laws upon their minds, even upon their innermost thoughts and understanding, and engrave them upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people...**”

Outworking of the seasonal cycles, the feasts and the spiritual dimension in terms of this principle:

From the above-mentioned examples we see that the **physical manifests first before victory comes in the spiritual dimension.**

The **Physical** dimension, which I want to highlight is the **cycle of seasons.**



With Spring we see **new life** – the beginning of creation all over again.

With Summer we see the **fullness** of the **harvest** as the plants, etc., give their production.

With Autumn we see the ingathering and the **transformation** of the **harvest** into food/produce/**final product**.

To make sure that man grasped the relevance of the dimension and its spiritual counterpart, God puts a **second physical** dimension in place to reinforce the message. God calls for His people to keep **THREE MAJOR FEASTS** and to go to Jerusalem to magnify the message.

Passover
Pesach

Pentecost
Shavout

Tabernacles
Succot

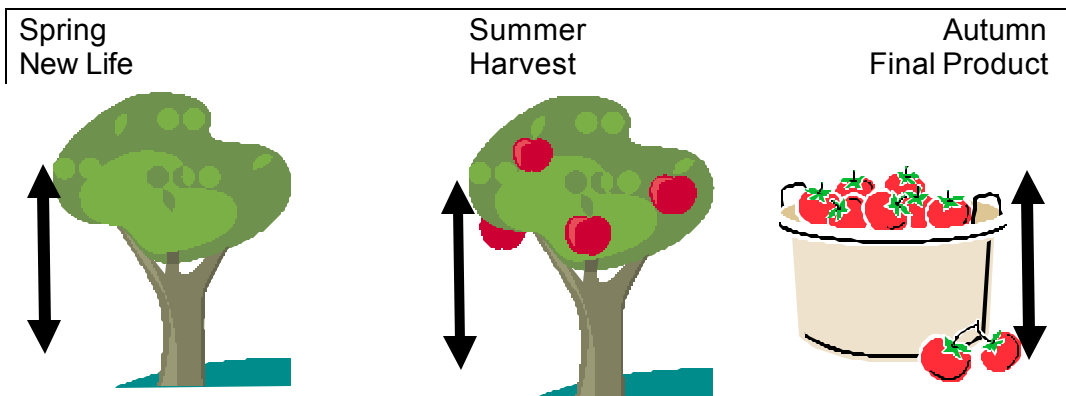
With Pesach we find the story of the Exodus, just as the earth comes to new life, so too man was granted freedom

With Shavout we find that God **harvests** this freedom by calling His people to be a **Holy Nation** and a **Kingdom of Priests**.

With Succot we find that God wants His people to be presented as a **Pure Bride** - **complete / mature** and living in **full harmony** with God.

We can now state quite categorically that the physical manifestation of the cycle of seasons reflects God's cycle of spiritual renewal for man.

The following table draws this comparison to be a conclusion.



Freedom Pesach	Priest & Holy Kingdom Shavuot	Mature Bride Succot
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These physical manifestations reflect God's **desire** for the spiritual dimension.

Time for personal spiritual renewal.	Rise to new heights in integrity and spiritual growth – provide leadership through servanthood to a community.	Leave a legacy and complete God's calling and purpose for your life.
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As we, God's people, achieve this we will reflect the glory of our testimony that God created the world.

We are each given talents / gifts to achieve God's purpose. Anyone who walks down this path will need to see the **milestones or goals** at which to target.

Birth of my calling	Assumption of the calling.	Completion of the mission and destiny
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6. PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THIS PRINCIPLE IN TERMS OF OUR CURRENT STUDY OF THE PATHWAY FROM THE FEASTS OF GOD TO THE OIL OF ANOINTING.

The physical manifestation in the Old Testament of this **Tree of Life** is to be found in the covenantal relationship which is defined on the one hand:

- by God's **various and ever-increasing commitment** to Man;

and on the other hand:

- by God's **express Commandment** that we **celebrate life in a defined set of Feasts**.

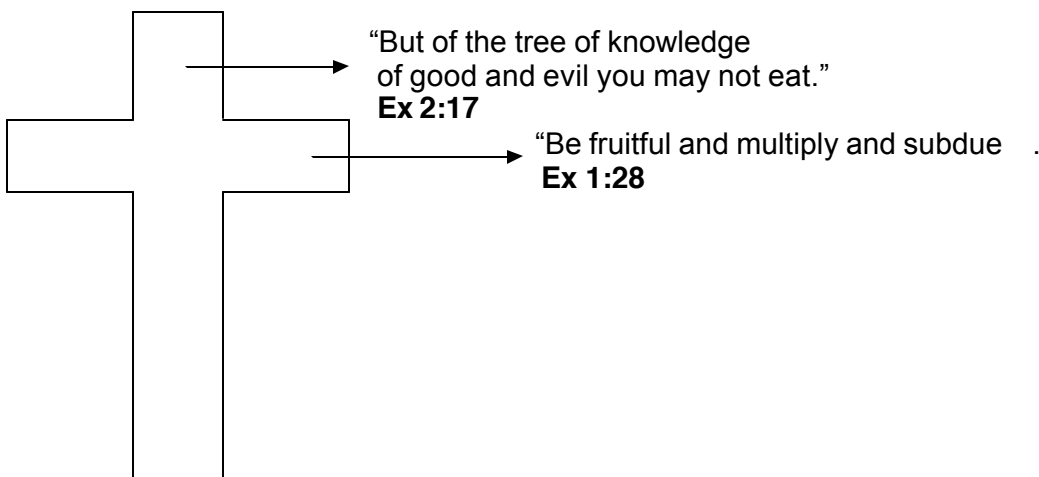


A. THE COVENANTAL ROOTS: COMMITMENT TO MAN

There is **One Congregation** with one unchanging / everlasting God and if we accept our salvation by faith, then we are a New Creation, a firstborn Israelite. It therefore follows that there is only **One Covenant**, an ever growing, more encompassing Renewing Covenant.

6.1 Initial Covenantal Relationship

God creates Adam and Eve – this is the highlight of creation – it was very good. The Covenant was based on relational love by the Creator. The image of the cross can already be seen here



Note: These were **Commandments** to be **obeyed** even though we had a living God, a perfect man and **no sin**.



Adam & Eve

Commandment

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Work | → | Unchanged until Jesus returns |
| 2. Knowledge of good and evil | → | Unchanged – we all have to make a free will choice to serve God |

6.2 Under Noah

God looks at the evil of the world and decides to judge the sin – but also covenants with the man with whom He finds grace – **Gen 6:8**

This is the Covenant:

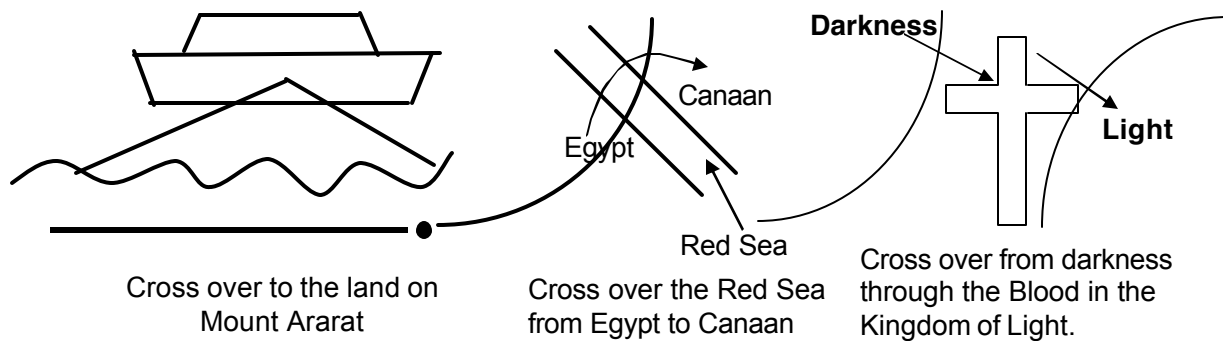
Gen 6:17,18 *“17 For behold, I, even I, will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy and make putrid all flesh under the heavens in which are the breath and spirit of life; everything that is on the land shall die.
18 But I will **establish My covenant** (promise, pledge) with you, and you shall come into the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons’ wives with you.”*

The Covenant with Noah is not only a sign and an event, which foreshadowed the deliverance that Jesus would bring but was an example of the message of salvation.

Noah lives in a land full of sin. God provides a plan – Noah must build an ark. Even though it takes many years and does not rain until the end of the time. Noah had to accept the plan of salvation and deliverance by **faith**. God gives us a sign to remind us of the Covenant – a rainbow.

Gen 9:13 *“13 I set My bow [rainbow] in the cloud, and it shall be a token or sign of a covenant or solemn pledge between Me and the earth.”*

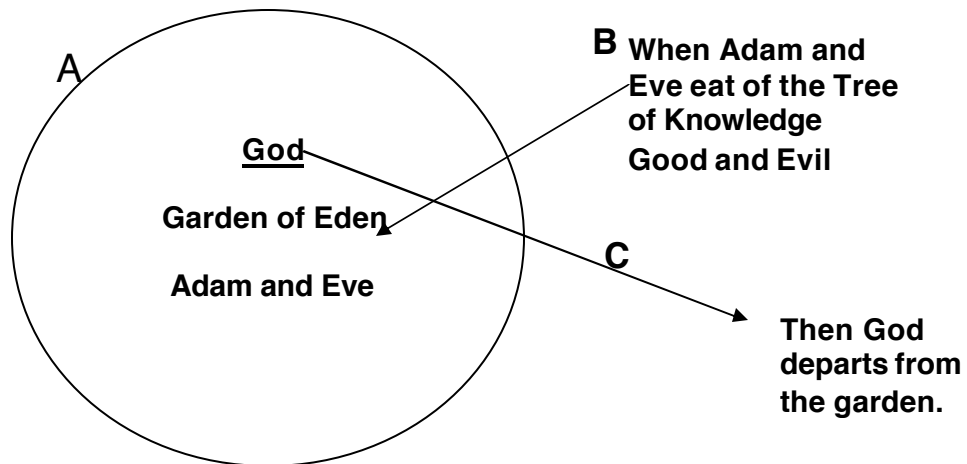
Examples showing the Principle of crossing over from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Light.



6.3 Under Abraham

The life of Abraham shows an interesting progression.

Abram had some qualities which God recognized. Abram lived in a time when God's presence had departed (after Adam & Eve).



Abram hears a Word from God – he believes in faith on the promise made.

Gen 12:1-3 "1 NOW [in Haran] the Lord said to Abram, **Go** for yourself [for your own advantage] **away from your country, from your relatives and your father's house, to the land that I will show you.**
 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you [with abundant increase of favors] and make your name famous and distinguished, and you will be a blessing [dispensing good to others].

3 And I will bless those who bless you [who confer prosperity or happiness upon you] **and curse him who curses or uses insolent language toward you**; in you will all the families and kindred of the earth be blessed [and by you they will bless themselves].”

We see that he goes to Canaan in **obedience** – a work **after** salvation **by** faith.

Gen 12:4 “4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had directed him; and Lot [his nephew] went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.”

Abraham and Sarah bring restoration to the earth through a lifestyle of righteous living:

- He builds prayer altars (**Gen 12:7; 13:18**)
- He extends kindness
- He extends hospitality

The promise is renewed:

Gen 13:14-18 “14 The Lord said to Abram after Lot had left him, Lift up now your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;
15 For all the land which you see **I will give to you and to your posterity forever.**
16 And I will **make your descendants like the dust of the earth**, so that if a man could count the dust of the earth, then could your descendants also be counted.
17 **Arise, walk through the land, the length of it and the breadth of it, for I will give it to you.**
18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt among the oaks or terebinths of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and built there an altar to the Lord.”

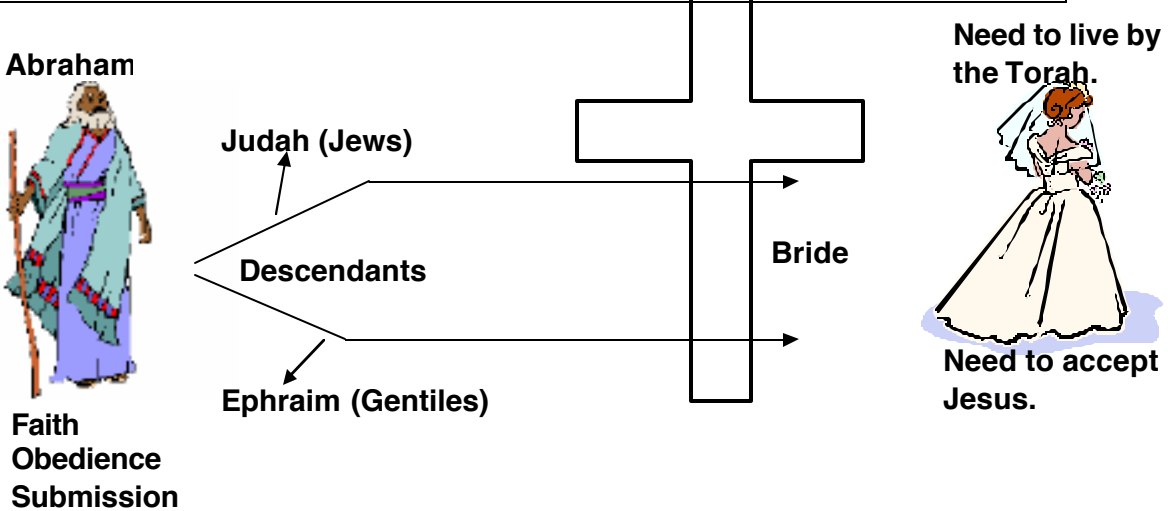
- He defends His family.
- He recognizes the priesthood of Melchizadek (**Gen 14:18**)

God **establishes** the Covenant:

Gen 15:7-12 “7 And He said to him, I am the [same] Lord, Who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees to give you this land as an inheritance.
8 But he [Abram] said, Lord God, by **what shall I know that I shall inherit it?**
9 And He said to him, **Bring to Me** a heifer three years old, a she-goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”

Abraham accepted by **faith** (crossed over from idol worship to worship of God only – became the first Hebrew) moved in **obedience**, Sarah moved in **submission** and the promise was for the descendants who would be delivered from **slavery**.

Gen 15:13-21 “13 And [God] said to Abram, **Know positively** that your descendants will be strangers dwelling as temporary residents in a land that is not theirs [Egypt], and they will be slaves there and will be afflicted and oppressed for 400 years. [Fulfilled in Exod. 12:40.]
 14 But I will bring judgment on that nation whom they will serve, and afterward **they will come out with great possessions.**
 15 And you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old (hoary) age.
 16 And **in the fourth generation they [your descendants] shall come back here [to Canaan] again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full and complete.**
 17 When the sun had gone down and a [thick] darkness had come on, behold, a smoking oven and a flaming torch passed between those pieces.
 18 On the same day the **Lord made a covenant** (promise, pledge) with Abram, saying, To your descendants I have given this land ...”



Acts 7: Stephen shows that the congregation at Mount Sinai is alive and well and growing after the baptism of the Holy Spirit in Acts.

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – the Land of Israel

Abraham is given the promise of descendants, i.e. the making of **nations**. He is also given the promise of a **land**, which he will inherit.

Abraham comes to Canaan – builds an altar and walks the **length** and **breadth** of the land, **building** more altars to claim the land physically before the spiritual inheritance is given.

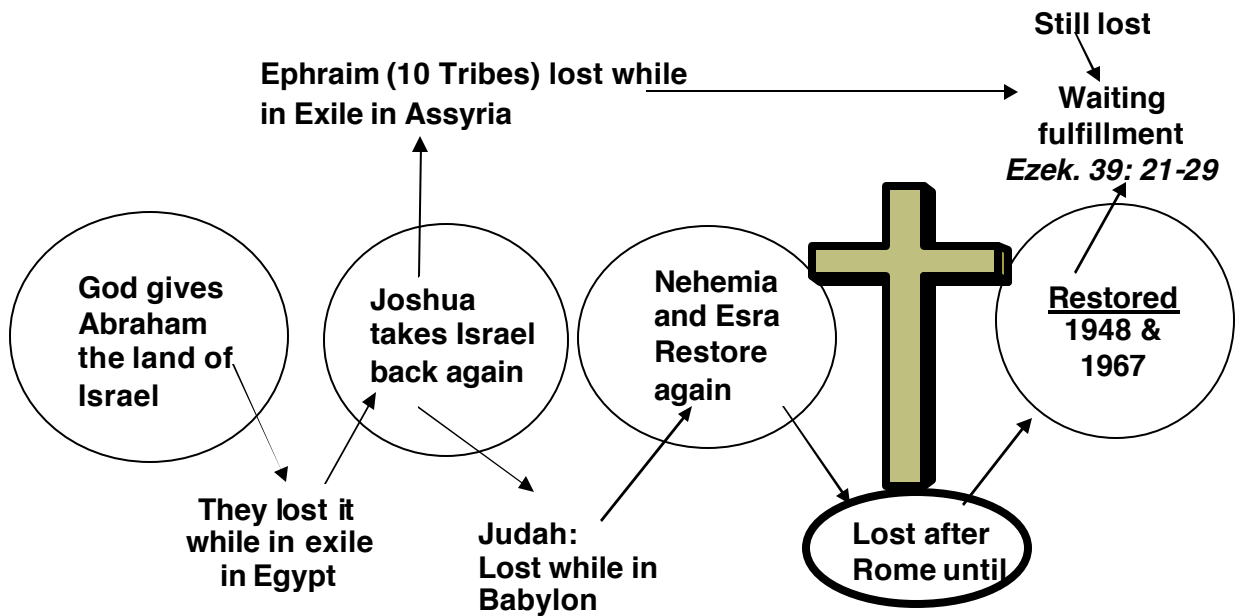
Gen 13:3-4,18 “3 And he journeyed on from the South [country of Judah, the Negeb] as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,
 4 Where he had **built an altar at first**; and there Abram called on the Name of the Lord.

18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt among the oaks or terebinths of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and **built there an altar to the Lord.**"

However after God has made the **Covenant** with Abraham (**Ex 15:8-15**) God includes this promise inside of covenantal relationship **and** extends this to **all** of Abraham's descendants **forever**.

