

The Feasts of Yahweh

Slide A 1



Introduction: Today it is my hope that we come to see that the path of redemption is so amazingly tied to every aspect of all the Feasts which in Hebrew is termed the "Moadim" or Appointed times. Though the Feasts revolve around harvests we can see that the plan of Redemption also revolves around a harvest of souls. Amazingly Yahweh does all his great acts in accordance with his appointed calendar so it is a blessing to come to understand and rejoice in what he has ordained in scripture that we may be prepared for his final unfolding of his redemptive plan.

Translations often fall short by not giving us true understanding until we look at the Hebrew as we see from this verse:

Slide B2



Bereshith (Genesis) 1:14 And Elohim (God) said, let lights come to be in the expanse of the Heavens to separate the day from the night and let them be for signs and appointed times (seasons) and for days and years. (ISR Scriptures)

Taken from the Blue Letter Bible Lexicon we discover that the word often translated as seasons which tends to make us think of the usual four seasons is in fact never used for this word and is better translated as Appointed times as we see in the slide:

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The screenshot shows the Blue Letter Bible website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Blue Letter Bible' and 'KJV' (King James Version) selected. Below the navigation bar, there is a search box and several utility buttons like 'COPY', 'COPY OPTIONS', 'STRONG'S', and 'RED-LET'. The main content area displays the 'Outline of Biblical Usage' for the word 'appointed', which is structured as follows:

- I.* appointed place, appointed time, meeting
 - A.* appointed time
 - i.* appointed time (general)
 - ii.* sacred season, set feast, appointed season
 - B.* appointed meeting
 - C.* appointed place
 - D.* appointed sign or signal
 - E.* tent of meeting

The Beauty of the Divinely Appointed Times:

To truly appreciate Scripture and the appointed times we need go no further than observing the evidence of Scripture and this will truly amaze you in realizing the divine nature of Scripture:



Bereshith (Genesis) 8:4 An in the seventh Month, the seventeenth day of the Month the Ark rested on the Mountains of Ararat.

In the time of Noah the Calendar was different and began on what is now deemed the Seventh month on our Religious Calendar. The day that this verse refers to is now the seventeenth day of the first month Abib or Nissan which is so amazing as it is the very day that Yahshua (Jesus) rose from the dead to cleanse the earth of sin just as the flood's purpose was to cleanse the Earth of wickedness. Yahshua also represented the First Fruits of the dead just as the First Fruits offering in the Temple represented the First Fruits of the Barley Harvest during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

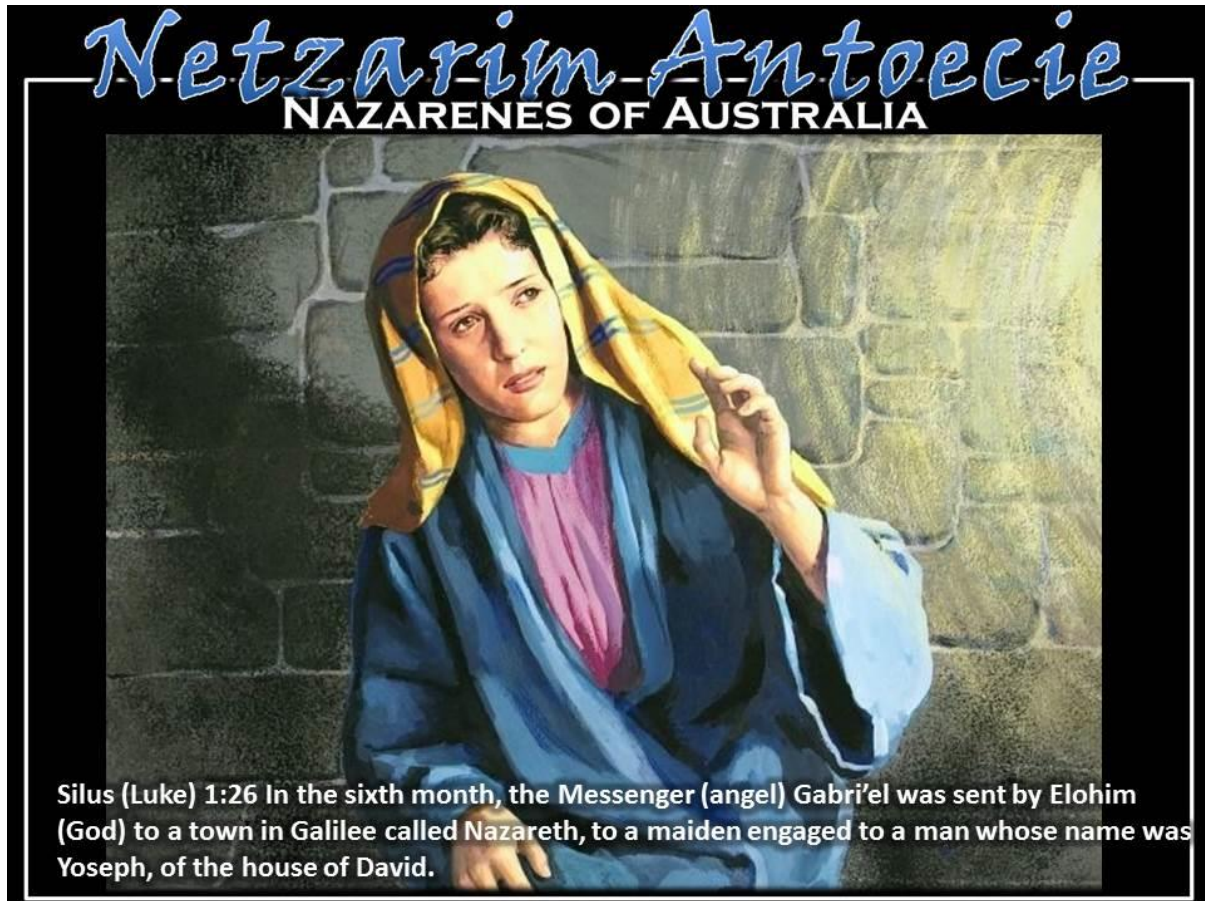
Bereshith (Genesis) 8:13 And it came to be in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month that the waters were dried up from the Earth.

