



# Understanding God's Appointed Times

*...a 7-part study...part 6*

*Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Firstfruits - Part 2*



**Oct 13, 2024**  
**Module 5, Room 1**

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Sept 29, 2024 – Festival of Tabernacles (Sukkot)*
  - *Oct 1, 2024 – Manor Lake – Daniel Ch 1*
- ✓ *Oct 6, 2024 – Passover (Pesach) Part 1*
- ✓ *Oct 13, 2024 – Passover/ Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits - Part 2*
  - ✓ *Oct 15, 2024 – Manor Lake – Daniel Ch 2*
- *Oct 20, 2024 – Pentecost\**
- *Oct 27, 2024 – Other Festivals\**

*\*We may adjust depending on how far we can get*

# Quick Update .../CYMI

## *Middle East*

- *Praise - October 7<sup>th</sup> passed without serious attacks, but just a few missiles and internal attacks in Israel*
- *Israel is making incursions into Lebanon to take out Hez. troops and weapons. Rising Israeli casualties. Continual pressure on Gaza to find hostages*
- *Continual pinpoint bombing of both Lebanon (Beirut) and Syria (Damascus) to eliminate terrorists, terrorist leaders, and weapons storage.*
- *Hezbollah may be seeking a negotiated peace with Israel. Iran is resisting*
- *Israel planning an attack on Iran for the 200 Missile attack a few days ago. The US wants it "symbolic," but Israel is not telling them what is being planned or when, just promising it will be "lethal, precise, and especially surprising"*
- *I expect it soon after Yom Kippur is completed.*

## *US/World*

- *Tragedies in the US from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.*
- *The hardest hit areas are in red States and the Conservative regions. Voting will be a challenge in FL, GA, SC, NC*
- *FEMA relief timing and urgency are being questioned*
- *Election last-minute push is overwhelming news coverage and political discussions*
- *Antisemitism rising with demonstrations by Anti Israel factions (holiday targets)*



# Lebanon Action



# Thoughts about our current study...

- *All of these Sacred Assemblies have other verses that further explain the procedures to follow. We will discuss this more when we do each of the Festival discussions, but we will not focus on process but on meaning.*
- *These sacred assemblies were meant to be a “**Divine drama**” or **recreate the past blessings of the Lord to make sure the generations to come knew what the Lord had done for them.** It is no different than the “ordinance” of the Lord’s Supper which is a part of the Passover Feast that Jesus celebrated in the final days of His life before the cross... Also true of Unleavened Bread*
- *These Sacred Assemblies were serious business to the Jews. Some are viewed as “holidays” today, but their purpose and intent **were for solemn reflection and understanding. Today we will finish the Feasts of Passover and Unleavened Bread, possibly First Fruits***
- ***We have just finished both Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur this month***
- *My prayer is that each of us will see these Jewish Feasts as an opportunity to better understand the deeper meaning and the projected fulfillment, and perhaps be a way to encourage our Jewish friends to come to the Lord while they can.*

# God's Appointed Times

*So far since we began to study God's Appointed Times, we have talked about*

- ✓ ***Rosh HaShana, or Yom Teruah**, which began the 10 days of Awe between the Feast of Trumpets. It is a call to regather back to the Lord*
- ✓ ***Yom Kippur...the Day of Atonement**, which is the Day that Jews make amends, and reparations, plead for forgiveness with repentant hearts, and seek God's blessing for them to stay in the Book of Life for another year.*
- *We talked about the Celebratory Feast of Rejoicing called **Sukkot** or commonly the **Feast of Tabernacles** or Booths.*
- *Last week we got partly through the Passover celebration, and we will finish that today.*



# Spring Feasts (already happened this year)

*Today we will continue a study of the Spring Feasts from Lev 23*

- *Pesach* - Passover
- *Chag HaMotzi* - Unleavened Bread
- *Reshit Katzir* - First Fruits
- *Shavu'ot* - Pentecost

*We will finish both Passover and Unleavened Bread today since they are so close and part of the common celebration by the Jews.*

# Understanding – *Exodus 12 and Passover*

*We cannot read all of it, but I summarized it for you last week*

- *The year is 1446 BC*
- *Jews have been in captivity for >400 years in Egypt*
- *They had cried out to God, and God raised up Moses to come to their aid*
- *Moses appealed to Pharoah to free the Jews, but he refused. God sent 10 plagues on Egypt and the last one was the death of the Firstborn male of both people and animals in the Kingdom*

*Rabbi Sobel says this about Passover:*

*Passover is foundational to every part of Jewish Life. The remembrance of the exodus out of Egypt is the foundation of the Jewish Holidays. In many ways, it is also the foundation of all Jewish Spirituality and much of Jewish Life.*