Gen 15 "...18 On the same day the **Lord made a covenant** (promise, pledge) with Abram, saying, **To your descendants I have given this land...**"

The Land gets Restored Back to the Nation of Israel:



6.4 Under Moses

Until now the Covenant and promise have been between God and a single man and his immediate family. After the promise made (that Abraham's descendants would be slaves in Egypt for 400 years and would be set free to return to Canaan) we find that God again moves to expand the Covenantal relationship. He uses Moses to come to the people while in bondage and present God's plan of salvation and purpose – this time to a **nation**.

The nation takes the step of faith to believe in the blood of a lamb on the doorpost, to keep the first Passover, and to move out to Mount Sinai.

Ex 19:17-20 “17 Then Moses brought the people **from the camp to meet God**, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.
18 **Mount Sinai** was wrapped in smoke, for the Lord descended upon it in fire; its **smoke ascended like that of a furnace**, and the **whole mountain quaked greatly**.
19 As the trumpet blast grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with a voice.
20 **The Lord came down upon Mount Sinai** to the top of the mountain, and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.”

Ex 19:8 “8 And all the people answered together, and said, **All that the Lord has spoken we will do**. And Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord.”

Ex 19:5-6 “5 Now therefore, **if you will obey My voice in truth and keep My covenant**, then you shall be My own peculiar possession and treasure from among and above all peoples; **for all the earth is Mine**.
6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation [consecrated, set apart to the worship of God]. These are the words you shall speak to the Israelites.”

Ex 24:3 “3 Moses came and told the people all that the Lord had said and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, **All that the Lord has spoken we will do**.”

Ex 34:10 “10 And the Lord said, Behold, I lay down [afresh the terms of the mutual agreement between Israel and Me] **a covenant**. Before all your people I will do marvels (wonders, miracles) such as have not been wrought or created in all the earth or in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord; for it is a terrible thing [fearful and full of awe] that I will do with you.”

God then goes through a process of building community structures and rules for **good governance**. **Deuteronomy 6,12,20** caps this by defining the place of *Blessing and Curses* in **Deuteronomy 28**. Again we see that **gentiles** were welcome in the Kingdom of God.

6.5 Under David

The Covenantal relationship has expanded from a promise **not to destroy** mankind by a flood, to descendants too numerous to count, to a land of their own forever, to a nation with a governmental / priestly / social system which we accept by faith and obey in love— thereafter receiving the blessing that God has promised.

Anyone who rejects this promise (i.e. do not have faith in God's plan / purpose) and those who willfully disobey Him experience the consequences of their actions.

However, God is not finished!! During his lifetime, David comes to the realization that God has done so much for him.

God Covenants with him that:

- God will establish His **kingdom** in the life of David **forever**.
- Solomon would build the first temple.
- **Praise and worship** would continue forever.

1 Chron 17:9-27 "9 Also **I will appoint a place** for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may dwell **in their own place and be moved no more**; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the first,
10 Since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel. Moreover, I will subdue all your enemies. Furthermore, I foretell to you that the **Lord will build you a house** (a blessed posterity).
11 And it shall come to pass that when your days are fulfilled to go to be with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.
12 **He shall build Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever.**
13 I will be his father, and he shall be My son; and I will not take My mercy and steadfast love away from him, as I took it from him [King Saul] who was before you.
14 But I will settle him (Him) in My house and in My kingdom **forever**; and his **(His) throne shall be established forevermore**.
15 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.
16 And David the king went in and sat before the Lord and said, Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house and family, that You have brought me up to this?
17 And yet this was a small thing in Your eyes, O God; **for You have spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come**, and have regarded me according to the estate of a man of high degree, O Lord God!
18 What more can David say to You for thus honoring Your servant? For You know Your servant.
19 O Lord, for Your servant's sake and in accord with Your own heart, You have wrought all this greatness, to make known all these great things.
20 O Lord, there is none like You, nor is there any God beside You, according to all that our ears have heard.
21 And what nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem to Himself as a people, making Yourself a Name by great and terrible things, by driving out nations from before Your people, whom You redeemed out of Egypt?
22 You made **Your people Israel Your own forever, and You, Lord, became their God.**
23 Therefore now, Lord, **let the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and his house be established forever, and do as You have said.**

24 Let it be established and let Your Name [and the character that Name denotes] be magnified forever, saying, The Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, is Israel's God; and the house of David Your servant will be established before You.

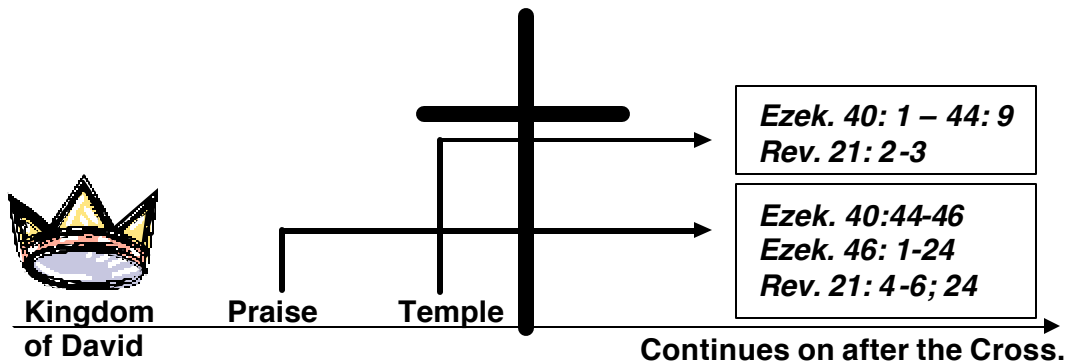
25 For You, O my God, have told Your servant that You will build for him a house (a blessed posterity); therefore Your servant has found courage and confidence to pray before You.

26 And now, Lord, You are God, and have promised this good thing to Your servant.

27 Therefore may it please You **to bless the house (posterity) of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever**; for what You bless, O Lord, is blessed forever.”

Fulfilled in:

Ezek. 37: 15-28
Jesus. Son of Jesse



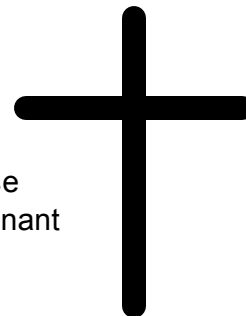
6.6 Under Jesus the Messiah

Jesus came to declare the acceptable year of the Lord – i.e. a year of jubilee!

SUMMARY OF THE COVENANT

Protection
Descendants / Nation
A Nation
And
Community Structure
Kingdom Praise and Worship forever

Jer 31:31 - Promise
of a renewed Covenant



We have seen an ever expanding, renewing Covenant, which now has a promise for more. We start with the **return to**:

Jer 23:3-6 “**3 And I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries to which I have driven them and will bring them again to their folds and pastures; and they will be fruitful and multiply.**
4 And I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them. And they will fear no more nor be dismayed, neither will any be missing or lost, says the Lord.
5 Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, **when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch (Sprout), and He will reign as King and do wisely and will execute justice and righteousness in the land.**
6 In His days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His Name by which He shall be called: The Lord Our Righteousness.”

We move to **restoration** of Ephraim and Judah.

Jer 31:15-17, 21, 25, 28 “**15 Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.**
16 Thus says the Lord: Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work shall be rewarded, says the Lord; **and [your children] shall return from the enemy’s land.**
17 And there is hope for your future, says the Lord; **your children shall come back to their own country.**
21 Set up for yourselves highway markers [back to Canaan], make for yourselves guideposts; **turn your thoughts and attention to the way by which you went [into exile]. Retrace your steps, O Virgin Israel, return to these your cities.**
25 **For I will [fully] satisfy the weary soul, and I will replenish every languishing and sorrowful person.**
26 Thereupon I [Jeremiah] awoke and looked, and my [trancelike] sleep was sweet [in the assurance it gave] to me.
27 Behold, the days are coming, **says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed (offspring) of man and of beast.**
28 And it will be that as I have watched over them to pluck up and to break down, and to overthrow, destroy, and afflict [with evil], **so will I watch over them to build and to plant [with good], says the Lord.”**

We get the **promise** of a **New Covenant**.

Jer 31:31-34 “**31 Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,**
32 Not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was their Husband, says the Lord.

33 But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, says the Lord, **I will put My law within them, and on their hearts will I write it; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.**
34 And they will no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for they will all know Me [recognize, understand, and be acquainted with Me], from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will [seriously] remember their sin no more.”

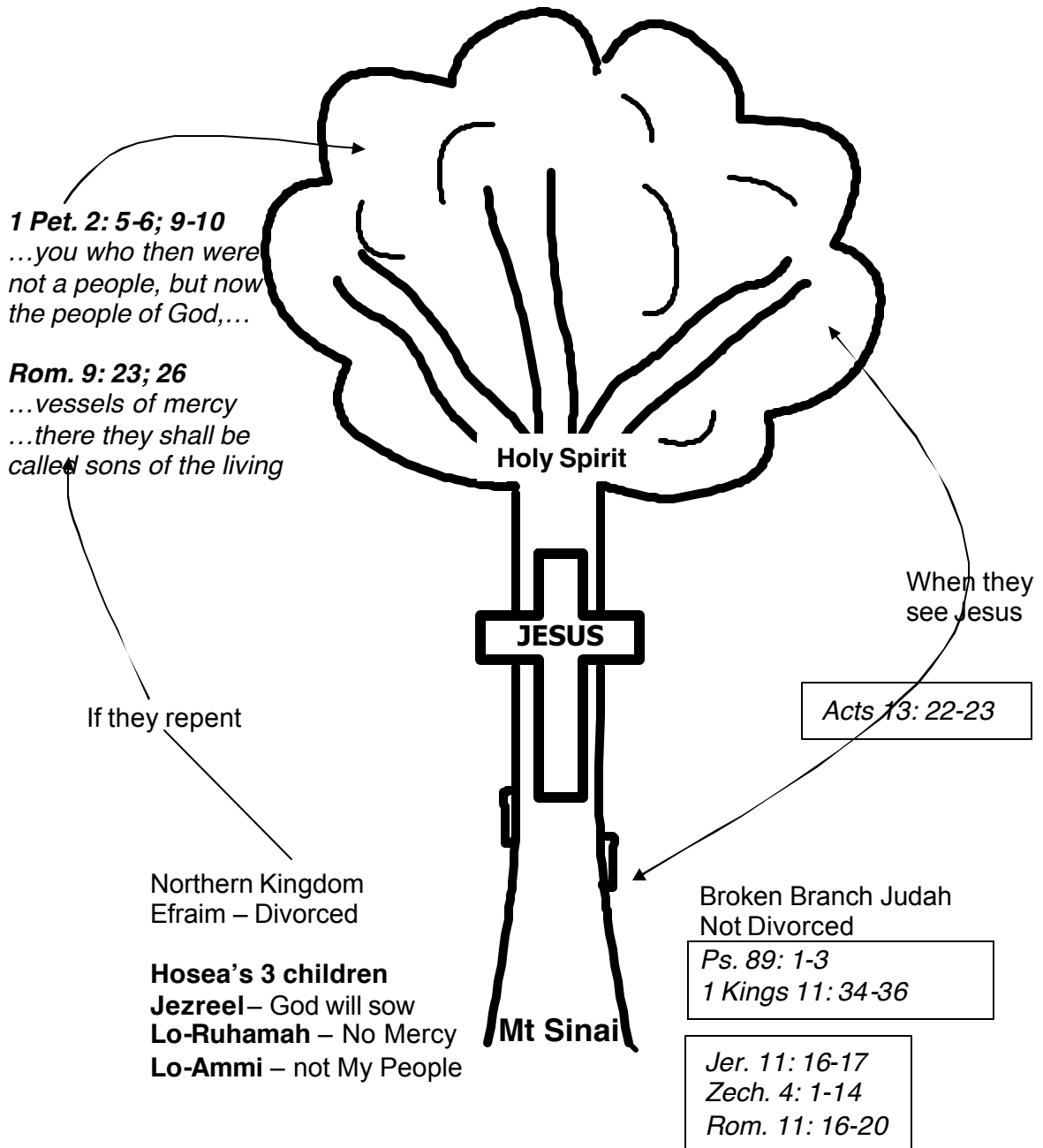
We find the promise of a **restored Nation** with **Jeshua the Messiah**.

Jer 33: 14-16 “14 Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, **when I will fulfill the good promise I have made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.**
15 In those days and at that time will I cause a righteous Branch [the Messiah] to grow up to David; and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
16 In those days Judah shall be saved and Jerusalem shall dwell safely. And this is the Name by which it will be called, The Lord is Our Righteousness (our Rightness, our Justice).”

We get the **permanence** of the Covenant.

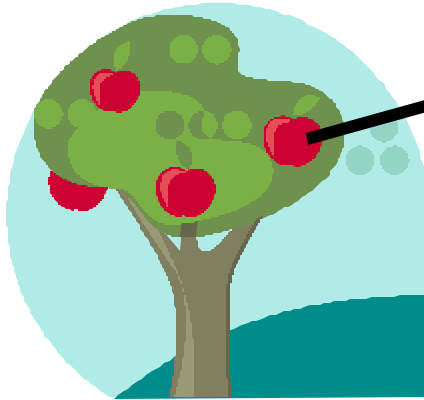
Jer 33:19-26 “19 And the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying,
20 Thus says the Lord: **If you can break My covenant with the day, and My covenant with the night, so that there should not be day and night in their season,**
21 **Then can also My covenant be broken with David My servant, so that he shall not have a son to reign upon his throne,** and [My league be broken also] with the Levitical priests, My ministers.
22 As the host of [the stars of] the heavens cannot be numbered nor the sand of the sea be measured, **so will I multiply the offspring of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me...**
...25 Thus says the Lord: **If My covenant with day and night does not stand, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of the heavens and the earth [the whole order of nature],**
26 Then will I also cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant and will not choose one of his offspring to be ruler over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. **For I will cause their captivity to be reversed, and I will have mercy, kindness, and steadfast love on and for them.”**

Visually this can be presented as follows:



B. COVENANTAL ROOTS: THE FEAST AND THE HARVEST FRUIT

The physical manifestation of the fruit of the tree is seen in the celebration of the **harvest** at each one of the feasts instituted by God.



Fruit = Feasts

Lev 23:1-44 *"1 THE LORD said to Moses,
2 Say to the Israelites, The set **feasts** or appointed seasons of the Lord which you shall proclaim as holy convocations, even **My set feasts, are these:**
3 Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is **1 the Sabbath** of rest, a holy convocation or assembly by summons. You shall do no work on that day; **it is the Sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings.**
4 These are **the set feasts or appointed seasons** of the Lord, holy convocations you shall proclaim at their s tated times:
5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the **2 Lord's Passover.**
6 On the **fifteenth day** of the same month is the **3 Feast of Unleavened Bread** to the Lord; **for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.**
7 On the first day you shall have a holy "calling together;" you shall do no servile or laborious work on that day.
8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord for seven days; on the seventh day is a holy convocation; you shall do no servile or laborious work on that day.
9 And the Lord said to Moses,
4 Feast of First Fruits:
10 Tell the Israelites, When you have come into the land I give you and reap its **harvest**, you shall bring the **sheaf of the firstfruits** of your **harvest** to the priest.
11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, that you may be accepted; on the next day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it [before the Lord].
12 You shall offer on the day when you **wave the sheaf a male lamb a year old** without blemish for a burnt offering to the Lord.
13 Its **cereal offering** shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the Lord for a sweet, pleasing, and satisfying fragrance; and the drink offering of it [to be poured out] shall be of wine, a fourth of a hin.*

14 And you shall eat neither bread nor **parched grain nor green ears**, until this same day when you have brought the offering of your God; it is **a statute forever throughout your generations in all your houses**.

15 And you shall count from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the **sheaf of the wave offering**, seven Sabbaths; [seven full weeks] shall they be.

Ⓢ **Shavuot:**

16 **Count fifty days** to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall present a cereal offering of new grain to the Lord.

17 You shall bring from your dwellings **two loaves of bread** to be waved, made from two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven, for **firstfruits to the Lord**.

18 And you shall offer with the **bread seven lambs**, a year old and without blemish, and **one young bull and two rams**. They shall be a burnt offering to the Lord, with their cereal offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire, of a sweet and satisfying fragrance to the Lord.

19 Then you shall sacrifice **one he-goat** for a sin offering and **two he-lambs**, a year old, for a sacrifice of **peace offering**.

20 The priest shall **wave the two lambs**, together with the **bread** of the firstfruits, for a wave offering before the Lord. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest.

21 You shall make proclamation the same day, summoning a holy assembly; you shall do no servile work that day. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

22 And when you **reap the harvest** of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, neither shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall **leave them for the poor and the stranger**. I am the Lord your God.

23 And the Lord said to Moses,

Ⓢ **Rosh Hashannah:**

24 Say to the Israelites, On the first day of the seventh month [almost October], you shall observe a day of solemn [sabbatical] rest, a memorial day announced by blowing of trumpets, a holy [called] assembly.

25 You shall do no servile work on it, but you shall present an offering made by fire to the Lord.

26 And the Lord said to Moses,

27 Also the tenth day of this seventh month is Ⓢ **the Day of Atonement**; it shall be a holy [called] assembly, and you shall afflict yourselves [by fasting in penitence and humility] and present an offering made by fire to the Lord.

28 And you shall do no work on this day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the Lord your God.

29 For whoever is not afflicted [by fasting in penitence and humility] on this day shall be cut off from among his people [that he may not be included in the atonement made for them].

30 And whoever does any work on that same day I will destroy from among his people.

31 **You shall do no kind of work [on that day]. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.**

32 It shall be to you a sabbath of rest, and you shall afflict yourselves [by fasting in penitence and humility]. On the ninth day of the month from evening to evening you shall keep your sabbath.

33 And the Lord said to Moses,

34 Say to the Israelites, The fifteenth day of this seventh month, and for seven days, is the **Ⓢ Feast of Tabernacles or Booths** to the Lord.

35 On the first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no servile work on that day.

36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord; on the eighth day shall be a holy convocation and you shall present an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a solemn assembly; you shall do no laborious work on that day.