Amazingly this day is exactly Yom Teruah or the Feast of Trumpets believed to be the day of the Creation of Adam.

And then Yochanan (John) the Immerser (Baptist) was thought to be conceived at the end of his Father's Priestly Cycle as he was of the order of AbiYah (Abijah), therefore at the end of Pentecost (Shavuot) and he was born nine months later on Passover.

According to Scripture Miriam (Mary) was visited six month after Zechariah was visited by the Messenger (Angel) Gabriel which corresponds to the Feast of Dedication of the Temple or Hanukkah.

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Silus (Luke) 1:26 In the sixth month, the Messenger (angel) Gabri'el was sent by Elohim (God) to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a maiden engaged to a man whose name was Yoseph, of the house of David.


Yahshua (Jesus) then would have been born on the 15th day of the Jewish month of Tishri about September 29 by modern reckoning. This is significant because it is the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot). It is a high day, a special Sabbath but even more amazing is that Yahshua was circumcised and dedicated to Elohim on the 8th Day & that day is a great day today for all Jews who call it "Simchah Torah" or rejoicing in the Word of Yahweh. This 8th Day should be remembered as rejoicing in the Word that became flesh.

Since Yahshua was born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles when everyone would build a Sukkah or temporary dwelling Miriam (Mary) was exempt from staying in one because of her pregnancy but because there was no room at any Inn Yahshua who is Elohim dwelling or Tabernacling with man was born in a Sukkah on the Feast of Tabernacles. We

begin I hope to see that all Feasts were pointing towards Yahshua and that every act of Elohim revolve around his divinely appointed times.

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Yochanan (John) 1:14 And the Word became flesh and pitched his tent among us, and we saw his esteem as of the only brought forth of the Father complete in Favour (grace) and truth;

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It is at the coming of Yahshua as the Saviour of the world that once again Yahweh incorporates the Heavens as a sign:

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MatithYahu (Matthew) 2:1-2 Now when Yahshua was born in Beyth Lechem (House of Bread) of Yahudah (Judea) in the days of Herod the King behold there came Rebbim (wise ones) from the east to Jerusalem.2 saying, where is he who is born King of the Jews (Yahudim)? For we have seen his star in the east and have come to pay homage to him.

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Who were these men? It is believed that they came from Babylon and that they were Disciples of the place of learning that resulted from the School (Shul in Hebrew) of Daniel since he had prophesied about the coming of the Messiah and exactly when he would suffer and they were more than likely Israelites descended from the captives or even of Priestly lineage knowing the Torah and especially the Words prophesying the following:

Bemidbar (Numbers)24:17 "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Sceptre shall rise out of Israel.

