

GOD with Us

John 7:37-39

John 1:1-5, 11-14
Leviticus 23:33-44
Zechariah 14:16-21
Revelation 21:1-8

God's Feasts

- God's Decreed History - a blueprint of His plan for His creation.

God's Instructions for the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-44)

A Tabernacling God

- (Genesis 3:8-9) God *tabernacled* with Adam and Eve in the Garden.
- (Exodus 40:34-38) God *tabernacled* with His people in the wilderness - in the *tabernacle (tent)* of meeting.
- (2 Chronicles 7:1-3) God *tabernacled* with His people in His Temple.
- (Ezekiel 8-11) God leaves! 9:3; 10:4, 18; 11:23.
- (John 1:14) God became flesh and *tabernacled* among us!
- (John 7:37-39) Christ at the Feast of Tabernacles in the Temple.
- (Acts 2:1-4) The Holy Spirit (God) descends from heaven and *tabernacles* with believers and His Church. (1 Cor 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:21-22; 1 Peter 2:5)
- (2 Thessalonians 2:1-8) The Church (temple of the Holy Spirit) is taken away.
- (Zechariah 14:16-21; Ezekiel 39-44; Isaiah 2-4) God establishes His Millennium Kingdom and nations gather to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.
- (Revelation 21:1-8) God *tabernacles* with His people forever.

Feast of Tabernacles and the Pillars of Light

- During the Feast four large candelabras were erected in the court yard of the Temple. These "lights" lit up all of Jerusalem. They were a reminder of the Pillar of Cloud and Fire that guided them through the Wilderness. (Exodus 40:36-38; Numbers 9:19-22)
- **IT WAS ONLY FOLLOWING THE CLOUD THAT GOD'S PEOPLE WERE BLESSED!**



4 October 2020

Hoshana Rabbah, the Great Hosanna and Water Ceremony

- The eighth, last, GREAT day of the Feast of Tabernacles!
- Possession to the Pool of Siloam and back to the Temple.
- Seven great blasts on the silver trumpets. (See Numbers 10:1-10)
- Seven times around the Temple.
- The hand lifting of the High Priest.
- Reminder of God providing water in the Wilderness and latter rains.
- Isaiah 12:3

Jesus Christ: The Substance (Colossians 2:16-17)

• Jesus Christ Is the True Tabernacle

- ★ **Tent of Meeting:** Jesus Christ is the Mediator between God and man. (1 Timothy 2:5)
- ★ **One Gate:** Jesus Christ is the *only* way to God (Holy of Holies). (John 14:6; 10:7-9; Acts 4:12; Matthew 11:27)
- ★ **Altar of Sacrifice:** The Cross and His blood. (Hebrews 9:22)
- ★ **Laver:** Cleansing of the Word - John 1:1. (Ephesians 5:26)
- ★ **Lampstand:** "Your Word (Christ) is a lamp unto my path." (Psalm 119:105; John 8:12; 1:4-9; 3:19; 9:5; Matthew 4:14-16; Isaiah 42:6-7; Acts 13:47; 26:23)
- ★ **Table of Shewbread:** Christ is the "true Bread from Heaven." (John 6:32, 33, 41, 50, 51, 58)
- ★ **Altar of Incense:** Christ is our Intercessor. (Rom 8:34; Heb 7:25)
- ★ **Veil:** When He died the veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom. (Matthew 27:51) He made a new and living way to God through the veil, that is, His flesh. (Hebrews 10:20)
- ★ **Ark:** Jesus Christ is the Lawgiver and the Keeper. (Isaiah 33:22; James 4:12)
- ★ **Mercy Seat:** Jesus Christ - through His death we obtained abundant mercy. (Ephesians 2:4-6; 1 Peter 1:3; Jude 21)
- ★ **GOD:** Jesus Christ is GOD. (Romans 9:5; Isaiah 9:6-7; Micah 5:2; Hebrews 1:8-13; 1 John 5:20)

• Jesus Christ Is the Light (Pillar & Cloud) of the World

- ❶ It, the Pillar & Cloud, was a *gift* from God. No one asked or sought a cloud. Just as God gave His Son. (John 3:16)
- ❷ It was symbol of God's *presence* with His people.
 - NOTE how the Cloud and God are considered one – Exodus 13:21-22; Numbers 10:35-36.
 - Jesus Christ is Immanuel - God with us! (Matthew 1:23; John 14:7)

