

The Holy Days of Israel **Leviticus 23:1-44**

Main Point:

Learn from the holy days of Israel to rest and rejoice in your Savior today.

1. The Israelites had certain holy days on their church calendar.

2. These holy days were joyful times of worship and rest.

3. These holy days prefigured the saving work of Jesus Christ.

4. These holy days call you to rest and rejoice in your Savior today.

John Currid "The Hebrews are not to use any of the crop until it has been dedicated to Yahweh ... This dedication proclaims that the entire crop belongs to Yahweh, and he is the one blessing his people with its produce."

Allen Ross "Through the observance of the festivals in the holy calendar, the Israelites were taught that time in all its demarcations and with all its events belonged to God, and that they, the members of the covenant, should honor God by observing these sacred days and seasons ..."

Philip Ryken "To keep something holy in the biblical sense is to dedicate it exclusively for worship."

Kenneth Mathews "They were celebratory remembrances of their God that called for the people to consecrate themselves to the holy task of worshipping the Lord."

Allen Ross "The day of rest was a time of physical refreshment to be sure, but the instructions to make the day holy reveal a greater purpose than simply regathering strength for another week. The day was set aside for worship and spiritual service and was not given over to personal pursuits."

Isaiah 58:13 13 ... Turn away your foot from the Sabbath, *From* doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight ... (NKJV)

Colossians 2:16-17 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. (NKJV)

Allan Moseley "The festivals of the old covenant period were ... preparatory and pedagogical - they prepared the world for what God did in Jesus, and they taught the meaning of what He did."

Matthew 11:28 28 Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 5:7 7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 15:20 20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. (NKJV)

Allen Ross "The resurrection of Christ guarantees a future resurrection of all who die in the faith, just as the sheaf of firstfruits guaranteed a harvest to come."

1 Thessalonians 4:16 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. (NKJV)

1 John 4:10 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. (NKJV)

Philippians 4:19 19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (NKJV)

Kenneth Mathews "As the Tent of Meeting was the epicenter of their lives in terms of space, the Sabbath was the focal point of their lives in terms of time."