37 **These are the set feasts or appointed seasons of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to present an offering made by fire to the Lord, a burnt offering and a cereal offering, sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its own day.**

38 This is in addition to the Sabbaths of the Lord and besides your gifts and all your vowed offerings and all your freewill offerings which you give to the Lord.

Ⓢ “One Extra Day” :

39 Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month [nearly October], when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the Lord for seven days, the first day and the **eighth day each a Sabbath**.

40 And on the first day you shall take the **fruit of pleasing trees** [and make booths of them], branches of palm trees, and boughs of thick (leafy) trees, and willows of the brook; and you **shall rejoice before the Lord your God** for seven days.

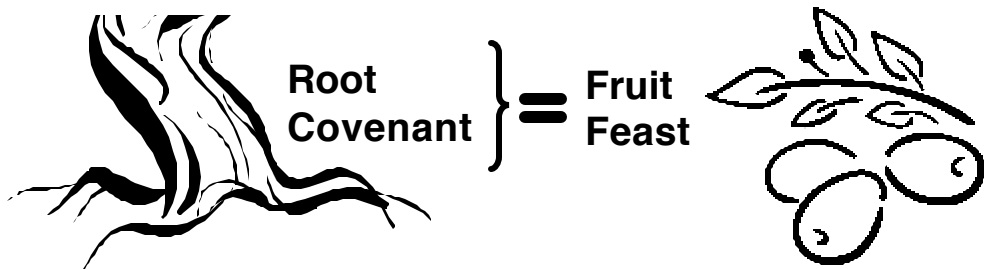
41 You shall keep it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in **the year, a statute forever throughout your generations; you shall keep it in the seventh month.**

42 You shall dwell in booths (shelters) for seven days: All native Israelites shall dwell in booths,

43 That your generations may know that I made the Israelites dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

44 Thus Moses declared to the Israelites the set or **appointed feasts** of the Lord.”

We can now make the following association in the **physical realm**:



C. THE PERPETUAL NATURE OF THE COVENANT WITH MAN AND THE FEASTS OF GOD IN RELATIONSHIP TO EACH OTHER

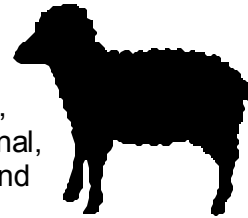
Clearly we can see that the Covenant has been an ever-growing, more encompassing relationship. Also we can see that the impact of the Cross of Golgotha on this Covenant was to expand the relational element of this Covenant. An analysis of **Books of Ezekiel and Revelation** show that some elements of the sacrificial system and the feasts are still in operation, in i.e. something instituted in the time of Abraham and Moses is still relevant today and in the future.

Each feast, it's meaning in both Old and New Testament times is dealt with in separate books so that present day "Hebrews" can enjoy the feasts and take part in the **prophetic and spiritual declarations**.

The purpose of this chapter is merely to draw the parallel from the feasts in the Old Testament time through to the New Jerusalem period. This defines once again that God is **unchanging**.

First Major Feast: Pesach / Passover

Although Yeshua died on Passover as the Passover Lamb, He also fulfills the sacrifice of Yom Kippur, becoming the final, complete offer for atonement of sin. The feast of Pesach and its minor feast takes place over 7 days.



We see that Pesach will be celebrated in the New Jerusalem.

Ezek 45:21-24 *"21 In the first month on the fourteenth day of the [month]; you shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.*

22 Upon that day the prince shall prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bullock for a sin offering.

23 And for the seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to the Lord, seven bullocks and seven rams without blemish daily for the seven days, and a he-goat daily for a sin offering.

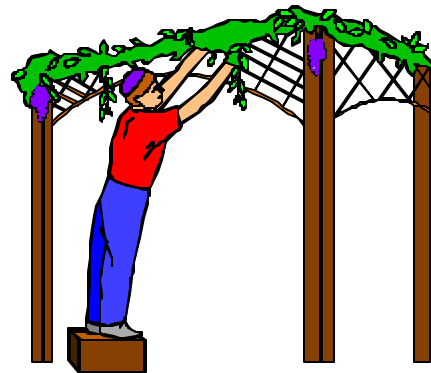
24 And he shall prepare as a meal offering to be offered with each bullock an ephah of meal, an ephah for each ram, and a hin of oil for each ephah of meal."

Second Major Feast: Shavout

There is no indication that this feast will continue. The giving of **Torah** and the Holy Spirit have been replaced by God's permanent presence/light. **Rev 21:23**



Third Major Feast: Succot/Tabernacles: includes the feast of **Rosh Hashannah** and **Yom Kippur**.



Succot is celebrated for 7 days and then **God asks for a special 8th day**.

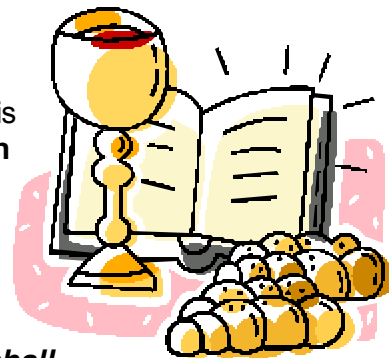
We find this feast in the New Jerusalem in the Messianic time.

Ezek 43: 25-27 *"25 Seven days you shall prepare every day a goat for a sin offering; also a young bull and a ram out of the flock, without blemish, shall be prepared.
26 For seven days shall they make atonement for the altar and purify it; so the priests shall consecrate, separate, and set it apart to receive offerings.
27 And when these days have been accomplished, **on the eighth day and from then on, the priests shall offer your burnt offerings upon the altar and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, says the Lord God.**"*

Zech 14:16-19 *"16 And everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall **even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths.**
17 And it shall be that whoso of the families of the earth shall not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, upon them there shall be no rain.
18 And if the family of Egypt does not go up to Jerusalem and present themselves, upon them there shall be no rain, but there shall be the plague with which the Lord will smite the nations that go not up to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles.**
19 This shall be the consequent punishment of the sin of Egypt and the consequent punishment of the sin of all the nations that do not go up to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles.**"*

4. Shabbat

Shabbat was **instituted first** after the **covenant**. It is part of the Ten Commandments – **it has never been changed**. We find this day celebrated in the New Jerusalem.

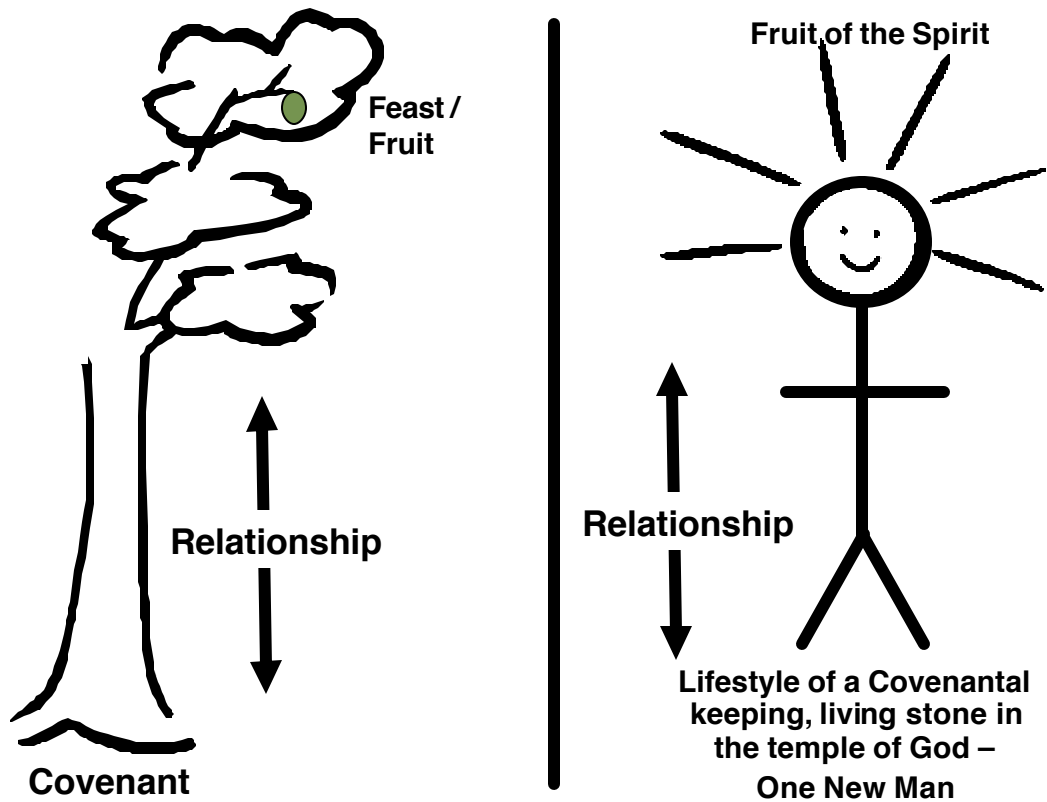


Ezek 46:1 *"1 **THUS SAYS** the Lord God: The gate of the inner court that faces east shall be shut during the six working days, but **on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and also on the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.**"*

Ezek 46:4 *"4 And the burnt offering that the prince shall offer to the Lord on the **Sabbath day** shall be six lambs without blemish and a ram without blemish."*

Ezek 46:12 "12 When the prince shall prepare and make a freewill burnt offering or peace offerings voluntarily to the Lord, the gate that faces east shall be opened for him, and he shall offer his burnt offering and his peace offerings as he does on **the Sabbath day**. Then he shall go out, and after he has gone out, the gate shall be shut."

We can now connect the Physical Old Testament domain with the Spiritual New Testament domain:



Summary of the Feast and their meaning for the New Testament Believer:

FEAST	TIMING / SEASON	HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	PRESENT & FUTURE MEANING	“THE ESSENCE”
Shabbat	Weekly	A weekly memorial to honour God for His Creation and to build a bridge of reconnection between God & man.	We celebrate the Joy of Sacred Moments.	Man is created in God’s Image.
Pesach / Passover Ex. 3:19	Spring	Deliverance from bondage – completed by Christ’s death on the Cross	Appropriation of God’s Gift of Salvation until all men shall know Him.	God created man to be free and to oppose slavery
Unleavened Bread	Spring	Exit from Egypt, completed by the burial of Jesus for 3 days.	Water baptism and a lifestyle of separation from evil.	Man is in the process of being conformed to the Image of God by Sanctification
First Fruits	Spring	Crossing of the Red Sea fulfilled by the Resurrection of Jesus.	Sanctification, walking a life of holiness.	Man created in the Image of God recognizes that he is in partnership with God and brings his harvest to the True Owner.
Omer / Shavuot / Pentecost	Summer	God empowers us with the means to live a successful life. The Word / Torah and the Holy Spirit.	We who live in obedience to God’s Word reaps the fruit of Spiritual Freedom.	Man is expected to take the Word of God and power of the Holy Spirit and grow in Holiness to become a Kingdom of Priests.

Rosh Hashannah / Trumpets	Summer	The sound of the Shofar declares that God's people and Bride wait for the marriage day.	The Bride of Christ waits for the Messiah's Second Coming	Man must live a lifestyle portraying the Bride of Christ.
Yom Kippur / Day of Atonement	Summer	The priests intercede on behalf of nations for atonement of sin.	The Body of Christ intercedes for the world (all nations) and waits for Judgment Day	Man created in God's Image leads a fasted lifestyle interceding for all nations.
Succot / Tabernacles	Autumn	God's people enter the promised land, to eat and harvest crops which they had not planted.	We who have followed God with all our strength and spirit, reap the fruit of Spiritual achievements when we rule for 1000 years of peace.	The Bride of Christ will dwell with God in His Presence and will celebrate the Honeymoon of the wedding.



7. THE FEASTS OF GOD AS A PATHWAY OR A SHADOW OF THE WALK OF HOLINESS (FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT)

God commands His people to keep the Feasts – His Word draws a parallel of our **lives of fruitfulness** to that of a **righteous tree**.

The Old Testament gives us an indication that the **Law of First Fruit of Trees** is instituted by God to be an **acceptable sacrifice** unto Him.

Lev 19:23-25 *“23 And when you come into the land and **have planted all kinds of trees for food**, then you shall count the fruit of them as inedible and forbidden to you for three years; it shall not be eaten.
24 In the fourth year all **their fruit shall be holy for giving praise to the Lord**.
25 But in the fifth year you may eat of the fruit [of the trees], that their produce may enrich you; I am the Lord your God.”*

God promises on His return that He will stand on the Mount of Olives.

John 8:1 *“1 BUT JESUS went to the Mount of Olives.”*

And we are assured that we will enjoy a **Feast of good things** with Him.

In this Feast we see an abundance of good things and that is combined with the presence of Jesus the Messiah when He comes to reign, after gaining victory over all His enemies. God in His fullness will dwell amongst us and will enjoy the fruit of our harvest.

Is 25:6 *“6 And on this Mount [Zion] shall the Lord of hosts make for all peoples a **feast of rich things** [symbolic of His coronation festival inaugurating the reign of the Lord on earth, in the wake of a background of gloom, judgment, and terror], a **feast of wines on the lees—of fat things full of marrow**, of wines on the lees well refined.”*

Each feast has been explained in a detailed study which highlights the intent, the symbolism, the Feast and the New Testament relevance.

The purpose of the following analysis is to draw a direct comparison between the **Feast/fruit** and the **Fruit of the Holy Spirit**.

For us to enjoy the feast we need a harvest of good things – fruit. We need to remember that **fruit is a product / a result of a relationship**.

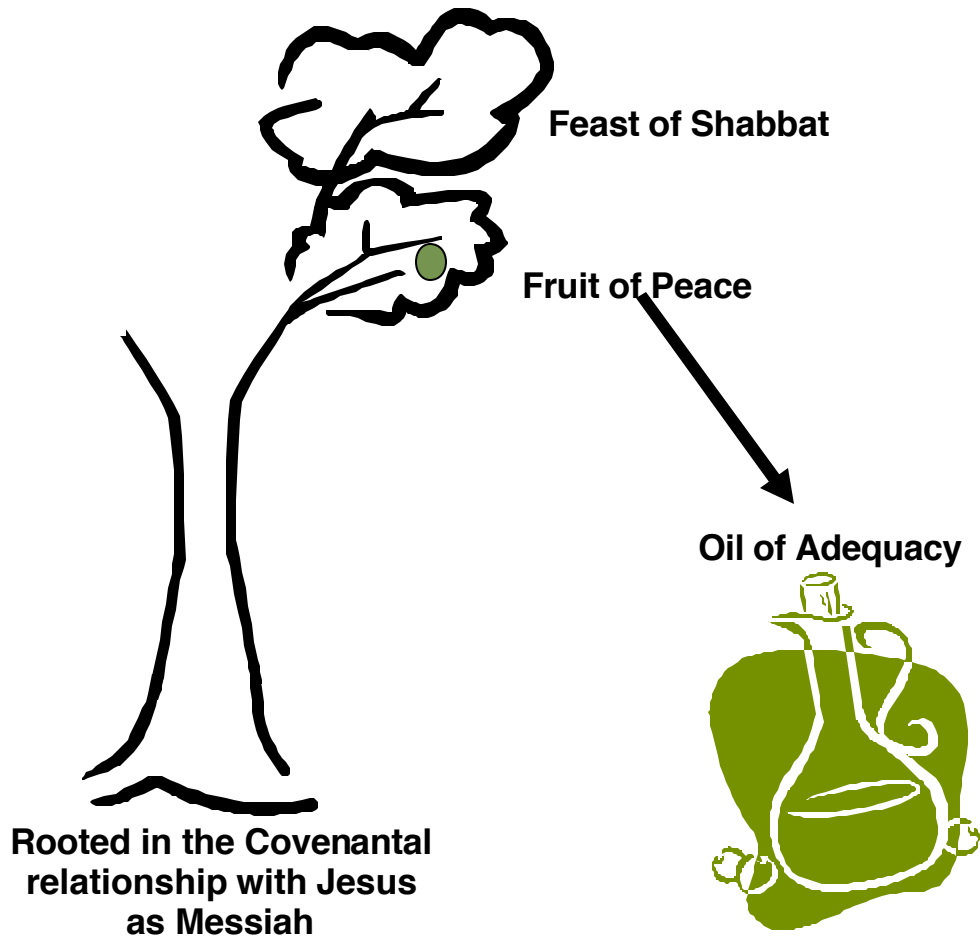
Just as the fruit is a product / result of the branch, the sap in the stem, the root in the ground, so too are we believers, if we are to produce the **fruit of the Spirit**, so that we can **give oil of anointing** to those who need it, we need to be **grafted into the natural olive tree** and into a relationship with Jesus the Messiah and the Body of Christ.

