



Summation of the Seven Feasts

- * **Passover foreshadowed the Lord's Crucifixion** - The Lord reminds His disciples in Matthew that the "feast of Passover" was two days away when He would be crucified. The religious leader had plotted to kill the Lord after the Passover when the people, who had journeyed to Jerusalem for the feast, had departed. Yet, God allowed this event to occur on His timing and not on the timing of the religious leaders (Matt. 26:1-5). This is why Christ is called our "Passover" Lamb (1Cor. 5:7).
- * **Unleavened Bread foreshadowed the Lord's burial** - Although Mark 14:12 states that the Lord's Supper occurred on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we have to observe that Mark states that it happened "when they killed the Passover." The Passover lambs were killed on the 14th day of Nisan, which was when the Passover Feast was celebrated. The next day, which was the 15th day of Nisan, was when the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread began. This is the reason Passover and Unleavened Bread are often intermingled together and collectively referred to as "the eight days of Passover." Therefore, it was common at the time to refer to this eight day period as the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It was on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread (15th of Nisan) that the Lord was in the grave. He did not see decay because He was pure and sinless, without leaven. That the Lord would not see decay is prophesied by David and quoted by Peter in Acts (Ps. 16:8-10; Acts 2:25-28); thus He was the fulfillment of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
- * **FirstFruits foreshadowed the Lord's Resurrection** - In line with God's timing, the Lord was resurrected on the 16th of Nisan, when the feast of Firstfruits was celebrated, two days after the beginning of Passover. We therefore see in the first three feasts the three days that the Lord taught, of which the third would be when He would rise again from the grave (Mark 8:31). Christ fulfilled this feast in that He was the "firstfruits of them that slept" (1Cor. 15:20).
- * **The Feast of Harvest or Weeks foreshadowed the descent of the Holy Spirit** - The fulfillment of this feast is documented in the second chapter of the book of Acts. The feast of Harvest is also designated the feast of Pentecost and it was on this feast day that the Holy Spirit descended on all believers inaugurating the Church age.

Upon examining these four spring festivals we see how they depicted the redemptive work of the Lord's First Coming. Likewise, the last three fall feasts depict three events that have yet to be fulfilled and have to do with our Lord's Second Coming. From the model God has left us in the four spring feasts, we can conclude that the future events that the three fall feasts foreshadow will occur precisely on the schedule connected with each fall feast. The first of the fall feasts is the Feast of Trumpets, also known as Rosh Hashanah, which is celebrated on the first day of the Hebrew month of Tishri at the New Moon. As the Feast of Pentecost began the Church Age, likewise, the "Feast of Trumpets" will signal the end of the Church Age when the Lord will rapture His church (1Thess. 4:13-18; 1Cor. 15:51-52). Nine days later, on the tenth day of Tishri, is when the next feast is celebrated, referred to as "The Day of Atonement." The Day of Atonement points to those of the tribulation who will be saved when they see the Lord coming back to the earth physically (Matt. 24:29-31; Acts 1:9-12; Zech. 14:4). The last feast is referred to as the "Feast of Tabernacles," which is a seven-day celebration during the fifteenth day through twenty-first day of the month of Tishri. Tabernacles foreshadowed the millennial reign of our Lord spoken about in the book of Revelation (Rev. 20:1-6).