

Feast of the Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-44; Num 29:12-35; John 7:37-39)

- Three feasts celebrated in the beginning of the year around March/ April
- One feast celebrated in the middle of the year: the feast of Pentecost
- Three celebrated at the end of the year, feast of tabernacles was the last.
- It was a great and final of all the festivals, longest festival – 8 days long

I. Old Testament Legislation and Tradition

- Feast of tabernacles celebrated on 15th day of the 7th month (Lev.13: 33)
- 5 days after atonement, 5 days after their hearts broken because of sin
- This feast was a great feast, it was to be a time of great joy & celebration
- The people wouldn't go home for 7 days, live out in the open in booths
- 8th day return to their houses, v 40 rejoice before the Lord... for 7 days
- Offerings made decreased in number until the last day (Num 29:12,13)
- For 7 decades Israel did not celebrate this feast right up to Nehemiah 8

II. Why Did Israel Celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles?

1. To remember what the Lord did for them in the distant past (Egypt)
2. To celebrate what God was doing for them in the present
3. To look for what God had prepared for them in the future

III. New Testament Application

- John's gospel on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles Jesus shouted:

Vs 37 "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me & drink"

- 6 months later they would see Jesus hanging on a tree bleeding & dying