Synopsis of the parallel between the Feasts of God and the Fruit of the Holy Spirit.		
FEAST (Lev. 23)	FRUIT (Gal. 6)	OIL
1. Shabbat	Peace	Adequacy
2. Pesach / Passover	Goodness	Purity / Virtue
3. Unleavened Bread	Long Suffering	Hope
4. First Fruits	Self-Control / Temperance	Moderation
5. Shavuot / Pentecost	Meekness	Obedience
6. Rosh Hashannah / Trumpets	Faithfulness	Encouragement
7. Yom Kippur / Atonement	Gentleness	Healing
8. Succot / Tabernacles	Joy	Salvation
9. Shemmi Atzerit	Love	Love

7.1 Shabbat

7.1.1 Commandment

Lev 23:3 *“3 Six days shall work be done, but the **seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, a holy convocation or assembly** by summons. You shall do no work on that day; it is **the Sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings.**”*



7.1.2 What is the Essence of Shabbat?

MAN IS CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE

7.1.3 Fruit of Peace

God wants us to experience the peace of a day of rest, a day without activity or performance, a time when irrespective of the trials around us, we will know that:

- * we are created in God's image
- * God rested
- * we can be at peace



Ps 23 “1 *THE LORD is my Shepherd [to feed, guide, and shield me], I shall not lack.*
2 *He makes me lie down in [fresh, tender] green pastures; He leads me beside the still and restful waters.*
3 *He refreshes and restores my life (my self); He leads me in the paths of righteousness [uprightness and right standing with Him — not for my earning it, but] for His name’s sake.*
4 *Yes, though I walk through the [deep, sunless] valley of the shadow of death, I will fear or dread no evil, for You are with me; Your rod [to protect] and Your staff [to guide], they comfort me.*
5 *You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. **You anoint my head with oil;** my [brimming] cup runs over.*
6 *Surely or only goodness, mercy, and unfailing love shall follow me all the days of my life, and through the length of my days the house of the Lord [and His presence] shall be my dwelling place.”*

James 3:17-18 “17 *But the wisdom from above is first of all pure (undefiled); then **it is peace-loving**, courteous (considerate, gentle). [It is willing to] yield to reason, full of compassion and **good fruits**; it is wholehearted and straightforward, impartial and unfeigned (free from doubts, wavering, and insincerity).*
18 *And the **harvest of righteousness** (of conformity to God’s will in thought and deed) is **[the fruit of the seed] sown in peace by those who work for and make peace** [in themselves and in others, **that peace which means concord, agreement, and harmony** between individuals, with **undisturbedness**, in a **peaceful mind** free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts].”*

Is 57:19 “19 ***Peace, peace**, to him who is far off [both Jew and Gentile] and to him who is near! says the Lord; **I create the fruit of his lips**, and I will heal him [make his lips blossom anew with speech in thankful praise].”*

Prov 3:17 “17 *Her ways are highways of pleasantness, and **all her paths are peace.**”*

Eph 2:13-14 “13 But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were [so] far away, through (by, in) the blood of Christ have been brought near.
14 For He is [Himself] our peace (our bond of unity and harmony). He has made us both [Jew and Gentile] one [body], and has broken down (destroyed, abolished) the hostile dividing wall between us,”

Luke 10: 5-6 “5 Whatever house you enter, first say, **Peace be to this household!** [Freedom from all the distresses that result from sin be with this family].
6 And if anyone [worthy] of peace and blessedness is there, **the peace and blessedness** you wish shall come upon him; but if not, it shall come back to you.”

7.1.4 From the Fruit of Peace comes the Oil of Adequacy

As we are conformed to the **obedience** of the natural olive tree and as we **grow in holiness** to look like Jesus, so will our **sense of adequacy / self-worth / confidence grow.**



- We will be able to stand weekly before our family, friends and community and:
 - declare each one’s purpose and destiny
 - bless your wife (**Ps. 31:10-31**)
 - bless your sons and daughters
 - proclaim God’s prophetic Word over those who are closest to us. (**Ps 65:5**)

- We will be able to say that we are confident of our God’s provision.

Ps. 23:3-5 “3 He refreshes and restores my life (my self); He leads me in the paths of righteousness [uprightness and right standing with Him – not for my earning it, but] for His name’s sake.
4 Yes, though I walk through the [deep, sunless] valley of the shadow of death, I will fear or dread no evil, for You are with me; Your rod [to protect] and Your staff [to guide], they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my [brimming] cup runs over.”

- We will be able to say, like Paul that no matter what trial and tribulation come our way, we know that God is good.

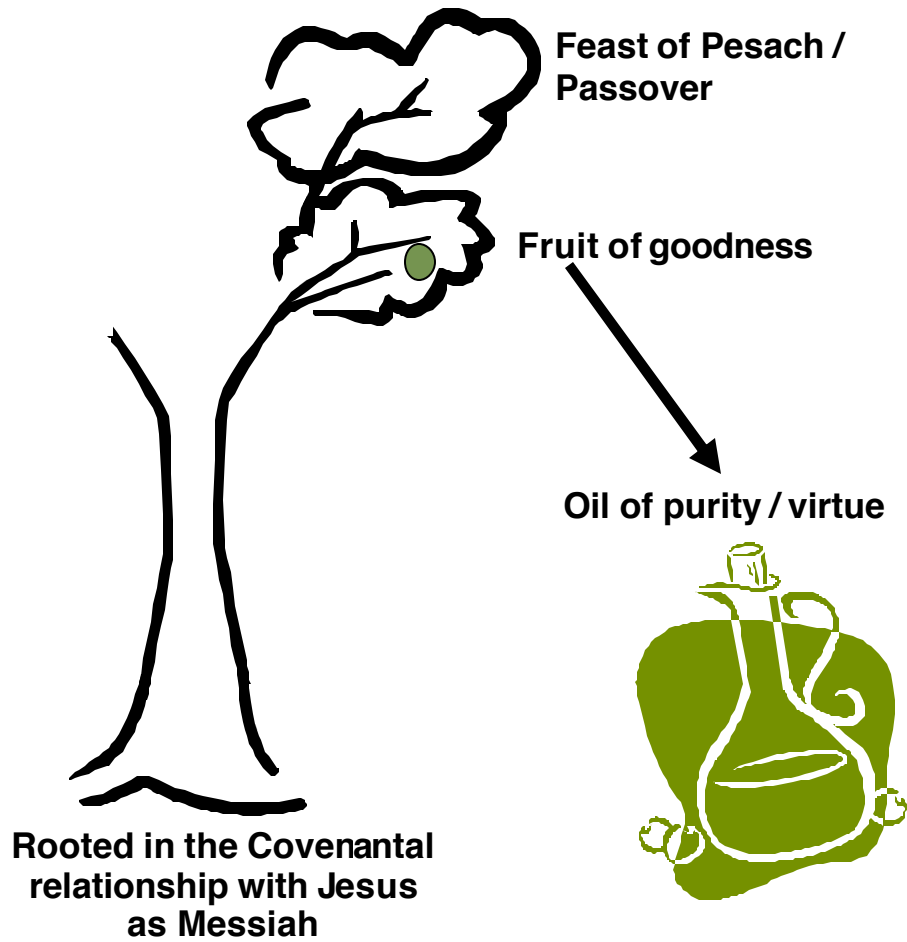
2 Cor. 4:8-10 "8 We are hedged in (pressed) on every side [troubled and oppressed in every way], **but not cramped** or crushed; we suffer embarrassments and are perplexed and unable to find a way out, **but not driven to despair**;
9 We are pursued (persecuted and hard driven), **but not deserted** [to stand alone]; we are struck down to the ground, but **never struck** out and destroyed;
10 Always carrying about in the body the liability and exposure to the same putting to death that the Lord Jesus suffered, so that the [resurrection] life of Jesus also may be shown forth by and in our bodies."



7.2. Feast of Pesach / Passover

7.2.1 Commandment

Lev 23:4-5 “4 These are the **set feasts** or **appointed seasons** of the Lord, **holy convocations** you shall proclaim at their stated times:
5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at **twilight is the Lord’s Passover.**”

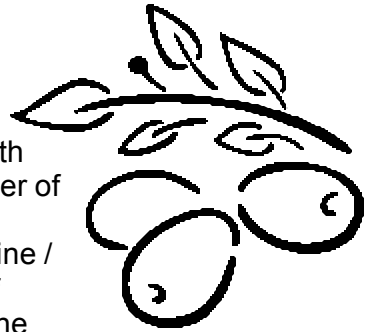


7.2.2 What is the essence of Pesach?

God created man to be a free and is to oppose all forms of slavery—
this is the time for our redemption.

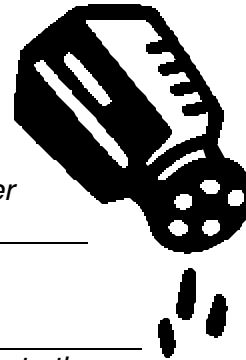
7.2.3 Fruit of Goodness

God has given us a “miracle” release from the world of sin and death. Just as the Jews escaped from slavery with the blood on the doorpost so too we escape with the power of the Blood of Jesus as atonement. Just as we have been made **free men** so too we must set a standard / a plumbline / of goodness / virtue to continue to measure the degree of freedom of all of God’s creation. We live out this fruit of the Spirit by:



- **Being Salt**

Matt 5:13 “13 You are the **salt of the earth**, but if salt has lost its taste (its strength, its quality), how can its saltiness be restored? It is not good for anything any longer but to be thrown out and trodden underfoot by men.”



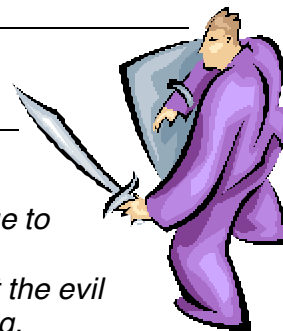
- **Living a noble lifestyle**

John 8:15 “15 You [set yourselves up to] judge according to the flesh (by what you see). [You condemn by external, human standards.] **I do not [set Myself up to] judge or condemn or sentence anyone.**”

Romans 12:18-21 “18 If possible, as far as it depends on you, **live at peace with everyone.**
19 Beloved, **never avenge yourselves**, but leave the way open for [God’s] wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay (requite), says the Lord.
20 But if your **enemy is hungry, feed him**; if he is **thirsty, give him drink**; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.
21 Do not let yourself be overcome by evil, but overcome (master) evil with good.”

- **Dealing with sin**

Romans 7:18-20 “18 For I know that **nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh.** I can will what is right, but I cannot perform it. [I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out.]
19 For I fail to practice the good deeds I desire to do, but the evil deeds that I do not desire to do are what I am [ever] doing.



20 Now if I do what I do not desire to do, it is no longer I doing it [it is not myself that acts], but the sin [principle] which dwells within me [fixed and operating in my soul].”

- **Renewing my mind**

Rom 12:2 “2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], **but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude]**, so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].”



From the fruit of Goodness comes the oil of purity / virtue

The oil of Purity / virtue pours out of our hearts when we have compassion for those who are in slavery. The oil flows when we can declare:

- God is good
- God is revealed



2 Cor 3:18 “18 And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit.**”

Ps. 12:6 “6 **The words and promises of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in an earthen furnace, purified seven times over.**”

Ps 25:7 “7 Remember not the sins (the lapses and frailties) of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your mercy and steadfast love remember me, for Your goodness’ sake, O Lord.”

Phil. 4:8-9 “8 For the rest, brethren, whatever **is true**, whatever **is worthy** of reverence and **is honorable** and seemly, whatever is just, whatever **is pure**, whatever is **lovely and lovable**, whatever is **kind and winsome and gracious**, if there is any **virtue and excellence**, if there is anything **worthy of praise**, think on and weigh and take account of these things [fix your minds on them].

9 **Practice** what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and **model your way of living on it**, and the God of peace (of untroubled, undisturbed well-being) will be with you.”

Prov. 22:11 “11 He who **loves purity** and the **pure in heart** and who is **gracious in speech**—because of the **grace of his lips will he have the king for his friend.**”

- I will not judge my fellowman and I will look to find a way to build him up again.

1 Cor. 4:5 “5 So **do not make any hasty or premature judgments** before the time when the Lord comes [again], for He will both bring to light the secret things that are [now hidden] in darkness and disclose and expose the [secret] aims (motives and purposes) of hearts. Then every man will receive his [due] commendation from God.”

Prov. 17:9 “9 He who **covers and forgives an offense seeks love**, but he who **repeats or harps on a matter separates even close friends.**”

Matt. 7:3 “3 Why do you stare from without at the **very small particle that is in your brother’s eye** but do not become aware of and consider the beam of timber that is in your own eye?”

- I will open my heart for those around me

1 Pet. 1: 22 “22 Since by your obedience to the Truth through the [Holy] Spirit you have **purified your hearts for the sincere affection of the brethren**, [see that you] **love one another fervently from a pure heart.**”

- I will exercise caution in the manner in which I respond and work with the Body of Christ.

1 Tim. 5:22 “ 22 **Do not be in a hurry in the laying on of hands** [giving the sanction of the church too hastily in reinstating expelled offenders or in ordination in questionable cases], **nor share or participate in another man’s sins; keep yourself pure.**”

- As the oil of purity / virtue flow, I will be able to express God’s Words and desires because I will see him face to face.

Matt. 5:8 “8 Blessed (happy, enviably fortunate, and spiritually prosperous — possessing the **happiness produced by the experience of God’s favor** and especially conditioned by the revelation of His grace, regardless of their outward conditions) are the **pure in heart, for they shall see God!**”

Ps. 24:4 “4 He who has **clean hands and a pure heart**, who has not lifted himself up to falsehood or to what is false, nor sworn deceitfully.”

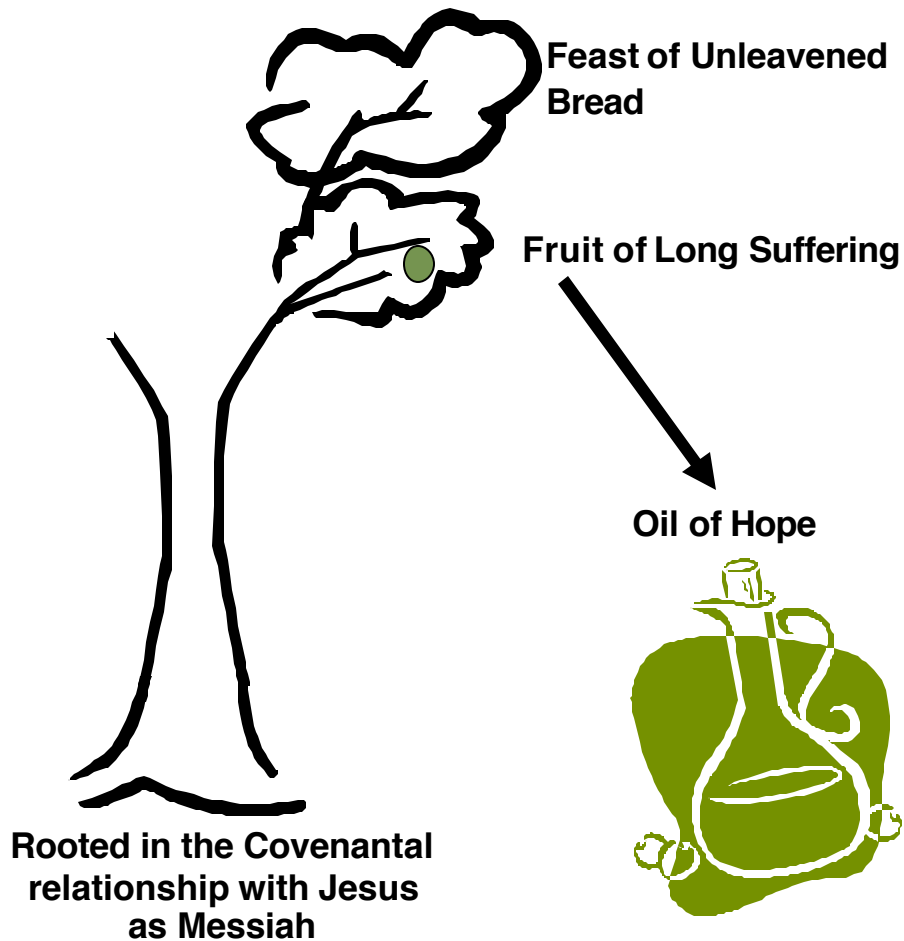
7.3 Feast of Unleavened Bread

7.3.1 Commandment

Lev 23:6-8 “6 On the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; for **seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.**

7 On the first day you shall have a holy “calling together;” you shall do no servile or laborious work on that day.

8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord for seven days; on the seventh day is a holy convocation; you shall do no servile or laborious work on that day.”

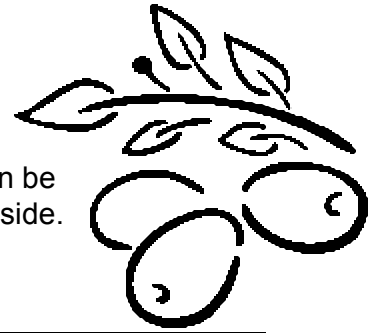


7.3.2 What is the essence of Unleavened Bread?

Man created in the image of God is now in the process of being conformed to the image of God by sanctification (the purging of sin).

7.3.3 The Fruit of Long Suffering

We face trials and tribulation from the external world everyday. Many of these can be seen / experienced and can be defeated because of the fact that the attack comes from outside. However, we face a far more difficult attack – that form of adversity that comes from within – from **the old man**.



Romans 7:15-24 *“15 For I do not understand my own actions [I am baffled, bewildered]. I do not practice or accomplish what I wish, but I do the very thing that I loathe [which my moral instinct condemns].
16 Now if I do [habitually] what is contrary to my desire, [that means that] I acknowledge and agree that the Law is good (morally excellent) and that I take sides with it.
17 However, it is no longer I who do the deed, but **the sin [principle] which is at home in me and has possession of me.**
18 **For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot perform it.** [I have the intention and urge to do what is right, but no power to carry it out.]
19 **For I fail to practice the good deeds** I desire to do, but the **evil deeds that I do not desire to do are what I am [ever] doing.**
20 Now if I do what I do not desire to do, it is no longer I doing it [it is not myself that acts], but the sin [principle] which dwells within me [fixed and operating in my soul].
21 So I find it to be a law (rule of action of my being) that when I want to do what is right and good, evil is ever present with me and I am subject to its insistent demands.
22 For I endorse and delight in the Law of God in my inmost self [with my new nature].
23 But I discern in my bodily members [in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh] a different law (rule of action) at war against the law of my mind (my reason) and making me a prisoner to the law of sin that dwells in my bodily organs [in the sensitive appetites and wills of the flesh].
24 **O unhappy and pitiable and wretched man that I am! Who will release and deliver me from [the shackles of] this body of death?”***

The ability to persevere / to ensure in the face of provocation to sin is called **Long Suffering**.

As we **renew our minds** and **set a standard of longsuffering grace** in the face of trials we will show others that it is possible to overcome and live a life of victory.