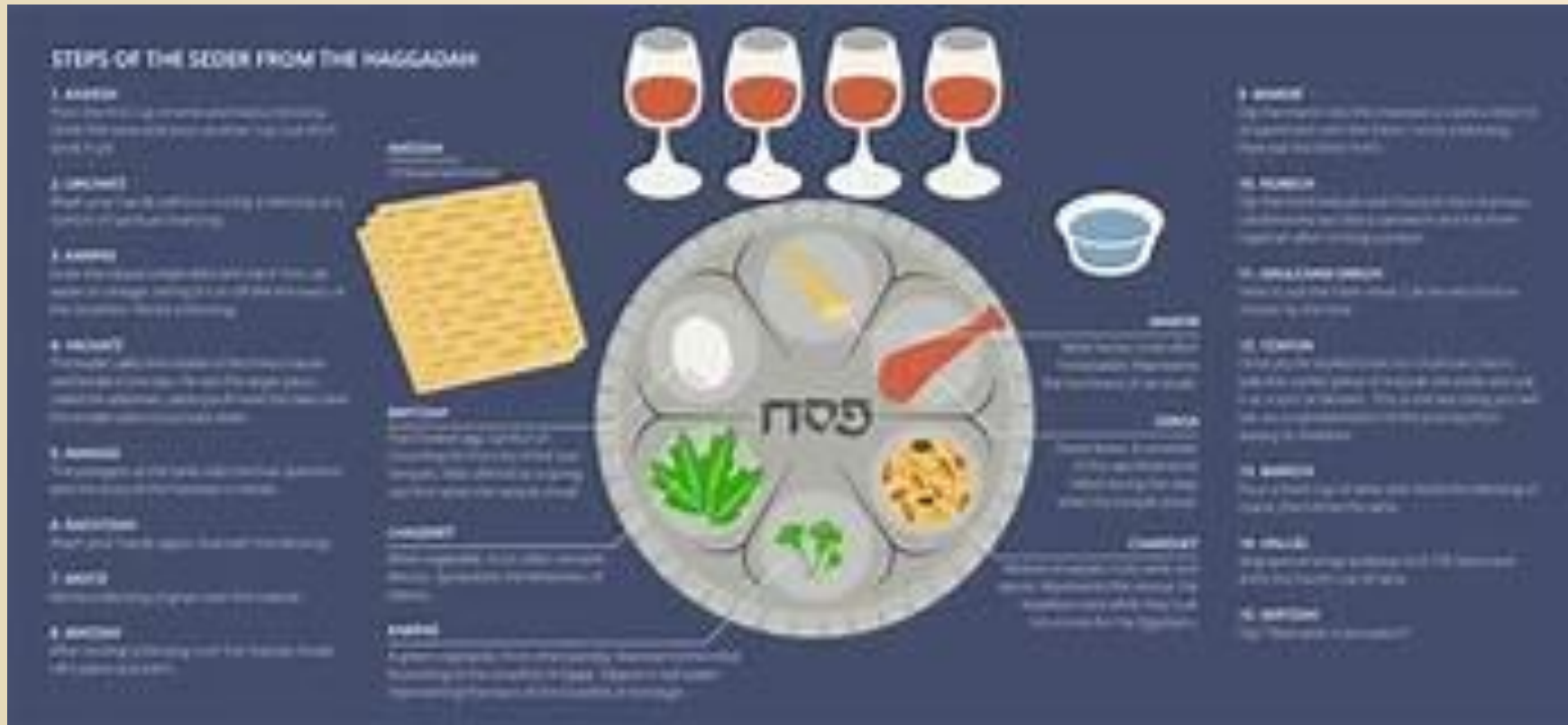
# Passover – Why do they celebrate it?

- The Hebrew word PESACH, means to **skip over**, so we call it **Passover** in English because the **death angel** “passed over” the houses with the lamb’s blood on the door lintel and sides of the doors.
- There is a whole ceremony for Passover that is used to **commemorate** that day and time. It all starts with a **maggid**, which is a telling of the story. The story is spoken in the **present tense** to get the people to feel it is happening to them and feel part of the story. The meal and ceremony are called a **seder** and have the intent to
  - raise questions and **make the night stand out** from all the others and all the other celebrations.
  - It is also intended to **engage the children** and the senses with the food so that **they can get the knowledge of the Lord from generation to generation**.

# Haggadah

*The book that lays out the processes, food, and instructions for the  
Passover meal and celebration*

## Elements



- Bitter Herbs
- Salt Water
- Egg
- Shank of Lamb
- Haroset
- Vegetables
- 4 cups of red wine
- Matzoh

# What they mean

- **Vegetable (Karpas)** – This element, usually parsley, is dipped in salt water and eaten. The karpas pictures the hyssop that was used to apply the blood of the Passover lamb to homes of the Israelites in Egypt. In the New Testament, hyssop was used to give the Lamb of God vinegar when Jesus said He thirsted (John 19:29). The salt water represents the tears shed during the bitter years of slavery and the Red Sea that God split during the exodus.