- ③ It was a **guide** through the Wilderness. (Exodus 13:21; Numbers 9:15-23) Christ is the Good Shepherd and His sheep follow Him. (John 10:27-28; John 8:12; Luke 9:23)
- ④ It was a **light**. (Nehemiah 9:12; John 8:12)
 - At the Feast, Christ proclaimed, "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!"
 - ① It Christ is **the** light of the world, then the whole world lies in darkness. (Luke 1:79; John 1:5; 3:19; 12:46; Acts 26:18; 2 Cor 4:6; 6:14; Eph 5:8; Col 1:13; 1 Thess 5:4-5; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Jhn 1:6-7; 2:11; 5:19)
 - ② There are **three** things that God is: 1) God is **light** (1 John 1:5); 2) God is **love** (1 John 4:8); 3) God is **spirit** (1 4:24). Christ was claiming to be **the** Light and, therefore, affirming that He was God!
- ⑤ It was a **covering or protection** during the day. (Psalm 105:39) In a rainless wilderness God provide protection against the hot sun during His people's journeys. We are in Christ Jesus' hand and no one can snatch us out of His hand (John 10:27-29) Jesus Christ is our Advocate! (1 John 2:1). Jesus Christ is our Intercessor! (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25) We have been **sealed** with the Spirit of Christ. (Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 2 Corinthians 1:22)
- ⑥ It was the place where God **spoke or communicated** with His people. (Psalm 99:7; Numbers 12:5) Jesus Christ is the Word of God. (John 1:1) No one comes to God **except** by/through Christ. (John 14:6) We have been **sealed** with the Spirit of Christ. (Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14)
- ⑦ It was never taken from away from the people until they finished their journey through the Wilderness. (Nehemiah 9:19) Jesus Christ promised to be with us always! (Matthew 28:20)
- ★ **ONLY THOSE WHO FOLLOW CHRIST HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.** (John 10:27-28)

• **Jesus Christ Is the Drink that Satisfies.** (John 4:13-14; 7:37-39)

- "If anyone **thirsts** . . ." -
 - ☆ One must be ALIVE to thirst.
 - ☆ Thirst is a recognized NEED.
 - ☆ Thirst is something we are acutely CONSCIOUS.
 - ☆ It is a craving for something we do not have.
 - ☆ Many things seem to promise to quench but do so only for a little while.
 - ☆ Many in the West do not understand what it really means to thirst.
 - ☆ Many thirst for the things of the world. (2 Timothy 3:1-5; John 4:10, 13-14)

- ☆ Blessed is the man who hungers and thirst after righteousness. (Matthew 5:6)
- ☆ Do we thirst for HIM? (Psalm 42:1! 63:1! 36:7-9)
 - ➔ God gave His people water to drink in the wilderness from "the Rock" and that "Rock" was Christ. (Exodus 17:6; 1 Corinthians 10:4)
- **"COME"** - Present Tense; Middle Voice; Imperative Mood.
 - Only thirsty people will obey and drink.
 - A verb of CONTINUOUS action. One who continually comes to Christ and Christ alone for satisfaction - salvation and all of life.
 - A verb of ACTION. It implies that the WILL is operative.
 - A dead person CANNOT come! (John 6:44, 65)
 - "COME TO ME" - when one comes to Christ he is turning his back to the things of the world.
 - "COME TO ME" - implies that one has abandoned all confidence in SELF. (Luke 9:23)
- **"DRINK"** - Present Tense; Active Voice; Imperative Mood.
 - A verb of CONTINUOUS actions.
 - "Drinking Christ" is "drinking the Word." See 1 Peter 2:2.
 - A continual drinking implies overflowing!
- **What is Water?** (John 4:13-14)
 - ① **Water** is a GIFT from God - God gave His Son!
 - ② **Water** is INDISPENSABLE to man - without Christ you are lost.
 - ③ **Water** is a UNIVERSAL need - for all have sinned!
 - ④ **Water** comes *first* from Heaven. - Eph 2:; John 6:
 - ⑤ **Water** is BOON (something that satisfies; refreshes). John 4:13-14
 - ⑥ **Water** is something we never TIRE - John 7:37-39.
 - ⑦ **Water** is strangely and unevenly DISTRIBUTED by God.

**NOTE CAREFULLY WHERE THESE WORDS WERE FIRST SPOKEN!
In the Temple Court - to religious people - celebrating a religious feast!**

Flowing Rivers of Living Water (vv. 38-39)

- Our belief (faith) must be *according* to the Scriptures.
- Then, out of our *bellies* will come living waters!
- *Belly* means "the inward part of us that is never satisfied"
 - Our bellies are constantly craving. See Philippians 3:18
- BUT those who *truly* believe will be completely satisfied and *overflow*!
- We are *satisfied* by *coming to and drinking* Christ!
- **"A vessel will not overflow until it is full, and to be full it has to be filled!"**
- **When the belly is full, then there is no effort required to overflow!**
- (v. 39) This is the promise of the Holy Spirit.