We must:

1) **Endure / do not draw back.**

1 Cor 13:7 “*7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].*”

Heb 10:23 “*23 So let us **seize** and **hold fast** and **retain without wavering** the hope we cherish and confess and our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable (sure) and faithful to His word.*”

Heb 10:35-38 “*35 Do not, therefore, fling away your fearless confidence, for it carries a great and glorious compensation of reward.*

*36 For you have need of **steadfast patience and endurance**, so that you may **perform and fully accomplish the will of God**, and thus receive and carry away [and enjoy to the full] what is promised.*

37 For still a little while (a very little while), and the Coming One will come and He will not delay.

*38 But **the just shall live by faith** [My righteous servant shall live by his conviction respecting man’s relationship to God and divine things, and holy fervor born of faith and conjoined with it]; and if he draws back and shrinks in fear, My soul has no delight or pleasure in him.”*

2 Cor 4:8,9,10 “*8 We are hedged in (pressed) on every side [troubled and oppressed in every way], but not cramped or crushed; we suffer embarrassments and are perplexed and unable to find a way out, but not driven to despair;*

9 We are pursued (persecuted and hard driven), but not deserted [to stand alone]; we are struck down to the ground, but never struck out and destroyed;

*10 **Always carrying about in the body the liability and exposure to the same putting to death that the Lord Jesus suffered, so that the [resurrection] life of Jesus also may be shown forth by and in our bodies.***”

2) **Finish the race**

2 Tim 4:7,8 “*7 I have fought the good (worthy, honorable, and noble) fight, I have finished the race, I have kept (firmly held) the faith.*

8 [As to what remains] henceforth there is laid up for me the [victor’s] crown of righteousness [for being right with God and doing right], which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me and recompense me on that [great] day — and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved and yearned for and welcomed His appearing (His return).”

3) Resist the devil / temptations:

Jam 5:7-9 “7 **So be patient, brethren, [as you wait] till the coming of the Lord.** See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land. [See how] he keeps up his patient [vigil] over it until it receives the early and late rains.

8 **So you also must be patient. Establish your hearts [strengthen and confirm them in the final certainty],** for the coming of the Lord is very near.
9 Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you [yourselves] may not be judged. Look! The Judge is [already] standing at the very door.”

4) Declare the Truth

1 Cor 5:6-8 “6 [About the **condition of your church**] your boasting is not good [indeed, it is most unseemly and entirely out of place]. Do you not know that [just] a little leaven will ferment the whole lump [of dough]?

7 Purge (clean out) the old leaven that you may be fresh (new) dough, still uncontaminated [as you are], for Christ, our Passover [Lamb], has been sacrificed.

8 **Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with leaven of vice and malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened [bread] of purity (nobility, honor) and sincerity and [unadulterated] truth.”**

7.3.4 From the Fruit of Longsuffering comes the Oil of Hope.

As we come before a trial / tribulation, and through a process of faith, prayer, intercession and fasting, find a way to climb over and finally stand on top of it, the oil of hope will start to flow. We build one memorial upon another where we can witness that God was faithful, so the flask of **the oil of hope** is filled. Having experienced despair – hope – victory we find our olive of longsuffering turned into the oil of hope – **words of hope** that we share with others.



Rom 5:4,5 “4 **And endurance (fortitude) develops maturity of character** (approved faith and tried integrity). And character [of this sort] produces [the habit of] joyful and **confident hope** of eternal salvation.

5 **Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us,** for God’s love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us.”

God gives strength.

Is 40:29-31 “29 **He gives power to the faint and weary,** and to him who has no might **He increases strength** [causing it to multiply and making it to abound].

30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and [selected] young men shall feebly stumble and fall exhausted;

31 *But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] shall change and renew their strength and power; they shall lift their wings and mount up [close to God] as eagles [mount up to the sun]; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint or become tired.*"

2 Cor 12:9-10 "9 But He said to me, My grace (My favor and loving-kindness and mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; **for My strength and power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) and show themselves most effective in [your] weakness.** Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me!
10 So for the sake of Christ, I am well pleased and take pleasure in infirmities, insults, hardships, persecutions, perplexities and distresses; for when I am **weak [in human strength], then am I [truly] strong (able, powerful in divine strength).**"

Ps. 16:9 "9 Therefore my heart is glad and my glory [my inner self] rejoices; my body too shall rest and confidently dwell in safety,"

God promises us a future if we love Him.

Ps. 33:11 "The **counsel of the Lord stands forever**, the thoughts of His heart through all generations."

Ps. 119: 43 "And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for **I hope in Your ordinances.**"

Ps. 147: 11 "The **Lord takes pleasure in those who reverently and worshipfully fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy and loving-kindness.**"

God watches over us.

Ps. 33:18 "Behold, the **Lord's eye is upon those who fear Him** [who revere and worship Him with awe], who wait for Him and hope in His mercy and loving-kindness,"

We can only speak words of hope if we cling to the Word / Torah

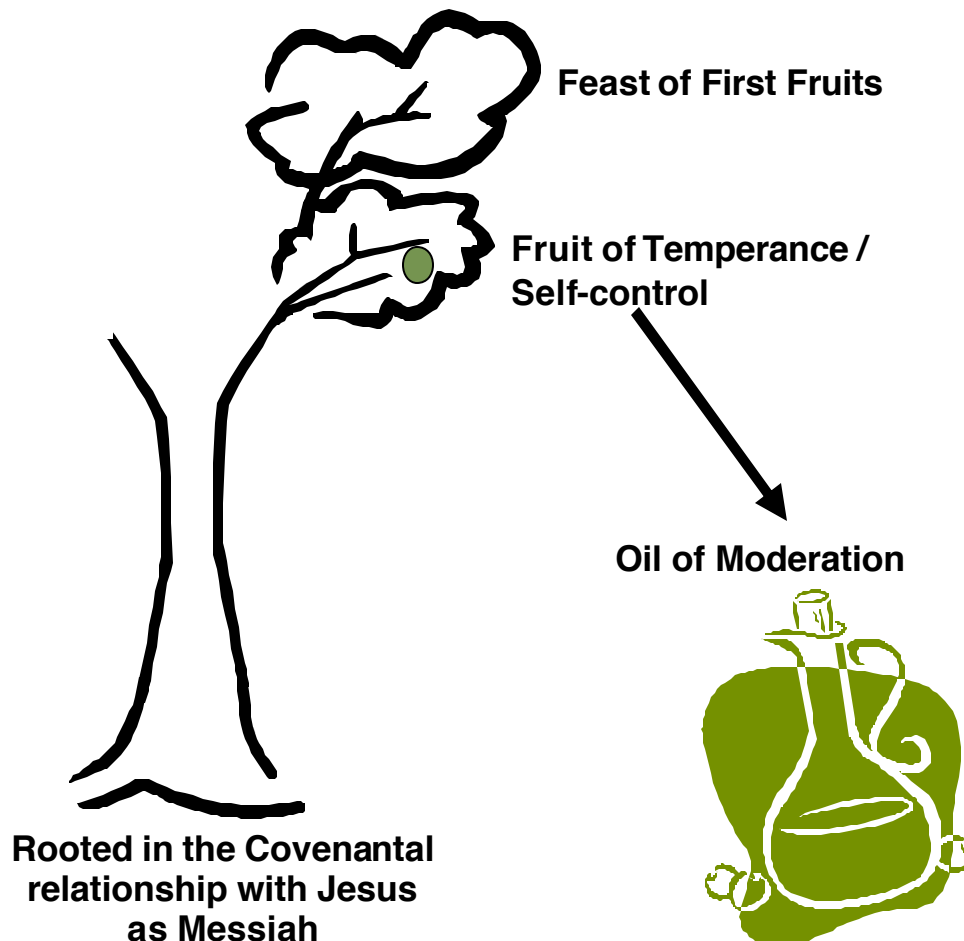
Ps. 119: 74 "Those who reverently and worshipfully fear You will see me and be glad, because **I have hoped in Your Word** and tarried for it."

Ps. 119: 147 "I anticipated the dawning of the morning and cried [in childlike prayer]; **I hoped in Your Word.**"

7.4 Feast of First Fruits

7.4.1 Commandment

Lev 23:9-14 “9 And the Lord said to Moses,
10 Tell the Israelites, When you have come into the land I give you and reap its harvest, you shall bring **the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest**
11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, that you may be accepted; on the next day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it [before the Lord].
12 You shall offer on the day when you wave the sheaf a male lamb a year old without blemish for a burnt offering to the Lord.
13 Its cereal offering shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the Lord for a sweet, pleasing, and satisfying fragrance; and the drink offering of it [to be poured out] shall be of wine, a fourth of a hin.
14 And you shall eat neither bread nor parched grain nor green ears, until this same day when you have brought the offering of your God; **it is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your houses.**”



7.4.2 What is the essence of First Fruits ?

Man, created in the image of God recognizes that he is in partnership (junior) with God and brings the first fruits of the ripened harvest in his home to the true owner.

7.4.3 Fruit of Temperance / Self-control

God calls us to exercise **self-control** and **restraint** in the choices which we make from day to day. God understands that we are easily tempted to experience the excesses of life.



God tells us that we will not be tempted beyond our ability to withstand.

1 Cor 10:13 *“13 For no temptation (no trial regarded as enticing to sin), [no matter how it comes or where it leads] has overtaken you and laid hold on you that is not common to man [that is, no temptation or trial has come to you that is beyond human resistance and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and such as man can bear]. But God is faithful [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let you be tempted and tried and assayed beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure, but with the temptation He will [always] also provide the way out (the means of escape to a landing place), that you may be capable and strong and powerful to bear up under it patiently.”*

This means that we **have** the ability to say **YES** or **NO** at the right time.

To grow the fruit of self-control / temperance we must:

- **Take heed of ourselves**

Luke 2:34,35 *“34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, Behold, **this Child is appointed and destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against—**
35 And a sword will pierce through your own soul also—that **the secret thoughts and purposes of many hearts may be brought out and disclosed.**”*

- **Guard our words / soul**

Prov 6:23 *“23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the whole teaching [of the law] is light, and **reproofs of discipline are the way of life,**”*

Prov 21:23 “23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from troubles.”

The evidence that we can show the world that this fruit on our olive tree will determine whether:

- **I will receive a crown because I was willing to be disciplined.**

1 Cor 9:24-27 “24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? **So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours.**
25 Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we [do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness] that cannot wither.
26 Therefore I do not run uncertainly (without definite aim). I do not box like one beating the air and striking without an adversary.
27 **But [like a boxer] I buffet my body** [handle it roughly, discipline it by hardships] and **subdue it**, for fear that after proclaiming to others the Gospel and things pertaining to it, I myself should become unfit [not stand the test, be unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit].”

7.4.4 From the Fruit of Self-Control comes the Oil of Moderation

The world that we live in swings from one end of the scale (poverty) to the other (excess wealth) all the time. Not only is this applicable to money but also to health, food, entertainment, etc. It is either too much or too little. Not only does it apply to the external but also to that which comes from within – i.e. our words – either we do not talk at all or else we brag. A life where we take control of the choices, which we make, will manifest the fruit of self-control. The fruit from this natural olive will distill into **the oil of moderation**.



As the **Oil of Moderation** flows from my life I will be able to:

- **Be an elder and a leader of my family and my community.**

Titus 1:7-9 “7 **For the bishop (an overseer) as God’s steward must be blameless**, not self-willed or arrogant or presumptuous; he must not be quick-tempered or given to drink or pugnacious (brawling, violent); he must not be grasping and greedy for filthy lucre (financial gain);
8 **But he must be hospitable** (loving and a friend to believers, especially to strangers and foreigners); [he must be] a lover of goodness [of good people and good things], sober-minded (sensible, discreet), upright and fair-minded, a devout man and religiously correct, temperate and keeping himself in hand.

9 He must hold fast to the sure and trustworthy Word of God as he was taught it, so that he may be able both to give stimulating instruction and encouragement in sound (wholesome) doctrine and to refute and convict those who contradict and oppose it [showing the wayward their error].”

- **Make an impact on Governmental leaders of the day.**

Acts 24:24-25 “24 Some days later Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was a Jewess; and he sent for Paul and **listened to him** [talk] about faith in Christ Jesus.
25 But as he continued to argue about **uprightness, purity of life (the control of the passions), and the judgment to come**, Felix became alarmed and terrified and said, Go away for the present; when I have a convenient opportunity, I will send for you.”

- **Make an impact on the business community of the day.**

Ps. 41:12 “And as for me, You have **upheld me in my integrity** and set me in Your presence forever.”

Prov. 11:3 “**The integrity of the upright shall guide them**, but the willful contrariness and crookedness of the treacherous shall destroy them.”

Prov. 19:1 “**BETTER IS a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is perverse in his speech and is a [self-confident] fool.**”

Prov. 20:7 “**The righteous man walks in his integrity**; blessed (happy, fortunate, enviable) are his children after him.”



7.5 Feast of Shavout / Count the Omer

7.5.1 Commandment

Lev 23:15-22 “15 And you **shall count** from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, **seven Sabbaths; [seven full weeks] shall they be.**

16 **Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath**; then you shall present a cereal offering of new grain to the Lord.

17 You shall bring from your dwellings two loaves of bread to be waved, made from two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven, for firstfruits to the Lord.

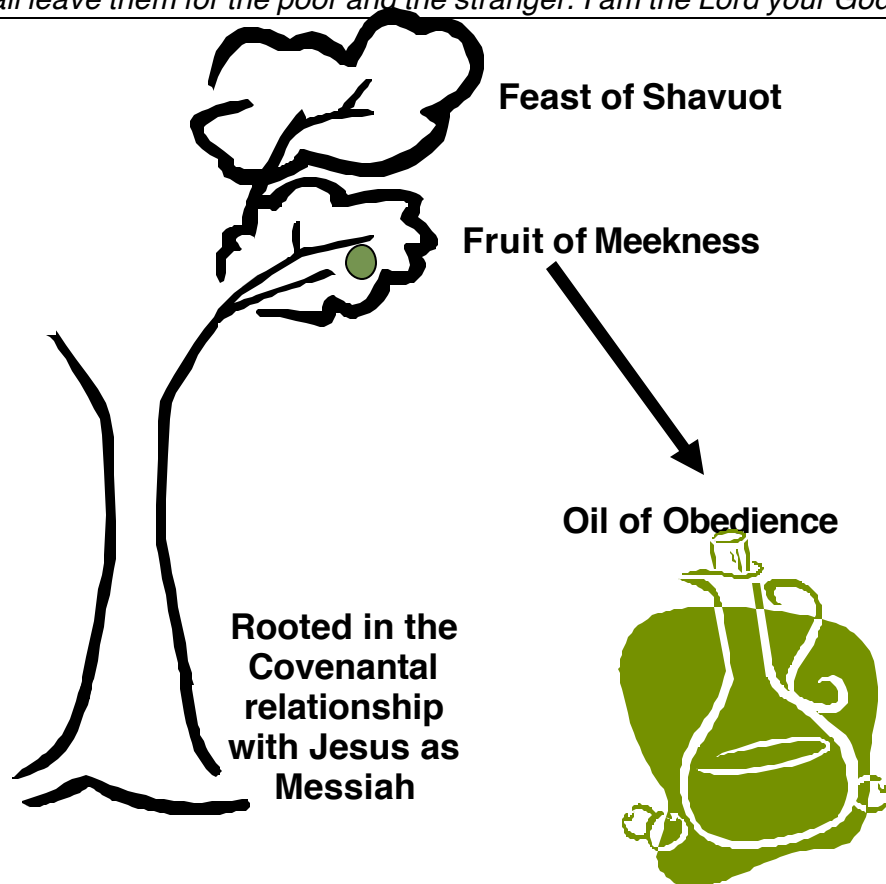
18 And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs, a year old and without blemish, and one young bull and two rams. They shall be a burnt offering to the Lord, with their cereal offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire, of a sweet and satisfying fragrance to the Lord.

19 Then you shall sacrifice one he-goat for a sin offering and two he-lambs, a year old, for a sacrifice of peace offering.

20 The priest shall wave the two lambs, together with the bread of the firstfruits, for a wave offering before the Lord. They shall be holy to the Lord for the priest.

21 You shall make proclamation the same day, summoning a holy assembly; you shall do no servile work that day. **It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.**

22 And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, neither shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger. I am the Lord your God.”

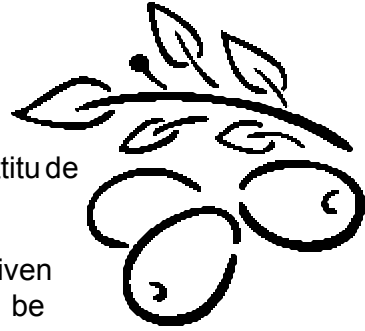


7.5.2 What is the essence of Shavout?

Man is created in the image of God and is expected to take the Torah / Word and the Holy Spirit Power (which existed before the creation of man) and use this gift to grow in holiness so that he can be a Kingdom of Royal Priesthood separated for God's work.

7.5.3 Fruit of Meekness

God calls us to be active, to be working in His Kingdom and against the kingdom of darkness. The fruit of meekness does not mean timidity but rather an attitude of **servanthood with purpose.**



There is also a very clear understanding that God has given us gifts of perception and discernment which we should be exercising at His command.

Our **fruit of meekness** will be seen by the community when:

- **We return good for evil.**

1 Pet 2:19-20 *"19 For one is regarded favorably (is approved, acceptable, and thankworthy) if, as in the sight of God, he endures the pain of unjust suffering. 20 [After all] what kind of glory [is there in it] if, when you do wrong and are punished for it, you take it patiently? **But if you bear patiently with suffering [which results] when you do right and that is undeserved, it is acceptable and pleasing to God.**"*

- **We meditate on God's will and purpose for our lives.**

Phil 4:8 *"8 For the rest, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, **if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and take account of these things [fix your minds on them].**"*

Ps. 119:4 *"4 You have commanded us to **keep Your precepts**, that we should observe them diligently."*

- **We are prepared to be a servant leader**

Phil 2:3,4 “3 Do nothing from factional motives [through contentiousness, strife, selfishness, or for unworthy ends] or prompted by conceit and empty arrogance. Instead, in the **true spirit of humility** (lowliness of mind) let each **regard the others as better than and superior to himself** [thinking more highly of one another than you do of yourselves].
4 Let each of you esteem and look upon and be concerned for not [merely] his own interests, **but also each for the interests of others.**”

Matt 5:5 “5 **Blessed** (happy, blithesome, joyous, spiritually prosperous — with life-joy and satisfaction in God’s favor and salvation, regardless of their outward conditions) are **the meek (the mild, patient, long-suffering), for they shall inherit the earth !**”

2 Tim 2:24-26 “24 And the servant of the Lord must not be quarrelsome (fighting and contending). Instead, he **must be kindly to everyone and mild-tempered** [preserving the bond of peace]; he must be a skilled and suitable teacher, patient and forbearing and willing to suffer wrong.
25 He must **correct his opponents with courtesy and gentleness**, in the hope that God may grant that they will repent and come to know the Truth [that they will perceive and recognize and become accurately acquainted with and acknowledge it],
26 And **that they may come to their senses** [and] escape out of the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him, [henceforth] to do His [God’s] will.”

