

## **Seven Feasts**

Leviticus 23

Numbers 9:1-14, 28:16 – 29:40

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The Lord appointed seven feasts, days of sacred assembly for Israel. Moses instructed the people:

The Lord's Passover is to be celebrated each year on the anniversary of Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt.

Immediately after Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread begins. For seven days you must eat bread made without yeast, just like the bread you ate during your hasty departure from Egypt.

During this week-long celebration, the day after the Sabbath is to be known as the Day of Firstfruits. On this day, you must bring a sheaf of barley from the first harvest of the season and present it as a wave offering before the Lord. In so doing you will be acknowledging the Lord's provision.

From the Day of Firstfruits, count off seven full weeks. The following day, the fiftieth day, will be the Feast of Weeks, the Feast of Harvest, Pentecost. On this day, thank the Lord by presenting a wave offering of two loaves of bread made from the first of the wheat harvest and baked with yeast.

The Feast of Trumpets will be commemorated with trumpet blasts.

On the Day of Atonement the priests and the people will be cleansed from their sins and the Tent of Meeting will be purified.

The Feast of Tabernacles will celebrate the ingathering of the harvest. For seven days you will live in booths, remembering your journey from Egypt to Canaan.

Each of the Lord's feast days will also be marked by many animal sacrifices.