**Bitter Herbs (Maror)** – The eating of “bitter herbs” is commanded in Exodus 12:8. In modern times, this is usually horseradish, one of the bitterest herbs. The maror reminds the Jews that they were unable to offer sacrifice and worship to God, and that was more bitter than the slavery of Egypt.

**Charoset (haroseth)** – Charoset is a **mixture of apples, nuts, wine, and spices**. It represents the mortar the Israelites used in constructing buildings during their slavery to the Egyptians. Of all the elements of the Seder, charoset alone is sweet, and this is a **reminder of the hope of redemption**.

**Hard-boiled or Roasted Egg (Baytzah)** – Traditionally, hard-boiled eggs were eaten by mourners, and the **egg is eaten during the Seder to remind participants that they are always in mourning for the loss of their temple**. The fact that the egg is roasted evokes the roasting of the sacrifice on the altar of the temple.

**There are also four cups of wine used at various points during the Seder.**

- the first glass is the “cup of sanctification.”
- The second is the “cup of judgment.”
- The third is the “cup of redemption.” And the
- **The fourth is the “cup of praise.”** This is the final cup of wine in the Seder celebration and is also viewed as a **Cup of Thanksgiving**

# Last Supper or Last Seder

At the Last Supper, Jesus took the first cup and promised His disciples that the next time He drank the fruit of the vine with them would be in the kingdom (Luke 22:17).

*Later in the Seder, Jesus took the third cup—the cup of redemption—and used that cup as a symbol of the New Covenant in His blood (Luke 22:20).* Thus, Jesus fulfilled the Passover symbolism and infused the whole feast with a new meaning.

**Note: Jesus DID NOT take the fourth cup in the Last Supper but will take it again in the Wedding Feast of the Lamb that happens in Heaven with His Church as the Bride of Christ.**

**The Fourth Cup of Praise(or Restoration)** will be taken when we are all with Him again in Heaven. (I will take you as my own people)



# The verses that start it out – 4 cups

Exodus 6:6-8, the Lord God promised His people that He would save them from slavery:

*<sup>6</sup>“I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.”*

*<sup>7</sup> I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.*

*<sup>8</sup> And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.’”*

*Also, a strange tradition is that another cup is poured for Elijah, a bit from everyone's cup, a door is opened, a place is set, and they hope Elijah will come as a forerunner to Messiah (Malachi)*

# Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Matzoh

## Exodus 12

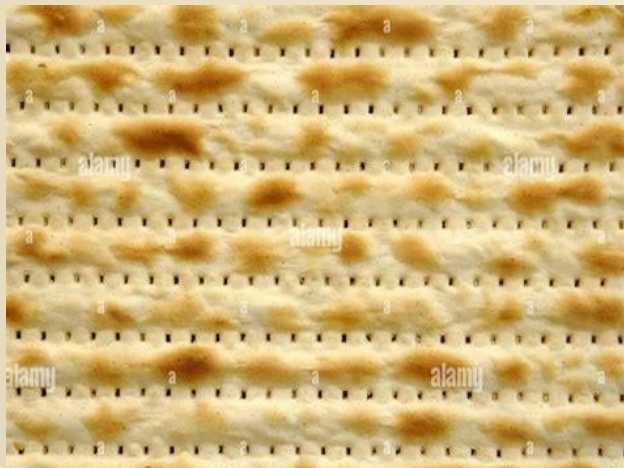
*<sup>17</sup> “Celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. **Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come.***

*<sup>18</sup> In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, **from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day.***

*<sup>19</sup> For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And anyone, whether foreigner or native-born, who eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the community of Israel.*

*<sup>20</sup> Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread.”*

# The Matzoh



- *Striped*
- *Pierced*
- *Broken*

- *Matzoh Tash bag. Hebrew word **Eschad** (means Unity or One)...*
- *Contains 3 Matzohs, 3 compartments*
  - *One to be never used or seen (Father)*
  - *One to be broken in half. (Son)*
  - *One to be eaten with the meal ( HS in us)*
- *Of the one to be broken, half is placed back in the bag, and the other is wrapped in a linen cloth and hidden*
- *The hidden piece is the Afikomen which means “to come later” or in Greek “He has come”*

# Matt 26:23-30 The End of the Lord's Passover

*<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup> The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." (See also John 13:26)*

*<sup>25</sup> Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "**Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?**"*

*Jesus answered, "You have said so."*

*<sup>26</sup> While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "**Take and eat; this is my body.**"*

*<sup>27</sup> Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> **This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.** <sup>29</sup> I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."*

*<sup>30</sup> When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*



# In Passion week

The Day after the Passover meal (Saturday) is the first day of the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**.