- **We war in the spirit**

2 Cor 10:4,5 “4 **For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood]**, but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds,
5 [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One),”

- **We work in unity with the Body of Christ**

We are called to be a perfect fit, to be completely joined, to fit exactly as a joint within a socket.

2 Tim. 3:17 “17 So that the man of God may be **complete and proficient, well fitted and thoroughly equipped for every good work.**”

- We are prepared to disciple those who follow us in the principle of Godly lifestyle, with a determination to resolve conflict and set a standard so that each one pull through.

Job 36:10-11 *“He also opens their ears to instruction and discipline, and commands that they return from iniquity.*

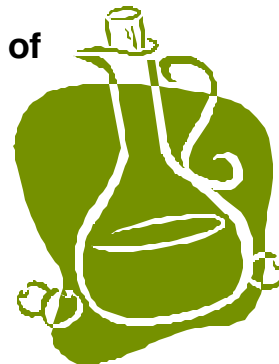
Job 36:11 If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity and their years in pleasantness and joy.”

Rev. 22:14 *“Blessed (happy and to be envied) are those who cleanse their garments, that they may have the authority and right to [approach] the tree of life and to enter through the gates into the city.”*

7.5.4 From the Fruit of Meekness comes the Oil of Obedience

The natural olive which produces the fruit of meekness will be able to give a fruit which, because of the preparedness to give to others, will crush out a fine **Oil of Obedience** .

As we work to keep God’s Commandments and prophetic words in **loving obedience** we will show the world that:



- My whole heart is required

Deut. 26:16 *“This day the Lord your God has commanded you to do these statutes and ordinances. Therefore you shall **keep and do them with all your [mind and] heart and with all your being.**”*

- There is a price to pay

Jos. 1:8 *“This Book of the Law shall **not depart out of your mouth** , but you **shall meditate on it day and night**, that you may **observe and do according** to all that is written in it. **For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success.**”*

- God’s blessing will flow

John 5:30-32 *“30 I am able to do nothing from Myself [independently, of My own accord—but **only as I am taught by God and as I get His orders**]. Even as I hear, I judge [I decide as I am bidden to decide. As the voice comes to Me, so I give a decision], and My judgment is right (just, righteous), because I do not seek or consult My own will [I have no desire to do what is pleasing to Myself, My own aim, My own purpose] **but only the will and pleasure of the Father Who sent Me.***

31 If I alone testify in My behalf, My testimony is not valid and cannot be worth anything.

32 There is Another Who testifies concerning Me, and I know and am certain that His evidence on My behalf is true and valid.”

Ps. 23:5 “You **prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.** You anoint my head with oil; **my [brimming] cup runs over.**”

Jos. 1:7-9 “Only you **be strong and very courageous**, that you may **do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you.** Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may **prosper wherever you go.**

This **Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth**, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then **you shall make your way prosperous**, and then **you shall deal wisely and have good success.**

Have not I commanded you? Be strong, vigorous, and very courageous. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the **Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**”

- **God’s yoke will be light**

Matt 11:29,30 “29 Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls.

30 For **My yoke is wholesome** (useful, good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), **and My burden is light and easy to be borne.**”

- **God’s Glory will shine over us**

Rom 8:28-30 “28 We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose.

29 For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

30 And those whom He thus foreordained, He also called; and those whom He called, He also justified (acquitted, made righteous, putting them into right standing with Himself). **And those whom He justified, He also glorified [raising them to a heavenly dignity and condition or state of being].**”

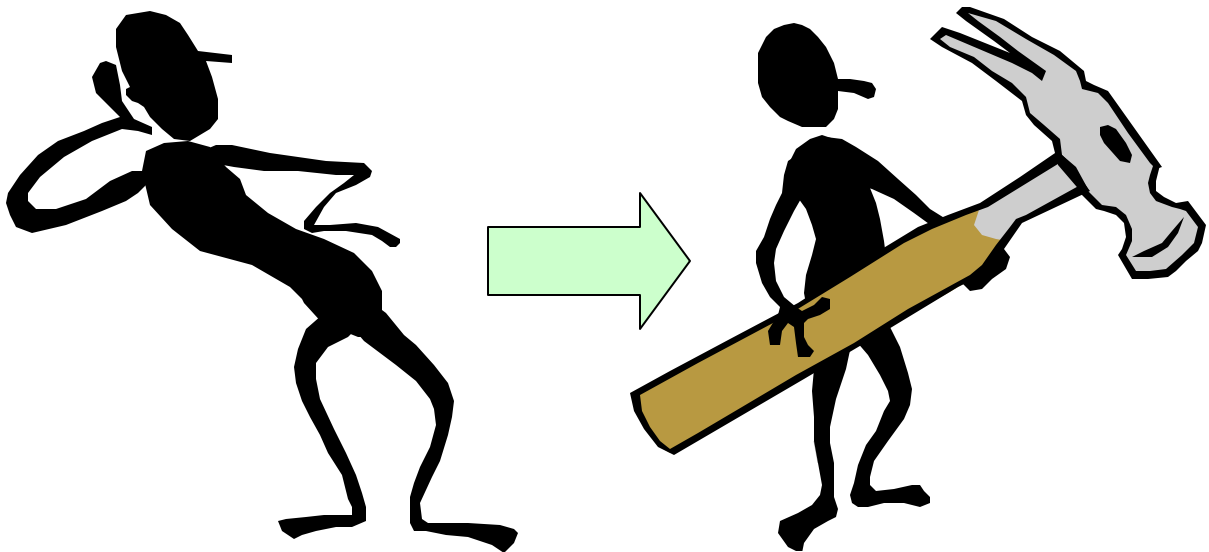
- **and my Oil of Obedience flowing out to ease the lives of others will secure me an entry into God’s Kingdom**

Matt. 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven.**”

- The Oil of Obedience will let us call out as did the Jewish people of old

Deut 5:27 *“27 Go near [Moses] and hear all that the Lord our God will say. And speak to us all that the Lord our God will speak to you; and **we will hear and do it.**”*

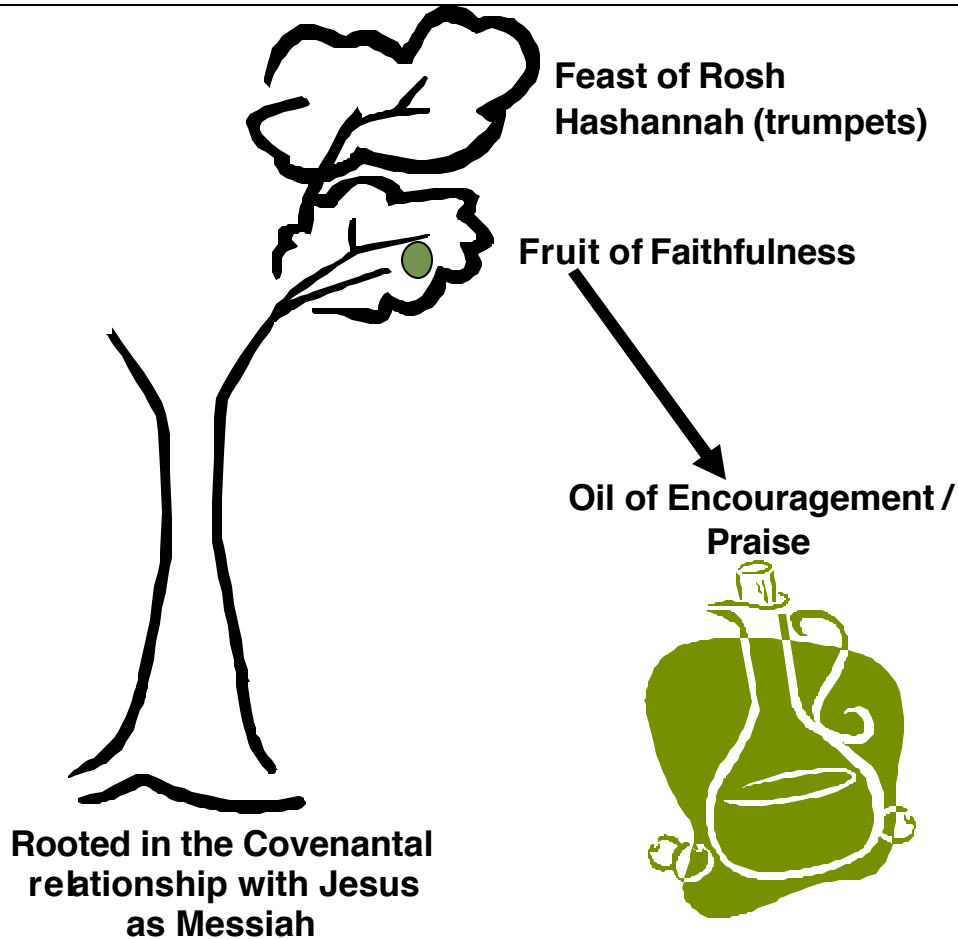
- We will hear and we will do . . .when we hear Jesus say; “Love the Lord your God with all your heart with all your soul and all your mind, and love your neighbour as yourself.



7.6 Feast of Rosh Hashannah (Trumpets)

7.6.1 Commandment

Lev 23:23-25 "23 And the Lord said to Moses,
24 Say to the Israelites, On the first day of the seventh month [almost October], you shall observe a day of solemn [sabbatical] rest, a **memorial day announced by blowing of trumpets, a holy [called] assembly.**
25 You shall do no servile work on it, but you shall present an offering made by fire to the Lord."



7.6.2 What is the essence of Rosh Hashannah?

Man is created in the image of God. We therefore need to reveal a lifestyle, which characterizes a life of repentance and expectation, portraying that we are ready to be the Bride of Christ, to proclaim God as King of the Universe.

This is our Wedding Day!!



There are many churches that celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles and make up a **sukkah** (the temporary dwelling place of God's people) **but they have not** yet made a real commitment to stand with Him under the **marriage chuppah**.

7.6.3 Fruit of Faithfulness

God provided a miracle to set us free from the world of darkness and then gave us the Torah and Holy Spirit so that we could be a **set-apart people**.



As a Bride awaiting for the marriage ceremony we go through periods where trials and tribulations comes our way. We need to be found **faithful** during this time.

Without doubt we will fear, face uncertainty, but we are required to be confident, be bold and to set a standard of fidelity which shows the world that we are a **special Bride**.

God has given **us unique and many talents for use** to further His Kingdom. **We give evidence to the fruit of faithfulness when we:**

- **Demonstrate good stewardship**

Gen 2:15 *“And the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and guard and keep it.”*

Ps. 65:9 *“You visit the earth and saturate it with water; You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; You provide them with grain **when You have so prepared the earth.**”*

Prov 25:13 *“13 Like the cold of snow [brought from the mountains] in the time of harvest, so is a **faithful messenger** to those who send him; for **he refreshes the life of his masters.**”*

- **Demonstrate integrity in our business and personal relationships.**

Ps 101:6 *“6 My eyes shall [look with favor] upon the **faithful of the land**, that they may dwell with me; he who walks blamelessly, he shall minister to me.”*

Prov 20:6,7 *“6 Many a man proclaims his own loving-kindness and goodness, but a faithful man who can find?
7 The **righteous man walks in his integrity**; blessed (happy, fortunate, enviable) are his children after him.”*

- **Demonstrate Godly leadership qualities**

Dan 6:1-4 *“1 IT PLEASED [King] Darius [successor to Belshazzar] to set over the kingdom 120 satraps who should be [in charge] throughout all the kingdom,
2 And over them three presidents — of whom Daniel was one — that these satraps might give account to them and that the king should have no loss or damage.
3 Then this Daniel was distinguished above the presidents and the satraps **because an excellent spirit was in him**, and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.
4 Then the presidents and satraps sought to find occasion [to bring accusation] against Daniel concerning the kingdom, **but they could find no occasion or fault, for he was faithful, nor was there any error or fault found in him.**”*

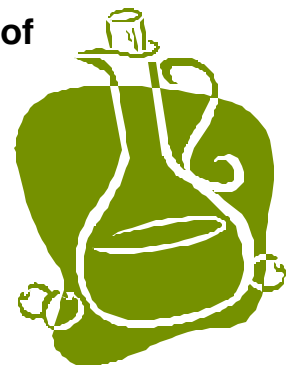
Matt 25:21 *“21 His master said to him, **Well done, you upright (honorable, admirable) and faithful servant! You have been faithful and trustworthy over a little; I will put you in charge of much. Enter into and share the joy (the delight, the blessedness) which your master enjoys.**”*

- **Demonstrate that our primary goal is to build God’s Kingdom.**

Heb 3:1-5 *“1 SO THEN, brethren, consecrated and set apart for God, who share in the heavenly calling, [thoughtfully and attentively] consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest Whom we confessed [as ours when we embraced the Christian faith].
2 [See how] faithful He was to Him Who appointed Him [Apostle and High Priest], as Moses was also faithful in the whole house [of God].
3 Yet Jesus has been considered worthy of much greater honor and glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house has more honor than the house [itself].
4 For [of course] every house is built and furnished by someone, but the Builder of all things and the Furnisher [of the entire equipment of all things] is God.
5 And **Moses certainly was faithful in the administration of all God’s house [but it was only] as a ministering servant. [In his entire ministry he was but] a testimony to the things which were to be spoken [the revelations to be given afterward in Christ].**”*

7.6.4 From the Fruit of Faithfulness come the Oil of Encouragement / Praise / Comfort

The natural olive which produces the **fruit of faithfulness** will, because of the brokenness and confidence in it’s source, produce an **oil** which is **rich in prophetic word and encouragement / praise**.



Only fruit which has a source of **faithfulness**, will have the **absolute confidence** that God will always provide and it is from this platform that the **Oil of Encouragement** will flow.

Only the sheep that know His voice will follow – as we **follow Him** we can turn around to **encourage, lift up those who do not hear clearly.**

John 10:27 “27 The sheep that are My own hear and **are listening to My voice**; and I know them, and they follow Me.”

Moreover, this is the time to **blow the trumpet**, to call the Bride of Christ to the marriage ceremony. Since we are faithfully on this journey it cautions us to alert others.

Num 10:1-3, 8, 10 “1 **AND THE Lord** said to Moses,
2 Make two trumpets of silver; of hammered or turned work you shall make them, that you may use them to **call the congregation** and for breaking camp.
3 When they both are blown, all the congregation shall assemble before you at the door of the Tent of Meeting.
8 And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets, and the **trumpets shall be to you for a perpetual statute throughout your generations.**
10 Also in the day of rejoicing, and in your set feasts, and at the beginnings of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and your peace offerings; thus they may be a **remembrance** before your God. I am the Lord your God.”

As we speak out a word of prophecy, words which will **exhort, build up** and **give direction**, the Oil of Encouragement will bring a sense of **peace** and **rest** to weary minds.

Ps. 34:1 “1 I WILL bless the Lord at all times; **His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**”

Ps 84:4 “4 Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) are those who dwell in Your house and Your presence; **they will be singing Your praises all the day long.** Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]!”

Ps 148:14 “14 He has lifted up a horn for His people [giving them power, prosperity, dignity, and preeminence], **a song of praise** for all His godly ones, for the people of Israel, who are near to Him. Praise the Lord! (Hallelujah!)”

Ps. 141: 5 “Let the righteous man smite and correct me—**it is a kindness. Oil so choice let not my head refuse or discourage**; for even in their evils or calamities shall my prayer continue.”

Ps. 27:5 *“For in the day of trouble **He will hide me in His shelter**; in the **secret place of His tent** will He hide me; He will **set me high upon a rock.**”*

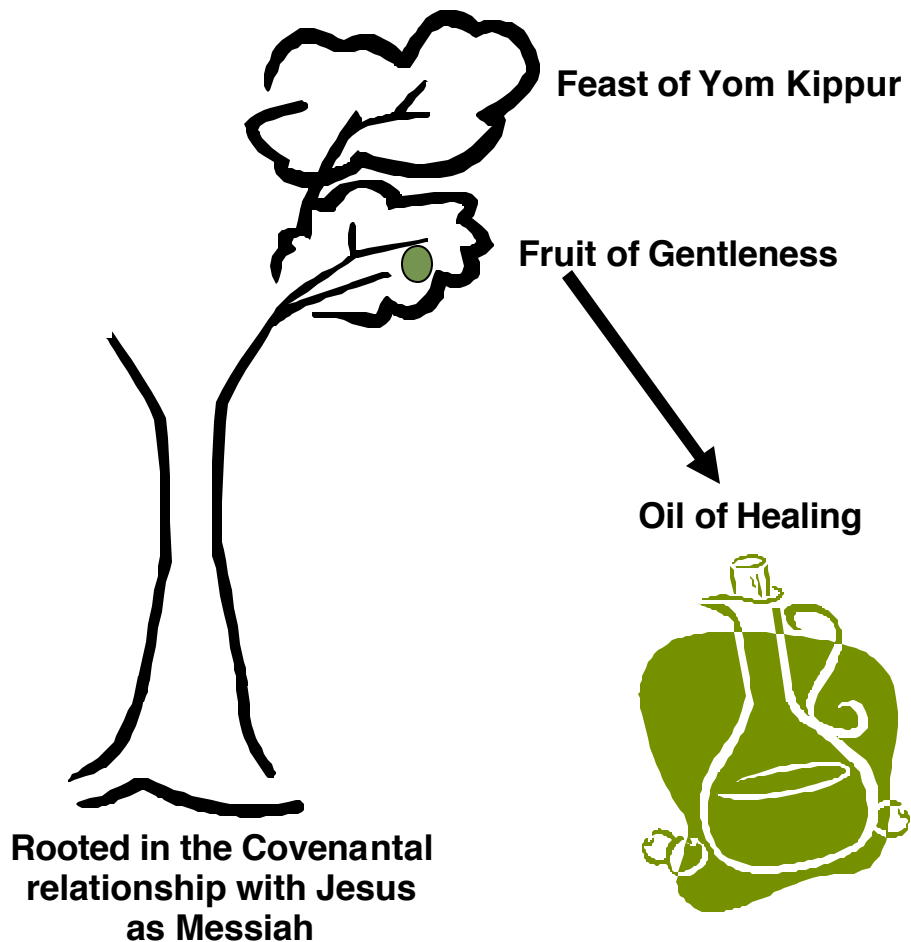
Ps. 103:13 *“As a father loves and pities his children, so the **Lord loves and pities those who fear Him** [with reverence, worship, and awe].”*



7.7 Feast of Yom Kippur / Atonement

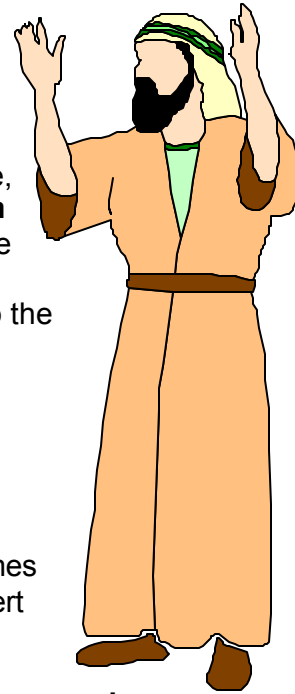
7.7.1 Commandment

Lev 23:26-32 “26 And the Lord said to Moses,
27 Also the tenth day of this seventh month is the **Day of Atonement**; it shall be a holy [called] assembly, and you shall afflict yourselves [by fasting in penitence and humility] and present an offering made by fire to the Lord.
28 And you shall do no work on this day, for it is the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the Lord your God.
29 **For whoever is not afflicted [by fasting in penitence and humility] on this day shall be cut off** from among his people [that he may not be included in the atonement made for them].
30 And whoever does any work on that same day I will destroy from among his people.
31 You shall do no kind of work [on that day]. **It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.**
32 It shall be to you a sabbath of rest, and you **shall afflict yourselves** [by fasting in penitence and humility]. On the ninth day of the month from evening to evening you shall keep your sabbath.”



7.7.2 What is the essence of Yom Kippur?

Man, created in the image of God, lives a fasted lifestyle, to intercede for the bound, the lost and the oppressed **in all nations**, so that they can be raised up and so that we can build up, from generation to generation, from all the nations of the earth, the Body of Believers who make up the Body of Christ.



7.7.3 Fruit of Gentleness

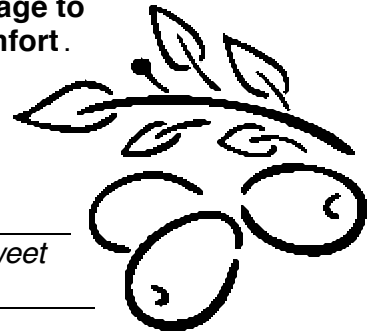
The world goes on at its pace - running faster and faster each day. As it speeds up so does the sense of noise increase. With the greater pressure to perform, sometimes merely to stay afloat, harsh words, stressful goals all exert their toll on the soul.

The Fruit of Gentleness encompasses words of **tenderness and compassion**. It is the ability to see the pain, uncertainty and concern which are often hidden behind a mask and then to have the **courage to take time to reach out with an action that will bring comfort**.

God wants us to utilize the gift of gentleness in:

- The words that we choose to use.

Prov 16:24 "24 **Pleasant words are as a honeycomb**, sweet to the mind and healing to the body."



Prov. 26:20 "20 For lack of wood the fire goes out, and **where there is no whisperer, contention ceases.**"

- The way in which we let the light of God shine through into this dark world.

Matt 5:15 "15 Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a peck measure, but on a lampstand, and it **gives light to all in the house.**"

- A lifestyle of caring

Matt 5:44 "44 But I tell you, **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,**"

7.7.4 From the Fruit of Gentleness comes the Oil of Healing

The natural olive which bears **fruit of gentleness** (compassion / tenderness) will, when crushed, produce an oil which, when used by believers in faith, **bring healing to the sick and oppressed.**

- We need **to do** something – touch, feel, see, and together with the oil of healing, our prayers will be answered. We need to be the balm in Gilead.



Jer. 8:22 “22 *Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people restored? [Because Zion no longer enjoyed the presence of the Great Physician!]*”

Luke 5:13 “13 *And [Jesus] reached out His hand and touched him, saying, I am willing; be cleansed! And immediately the leprosy left him.*”

Mark 7:33 “33 *And taking him aside from the crowd [privately], He thrust His fingers into the man’s ears and spat and touched his tongue;*”

- **We need to go to the root of the problem**

Spend time and counsel wisely to see what the real issue is.

Jer. 3:22 “22 *Return, O faithless sons, [says the Lord, and] I will heal your faithlessness. [And they answer] Behold, we come to You, for You are the Lord our God.*”

Luke 4:18 “18 *The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me [the Anointed One, the Messiah] to **preach the good news** (the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to **announce release to the captives** and **recovery of sight to the blind**, to **send forth as delivered** those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity].*”

Mark 2:17 “17 *And when Jesus heard it, He said to them, Those who are strong and well have no need of a physician, but those who are weak and sick; I came not to call the righteous ones to repentance, **but sinners (the erring ones and all those not free from sin).***”

- **We need to make the burden light**

We are called to carry away – “*Lambano*” – the sickness. **Prayer and anointing of oil in faith** based on the **work of Atonement** by Jesus will cause those afflicted “to live again”.

The Prodigal Son:

Luke 15:24, 32 “24 Because this my son was **dead and is alive again**; he was lost and is found! And they began to revel and feast and make merry.
32 But it was fitting to make merry, to revel and feast and rejoice, for this brother of yours was dead and is alive again! He was lost and is found!”

Rev. 20:5 “5 The remainder of the dead were not **restored to life** again until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.”

- **We need to restore the power of Blessing**

Gal. 3:14 “14 To the end that through [their receiving] Christ Jesus, the **blessing [promised] to Abraham might come upon the Gentiles**, so that we through faith might [all] receive [the realization of] the promise of the [Holy] Spirit.”

- **The oil of healing has the power to restore body, soul and spirit.**

Body:

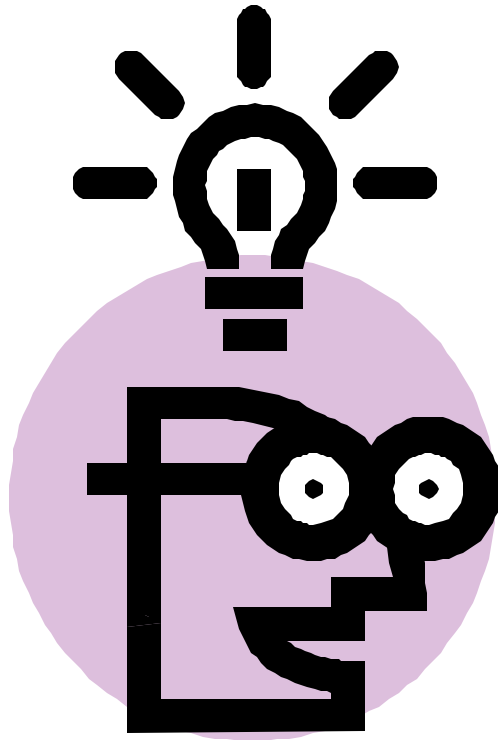
Job 33:23-25 “23 [God’s voice may be heard] if there is for the hearer a messenger or an angel, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to show to man what is right for him [how to be upright and in right standing with God],
24 Then [God] is gracious to him and says, Deliver him from going down into the pit [of destruction]; I have found a ransom (a price of redemption, an atonement)!
25 **[Then the man’s] flesh shall be restored**; it becomes fresher and more tender than a child’s; he returns to the days of his youth.”

Soul:

Job 33:26-28 “26 He prays to God, and He is favorable to him, so that he sees His face with joy; for [God] restores to him his righteousness (his uprightness and right standing with God— with its joys).
27 He looks upon other men or sings out to them, I have sinned and perverted that which was right, and it did not profit me, or He did not requite me [according to my iniquity]!
28 **[God] has redeemed my life from going down to the pit [of destruction], and my life shall see the light!**”

Spirit:

Job 33: 26-28, 30 *“26 He prays to God, and He is favorable to him, so that he sees His face with joy; for [God] restores to him his righteousness (his uprightness and right standing with God— with its joys).
27 He looks upon other men or sings out to them, I have sinned and perverted that which was right, and it did not profit me, or He did not requite me [according to my iniquity]!
28 [God] has redeemed my life from going down to the pit [of destruction], and my life shall see the light!
30 To bring back his life from the pit [of destruction], that he may be enlightened with the light of the living.”*



7.8 Feast of Succot / Tabernacles

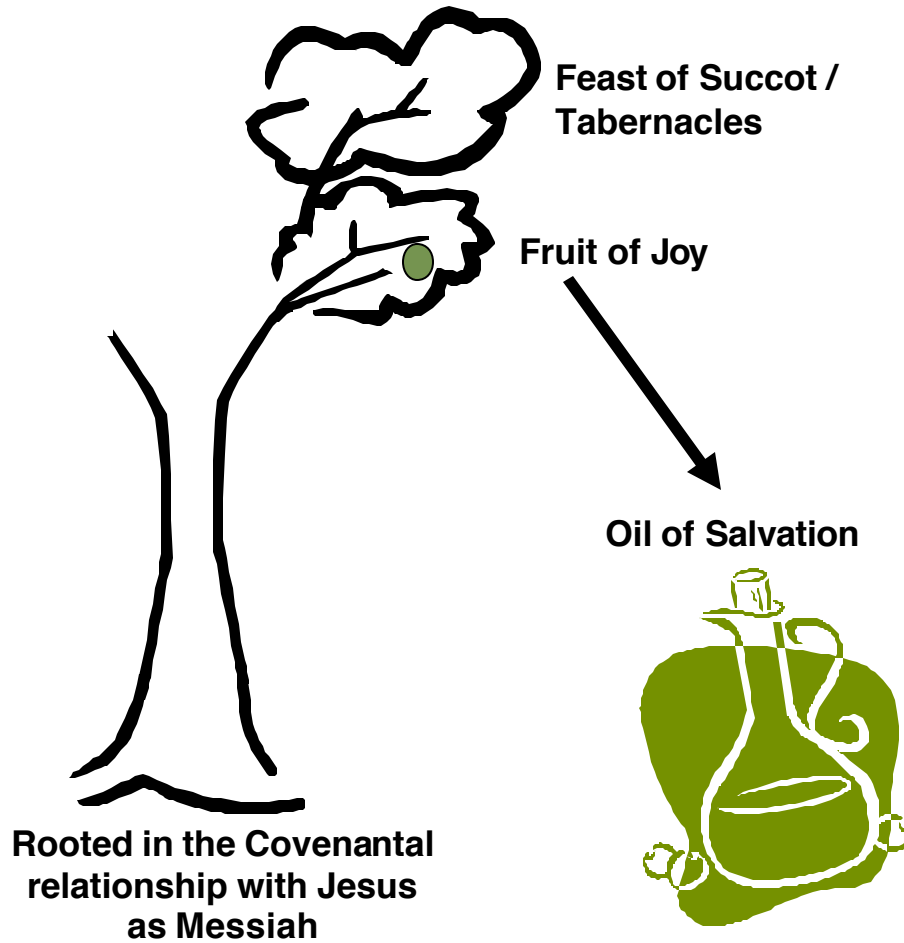
7.8.1 Commandment

Lev 23:33-43 “33 And the Lord said to Moses,
34 Say to the Israelites, The fifteenth day of this seventh month, and for seven days, is the **Feast of Tabernacles or Booths** to the Lord.
35 On the first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no servile work on that day.
36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord; on the eighth day shall be a holy convocation and you shall present an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a solemn assembly; you shall do no laborious work on that day.
37 **These are the set feasts or appointed seasons of the Lord**, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to present an offering made by fire to the Lord, a burnt offering and a cereal offering, sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its own day.
38 **This is in addition to the Sabbaths of the Lord** and besides your gifts and all your vowed offerings and all your freewill offerings which you give to the Lord.
39 Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month [nearly October], when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast of the Lord for seven days, the first day and the eighth day each a Sabbath.
40 And on the **first day you shall take the fruit of pleasing trees** [and make booths of them], branches of palm trees, and boughs of thick (leafy) trees, and willows of the brook; and **you shall rejoice before the Lord your God** for seven days.
41 You shall keep it **as a feast to the Lord** for seven days in the year, **a statute forever throughout your generations**; you shall keep it in the seventh month.
42 You shall dwell in booths (shelters) for seven days: All native Israelites shall dwell in booths,
43 That your generations may know that I made the Israelites dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.”

חג הסוכות



SUCCOT



7.8.2 What is the essence of Succot?

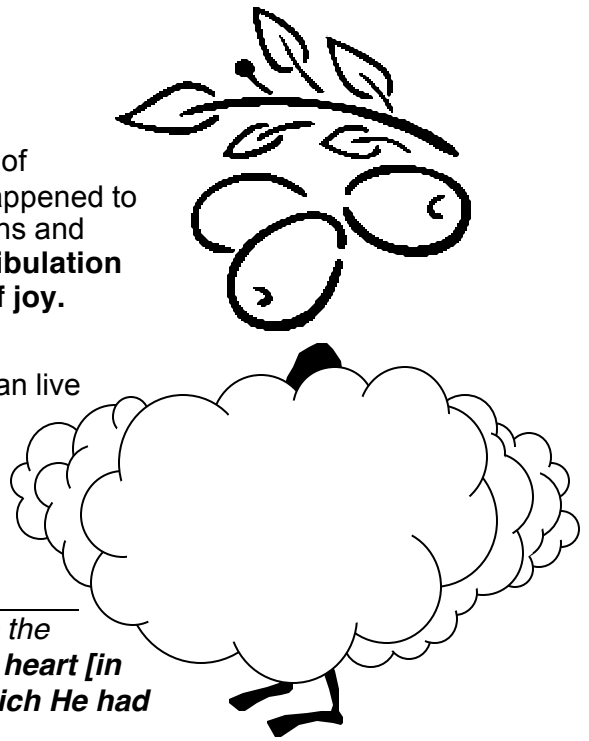
Man, created in the image of God, will be carried by God as if on eagle's wings in a time when we will dwell in His presence and He will provide for us daily. Man will have moved from the personal celebration of the wedding under the chuppah to natural rejoicing under the Succot / booth. The past is behind us, we start a new beginning!



7.8.3 Fruit of Joy

Each one of us has grown up in a different set of circumstances, a different set of events that happened to us, with the result that we have unique strengths and weaknesses of character. **In every trial and tribulation that we face we need to cultivate the fruit of joy.**

This is made easier when we accept that we can live through the mundane daily existence by living constantly in the **glory cloud** of God's Presence. Interestingly we are told that **if we don't have joy we will be given over to our enemy.**



Deut 28:47,48 *"47 Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joyfulness of [mind and] heart [in gratitude] for the abundance of all [with which He had blessed you],*

48 Therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord shall send against you, in hunger and thirst, in nakedness and in want of all things; and He will put a yoke of iron upon your neck until He has destroyed you."

God wants this fruit to manifest in some of the following ways:

- **By the fact that the search for the wisdom of His Word / Torah.**

Prov 3:13-23 *"13 Happy (blessed, fortunate, enviable) is the man who finds skillful and godly Wisdom, and the man who gets understanding [drawing it forth from God's Word and life's experiences],*

14 For the gaining of it is better than the gaining of silver, and the profit of it better than fine gold.

15 Skillful and godly Wisdom is more precious than rubies; and nothing you can wish for is to be compared to her.

16 Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and honor.

17 Her ways are highways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold on her; and happy (blessed, fortunate, to be envied) is everyone who holds her fast.

19 The Lord by skillful and godly Wisdom has founded the earth; by understanding He has established the heavens.

20 By His knowledge the deeps were broken up, and the skies distill the dew.

21 My son, let them not escape from your sight, but keep sound and godly Wisdom and discretion,

22 And they will be life to your inner self, and a gracious ornament to your neck (your outer self).

23 Then you will walk in your way securely and in confident trust, and you shall not dash your foot or stumble."

- **By the way that we ask for His joy and strength.**

John 16:22-24 “22 So for the present you are also in sorrow (in distress and depressed); but I will see you again and [then] **your hearts will rejoice, and no one can take from you your joy (gladness, delight).**
 23 And when that time comes, you will ask nothing of Me [you will need to ask Me no questions]. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that My Father will grant you whatever you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM].
 24 Up to this time you have not asked a [single] thing in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]; but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so **that your joy (gladness, delight) may be full and complete.**”

Eccl 2:26 “26 For to the person who pleases Him God gives **wisdom and knowledge and joy**; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and heaping up, that he may give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after the wind and a feeding on it.”

Neh 8:10 “10 Then [Ezra] told them, Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet drink, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. And be not grieved and depressed, **for the joy of the Lord is your strength and stronghold.**”

- **By the way that we encourage others to grow in joy.**

2 Cor 1:24 “24 Not that we have dominion [over you] and lord it over your faith, but [rather that we work with you as] fellow laborers [**to promote**] **your joy**, for in [your] faith (in your strong and welcome conviction or belief that Jesus is the Messiah, through Whom we obtain eternal salvation in the kingdom of God) you stand firm.”

Jam 1:2-4 “2 **Consider it wholly joyful**, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations.
 3 Be assured and understand that the trial and proving of your faith bring out endurance and steadfastness and patience.
 4 But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a **thorough work**, so that you may be [people] **perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing.**”

Phil 1:25 “25 Since I am convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and stay by you all, **to promote your progress and joy in believing,**”

- **God will honour us, by raising us upon the community as a respected leader.**

Ps. 45:7 “7 You love righteousness, uprightness, and right standing with God and hate wickedness; therefore God, **Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows.**”

7.8.4 From the Fruit of Joy comes the Oil of Salvation:

The natural olive tree that produces **fruit of joy** will cause the **Oil of Salvation** to come forth when it is crushed. When this oil is poured over the **broken hearted**, we will find **restoration**.