It is a celebration and remembrance **to walk in obedience to the Lord**

In Passion week, Jesus was buried and was in the grave on that Saturday and Peter tells us:

***1 Peter 3:18-20*** <sup>18</sup> *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. **He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit.***

***<sup>19</sup> After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits—***

***<sup>20</sup> to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built.***

***Jesus was obedient to God's plan before and after death***

# What does it mean?

- *Just like the thousands of Passover Lambs that died each year as a sacrifice, Jesus died and shed his blood to redeem us from our sins.*
- *There was no longer any need for a Day of Atonement for temporary forgiveness of sin and acceptance by God. It was done once for all in Christ's death on the cross. His death on the cross was in obedience to God the Father and was the reason Christ came to earth. He was obedient after death too, as he brought those Jews who died in anticipation of Him to Heaven.*
- *The Middle Matzoh represents Christ as God (back in the bag) and Christ as fully man broken for us. This is the Christ we use as the bread of life. Third Matzoh is the Holy Spirit in us as we eat that bread*
- *Here is a YouTube with Rabbi Jason Sobel talking about Passover and Unleavened bread from a Messianic perspective*

<https://youtu.be/07s1UJuy-G8>

# The Next day...*Resurrection Sunday*

- This celebration is called **Firstfruits**, and it is to celebrate the first fruits of the Harvest to come.



## Lev 23:9-14

<sup>9</sup> *The Lord said to Moses,*

<sup>10</sup> *“Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a **sheaf of the first grain you harvest**.*

<sup>11</sup> *He is to wave the sheaf before the Lord so it will be accepted on your behalf; **the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath**.*

<sup>12</sup> *On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the Lord a lamb a year old without defect,*

<sup>13</sup> *together with its grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah (1.4 lbs) of the finest flour mixed with olive oil—a food offering presented to the Lord, a pleasing aroma—and its drink offering of a quarter of a hin (8 oz) of wine.*

<sup>14</sup> ***You must not eat any bread, or roasted or new grain, until the very day you bring this offering to your God.** This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live.*



# First Fruit Offerings

## First Fruits

Exodus 23:19 You shall bring the choice  
FIRST FRUITS of your soil into the  
house of the Yahweh your God.

Proverbs 3:9 Honor Yahweh  
from your wealth and from the  
FIRST FRUITS of all your  
produce.

1 Corinthians 15:20 But now Messiah has been raised from the  
dead, the FIRST FRUIT of those who are asleep.

- *Give the Lord from your First Fruits*
- *Do not eat them until they are offered*
- *Modern use is not just a sheaf of grain but whatever YOUR first fruit is or whatever is coming into season*
- *Messiah (Christ) is the First Fruit of the Resurrection Harvest to come*
- *We are the follow-on harvest to come*



# Selected References to FirstFruits

## Old Testament

- **Proverbs 3:9-10** ESV  
Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.
- **Nehemiah 10:35** ESV  
We obligate ourselves to bring the firstfruits of our ground and the firstfruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the Lord;
- **Exodus 22:29** ESV  
“You shall not delay to offer from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me.
- **2 Chronicles 31:5** ESV  
As soon as the command was spread abroad, the people of Israel gave in abundance the firstfruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field. And they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything
- **Jeremiah 2:3** ESV  
Israel was holy to the Lord, the firstfruits of his harvest. All who ate of it incurred guilt; disaster came upon them, declares the Lord.”

*Firstfruits is a concept that applies to grain, fruit, produce, animals, mankind, Christ and His followers, The Spirit, and the 144,000 Redeemed Jews in the End times. It even applies to Israel itself as the firstfruit of the Nations.*

*The Celebration of Christ's Resurrection confirms God's plan for redemption and salvation for everything and for those who believe in Him*

## New Testament

**1 Corinthians 15:20** ESV

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Romans 11:16** ESV

If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

**Romans 8:23** ESV

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

**1 Corinthians 15:23** ESV

But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

**James 1:18** ESV

Of his own will, he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**2 Thessalonians 2:13** ESV

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth

**Rev 14:3-5** ESV

<sup>3</sup> No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup> It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup> and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless

# *Next Week, we will study Pentecost...*

- *Pray for God to move in the US, protect Israel, and their leaders*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Pray for your family and friends inside and outside the church.*  
*Pray for healing for those in grief and recovery, **Be thankful for answered prayer...participate in the 30 days of Prayer***
- *Be thankful that God has placed you **in this day and time** and commit **your** will ...to doing **His** Will.*
- *Praise Him for the blessings He continually bestows on us.*
- *Yom Kippur is here, Pray for your forgiveness, the Nation, and our friend's salvation.*
- *Pray for those who don't know the Lord to come to Him*