Is 12:3 “*3 Therefore with **joy** will you draw water from the wells of salvation.*”

Ps. 51:12 “*12 Restore to me the **joy of Your salvation** and uphold me with a willing spirit.*”

Ps. 149:4 “*4 For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will **beautify the humble with salvation** and adorn the wretched with victory.*”

- **We will be restorers of people**

Ps. 23:3 “*3 He refreshes and restores my life (my self); He leads me in the paths of righteousness [uprightness and right standing with Him — **not for my earning it, but] for His Name’s sake.***”

- **We will protect people.**

Ps. 32:7 “*7 You are a **hiding place for me**; You, Lord, **preserve me from trouble**, You surround me with songs and shouts of deliverance. Selah [pause, and calmly think of that!]*”

All those who hear the fruit of joy and feel the Oil of Salvation bring restoration to their souls whilst on this earth and will be together in the New Jerusalem.

Ps 48:1,2 “*1 GREAT IS the Lord, and highly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain,
2 Fair and beautiful in elevation, **is the joy of all the earth**—Mount Zion [the City of David], to the northern side [Mount Moriah and the temple], the [whole] city of the Great King!*”

7.9 The Feast of One Extra Day: Shemmi Atzerit

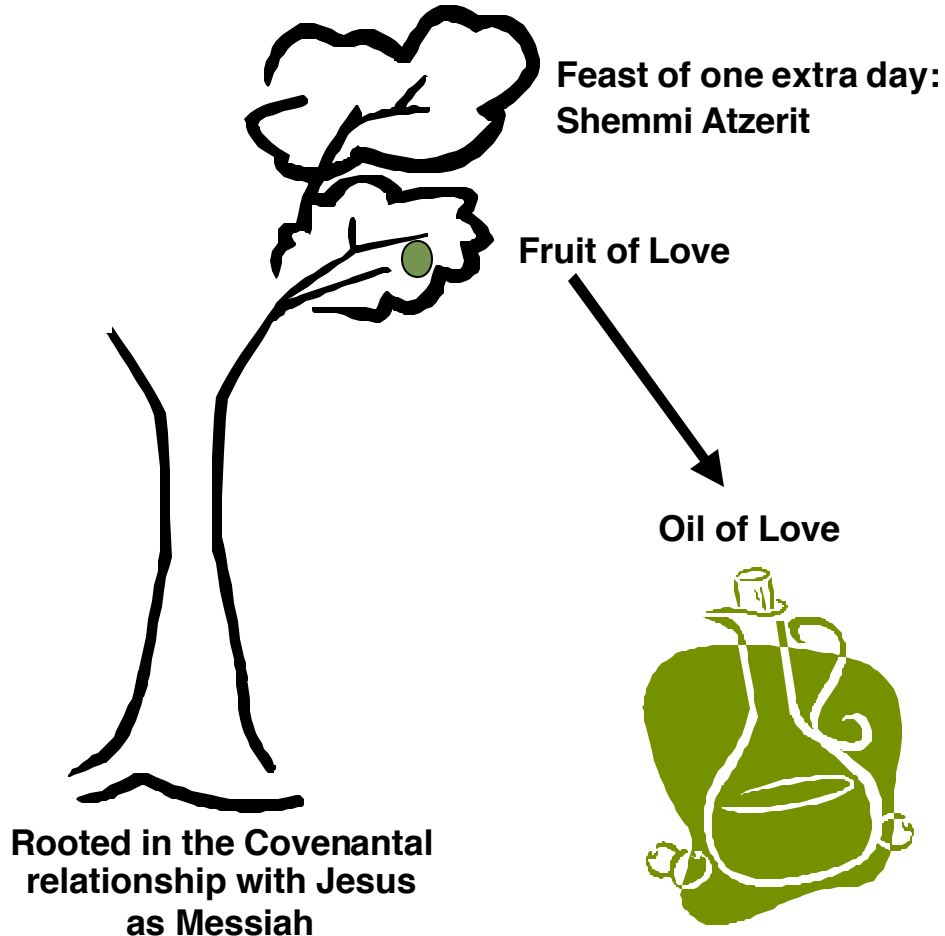
7.9.1 Commandment

God set out His feasts, but not surprisingly there is something hidden away. **Lev. 23:33** tells us the feast of Succot is to last 7 days but then God asks us for one extra day.

Lev. 23:36(b) “36... on the **eighth day** shall be a **holy convocation** and you shall present an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a solemn assembly; you shall do no laborious work on that day.”

Lev. 23:39(b) “39 ...you shall keep the feast of the Lord for seven days, the first day and the **eighth day a Sabbath.**”

We live in the booths for seven days but on the 8th we have **complete rest**.



7.9.2 The essence of this feast is:

The feast cries out of intimacy!

Song of Sol. 1:4 *“4 Draw me! **We will run after you!** The king brings me into his apartments! We will be glad and rejoice in you! We will recall [when we were favored with] your love, more fragrant than wine. The upright [are not offended at your choice, but sincerely] love you.”*

Song of Sol. 2:4-5 *“4 He brought me to the banqueting house, **and his banner over me was love** [for love waved as a protecting and comforting banner over my head when I was near him].
5 Sustain me with raisins, refresh me with apples, for **I am sick with love.**”*

Song of Sol. 8:3-4 *“3 [Then musingly she added] Oh, that his left hand were under my head and that his right hand **embraced me!**
4 I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that you never [again attempt to] stir up or awaken love until it pleases.”*

7.9.3 Fruit of Love

This fruit is the total, the all encompassing and represents the **fullness of the Spirit**.

This fruit can **only build up**.

This fruit is the sum total of the tree:



1 CORINTHIANS 13	FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
1. Is patient – passive, not in any hurry, suffers long, endures all things. (v. 4 & 7)	Long Suffering
2. Is kind – love in action, is never rash or inconsistent. (v.4)	Kindness
3. Is generous – love in competition is never jealous. (v. 4)	Goodness
4. Is humble – love in hiding is in service but never requires recognition. (v. 4)	Faithfulness
5. Is courteous – love in society, is always polite, at peace. (v. 5)	Peace
6. Is unselfish – love in essence does not seek revenge, or retaliate (v.5)	Gentleness
7. Is good tempered – never irritated or resentful (v. 5)	Self-control
8. Is righteous – love in conduct always believes in the best of others, hates sin, always hopeful (v. 6,7)	Joy

9. Is sincere – always honest, lives a lifestyle of integrity, covers all things (v. 7)

Love

7.9.4 Oil of love

This olive brings forth a fruit which has every taste and vitamin needed by man. This fruit is truly the:

“tree whose leaves are a healing for the nations”

This fruit, when crushed, will yield the highest quality oil – the **Oil of Love**.



This oil,

- **flowing from a pure heart**

1 Tim. 1:5 *“5 Whereas the object and purpose of our instruction and charge is love, which **springs from a pure heart and a good (clear) conscience and sincere (unfeigned) faith.**”*

1 John 3:20-23 *“20 Whenever our hearts in [tormenting] self-accusation make us feel guilty and condemn us. [For we are in God’s hands.] For He is above and greater than our consciences (our hearts), and He knows (perceives and understands) everything [nothing is hidden from Him].
21 And, beloved, **if our consciences (our hearts) do not accuse us** [if they do not make us feel guilty and condemn us], we have confidence (complete assurance and boldness) before God,
22 And we receive from Him whatever we ask, because we [watchfully] obey His orders [observe His suggestions and injunctions, follow His plan for us] and [habitually] practice what is pleasing to Him.
23 And this is His order (His command, His injunction): that we should believe in (put our faith and trust in and adhere to and rely on) the name of His Son Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and that we should love one another, just as He has commanded us.”*

- **with a clear conscience**
- **and with sincere faith**

will enable us to:

A. Love our neighbour as ourself.

Lev. 19:18 *“18 You shall not take revenge or bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but **you shall love your neighbor as yourself.** I am the Lord.”*

Matt. 19:19 *“19 Honor your father and your mother, and, **You shall love your neighbor as [you do] yourself.**”*

Rev. 13:9 *“9 If anyone is **able to hear, let him listen.**”*

B. Build up those near us.

1 Cor. 8:1 *“1 NOW ABOUT food offered to idols: of course we know that all of us possess knowledge [concerning these matters. Yet mere] knowledge causes people to be puffed up (to bear themselves loftily and be proud), but love (affection and goodwill and benevolence) edifies and builds up and encourages one to grow [to his full stature].”*

C. Cover my neighbour’s faults.

1 Pet. 4:8 *“8 Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins [forgives and disregards the offenses of others].”*

We have seen that the Feasts are a shadow pointing the way towards a lifetime in the presence of God in the New Jerusalem.

We have seen the connection between the Feasts and the Path to Holiness set out for us as the Fruit of the Spirit.

What we have discussed is that if we connect the **physical experience of the feast with the spiritual experience of the fruit of the Holy Spirit**, we will be the **Bride of Christ** who will experience the fullness of God’s love for us.

1 Cor 13:4-8 *“4 Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily.
5 It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God’s love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong].
6 It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.
7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].
8 Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth].”*

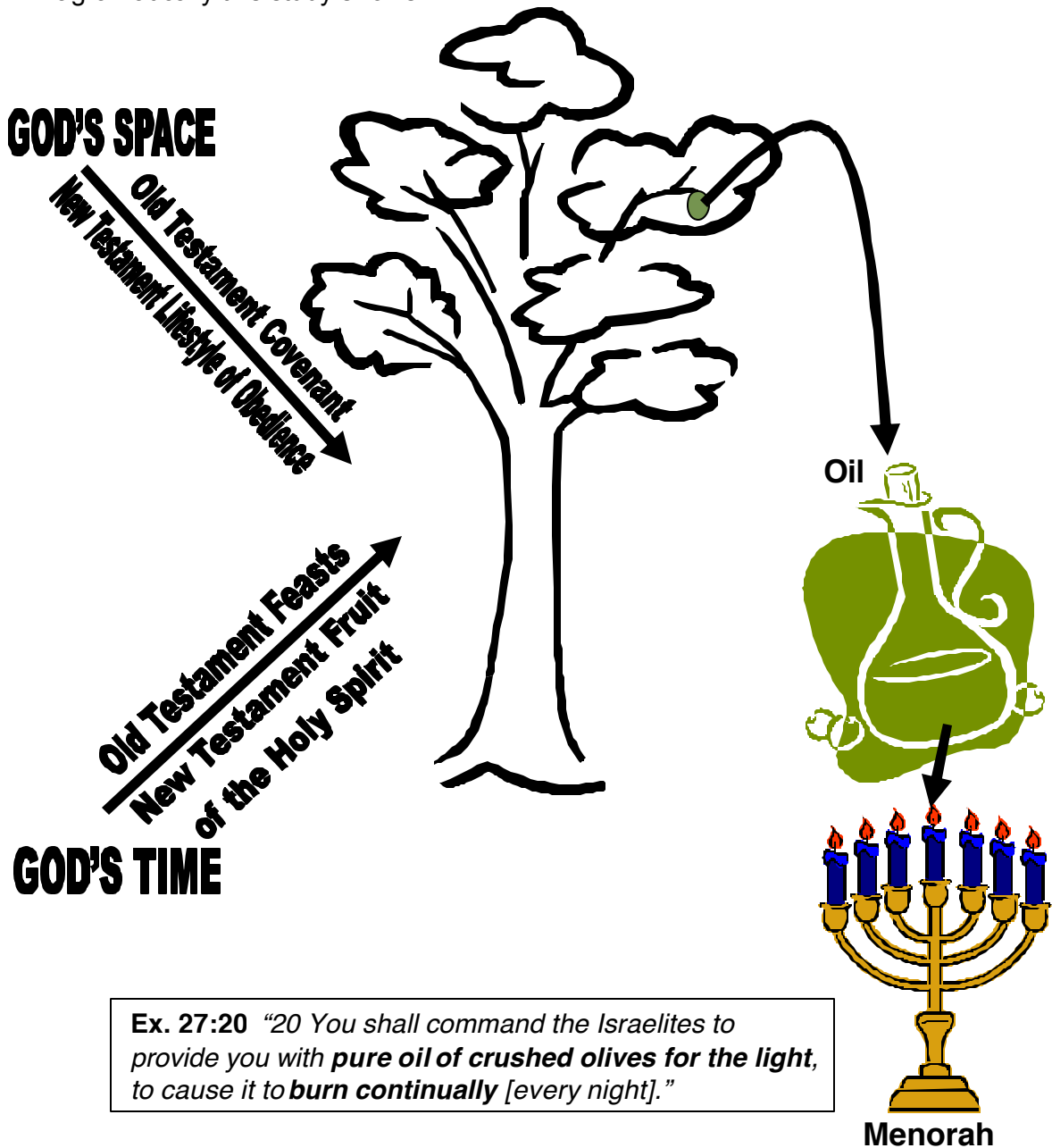
Eph 3:17-19 “17 May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! **May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love,**
18 That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God’s devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it];
19 [That you may really come] **to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ,** which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself!]”



CONCLUSION

God works through covenants (space) and time (season feasts) to achieve His goals.

Diagrammatically this study shows:



To understand God's Space and God's Time, please see "God's Pattern / Plan to be aligned with Israel – God's Holy Space and Holy Time" available from Kanaan Ministries.

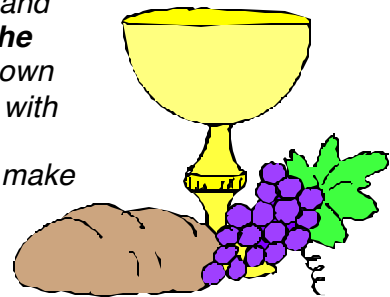
God tells us that:

1. Those who know Him
AND
2. Do His Commandments
WILL
 1. Have the right to the Tree of Life and
 2. Can enter through the Gate of the City.

Rev 22:14 "14 Blessed (happy and to be envied) are those who cleanse their garments, that they may have the authority and right to [approach] **the tree of life and to enter through the gates into the city.**"

MAN = OLIVE TREE = FRUIT = OIL

Is. 58: 13-14 "13 If you turn away your foot from [traveling unduly on] the Sabbath, from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, and **call the Sabbath a [spiritual] delight, the holy day of the Lord honorable, and honor Him and it, not going your own way or seeking or finding your own pleasure or speaking with your own [idle] words,**
14 Then will you **delight yourself in the Lord, and I will make you to ride on the high places of the earth, and I will feed you with the heritage [promised for you] of Jacob your father; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**"



The man who :

- is **rooted** in his covenantal roots,
 - **obeys God** by keeping His Commandments,
 - is **empowered by the Holy Spirit** to produce good fruit
- will look like Aaron daily, with the oil "dripping" from his beard .



Ps. 133:1-3 "1 **BEHOLD, HOW good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!**
2 It is like the **precious ointment poured on the head, that ran down on the beard, even the beard of Aaron [the first high priest], that came down upon the collar and skirts of his garments [consecrating the whole body].**
3 It is like the dew of [lofty] Mount Hermon and the dew that comes on the hills of Zion; for there the Lord has commanded the blessing, even life forevermore [upon the high and the lowly]."

In closing, after these curses have been dealt with and broken, it is very important to restore BLESSINGS ... we want to encourage *fathers* to take this calling seriously, and to begin **BLESSING** their families according to the Commandment of the LORD that the priests bless with the following blessing ...

The Priestly Blessing ...

Numbers 6:24-26

“²⁴ The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:
²⁵ The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: ²⁶ The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.”

The Priestly Blessing ...

Hebraic Translation¹

"YHVH will kneel before you presenting gifts, and He will guard you with a hedge of protection, YHVH will illuminate the wholeness of His Being toward you, bringing order, and He will provide you with love, sustenance, and friendship, YHVH will lift up the wholeness of His Being and look upon you, and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete."

*Translation by Jeff A. Benner, for more information, please see http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12_blessing.html

The Priestly Blessing¹

יְבַרְכֶּךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ:

and may he guard you the LORD may he bless you

May the LORD² bless you³ and keep you⁴

יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחַנְךָ:

and show you favor on you his face the LORD May he shine

May the LORD make His face⁵ shine⁶ upon you and be gracious⁷ to you

יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם:

peace for you and establish on you his face the LORD may he lift up

May the LORD lift up⁸ his face to you and give you peace⁹

¹ This blessing is (ritually) recited (by the kohanim) during synagogue services during *Nesiat Kapayim* ("the Raising of the Hands"), though it is also recited over children on Friday night before the start of the Shabbat meal or as a bedtime blessing.

² The name *YHVH* (יהוה) represents God's attributes of love and mercy (מִדַּת הַרַחֲמִים), in contradistinction to the name *Elohim* (אֱלֹהִים), which represents God's attribute of justice and power as our Creator.

³ בְּרַכָּה (*b'rachah*). Jewish tradition considers this both material and spiritual prosperity. Pirkei Avot 3:15 says, "If there is no flour, there is no Torah," by which is meant that material benefits are intended to help you pursue study of Torah. The first occurrence of the word "blessing" in the Scriptures pertains to *pru urvu* (פְּרוּ וּרְבוּ), "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen. 1:22).

⁴ שָׁמַר (*shamar*): To guard, protect, heed, as in the exercise of diligent care. Only God has the power to secure the conferred blessing and keep it from turning sour or from fading away.

⁵ The word for "face" (פָּנִים) is plural with the 3rd person singular ending. It is considered metaphorical since God is incorporeal. The plural form is thought by some to indicate God's revealed and hidden attributes in creation.

⁶ The hiphil verb (יָאֵר) comes from the word "light" (אֹר), and is thought to refer to God's wisdom. "May God enlighten you" with His wisdom, i.e., the Divine Light that preceded the work of creation (Gen. 1:3).

⁷ May God grant you grace or favor (חֵן), i.e., to understand the "breadth and length and height and depth" of God's love (Eph. 3:18). Grace refers to the bestowal of an undeserved gift. The blessing is bestowed even though unearned or unmerited.

⁸ Since one's face is an indication of the heart's attitude, Rashi says that this means God will suppress His anger by "looking at you" (if God is angry at you, He "turns His face away" and refuses to admit your presence). The "lifting of face" also pictures God lifting you up as a father might lift up his child in joy. The "showing of face" indicates spiritual intimacy.

⁹ All of the other blessings are useless without the establishment of inner peace, and therefore it is the seal of the blessing. Shalom (שְׁלוֹם) is not simply the absence of strife, but a balance and harmony between the finite and infinite, the temporal and the eternal, the material and the spiritual realms. Shalom is a gift from Sar Shalom (שַׂר שְׁלוֹם), the Prince of Peace.