Without a doubt we all know that Yahshua (Jesus) was the Passover lamb that the Jews commemorated each year but rather than delivering them from the slavery of Egypt (Mitzrayim) he came to deliver us from the slavery of sin and he was crucified on the Tree exactly at the time the Feast prescribed just before sunset on the 14th of the first month therefore the Last Supper was not actually the Passover meal but rather a preparation or fellowship meal as no lamb was eaten and no unleavened bread was eaten which would be

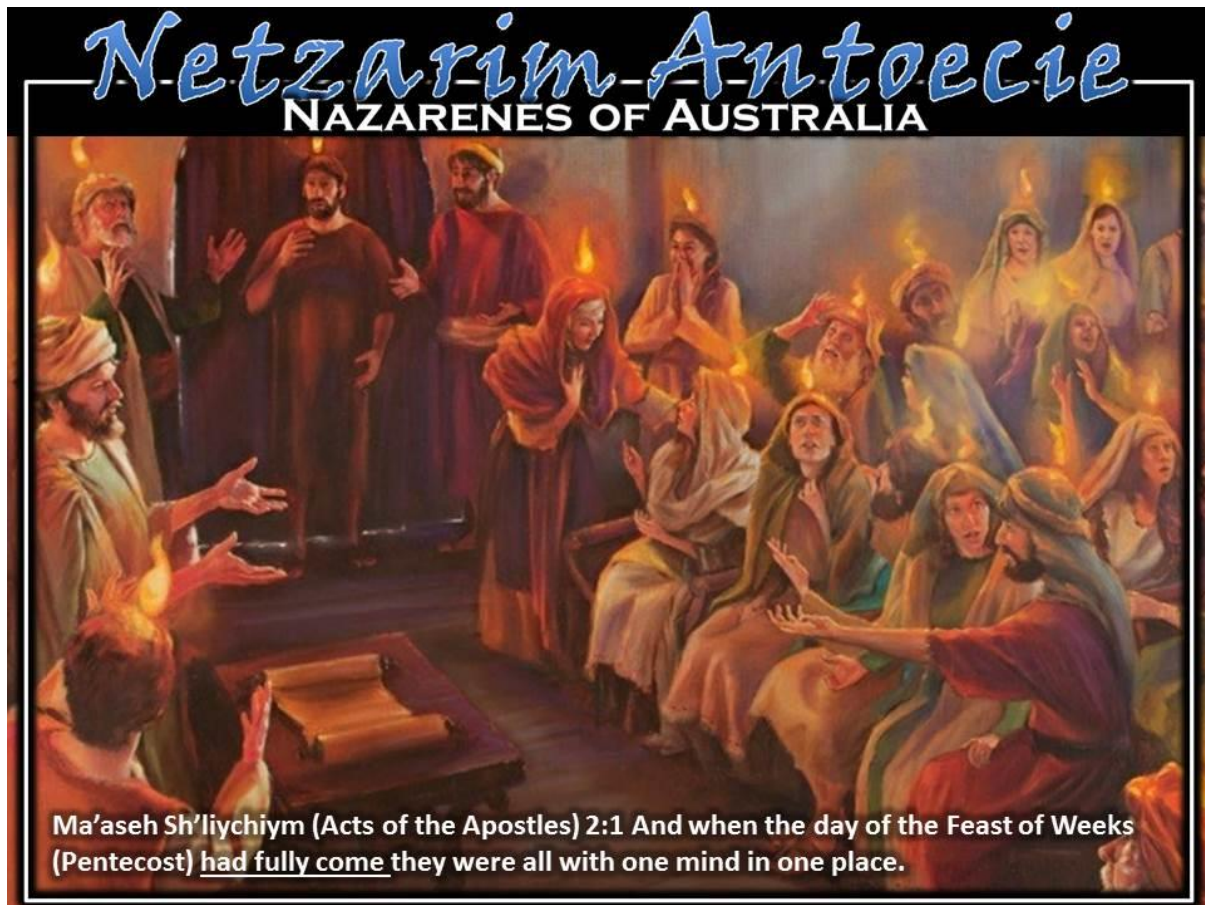
the case for the Passover Meal. When we see that, with a renewed understanding of these verses we observe that though Yahshua had a great desire to eat the Passover the verse following may reveal that this Passover he did not eat as he was the true Passover Lamb that would be killed at the prescribed time that lambs were always killed:

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Luke 22:16 But I now tell you that I will not again eat of the Passover until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of Yahweh.

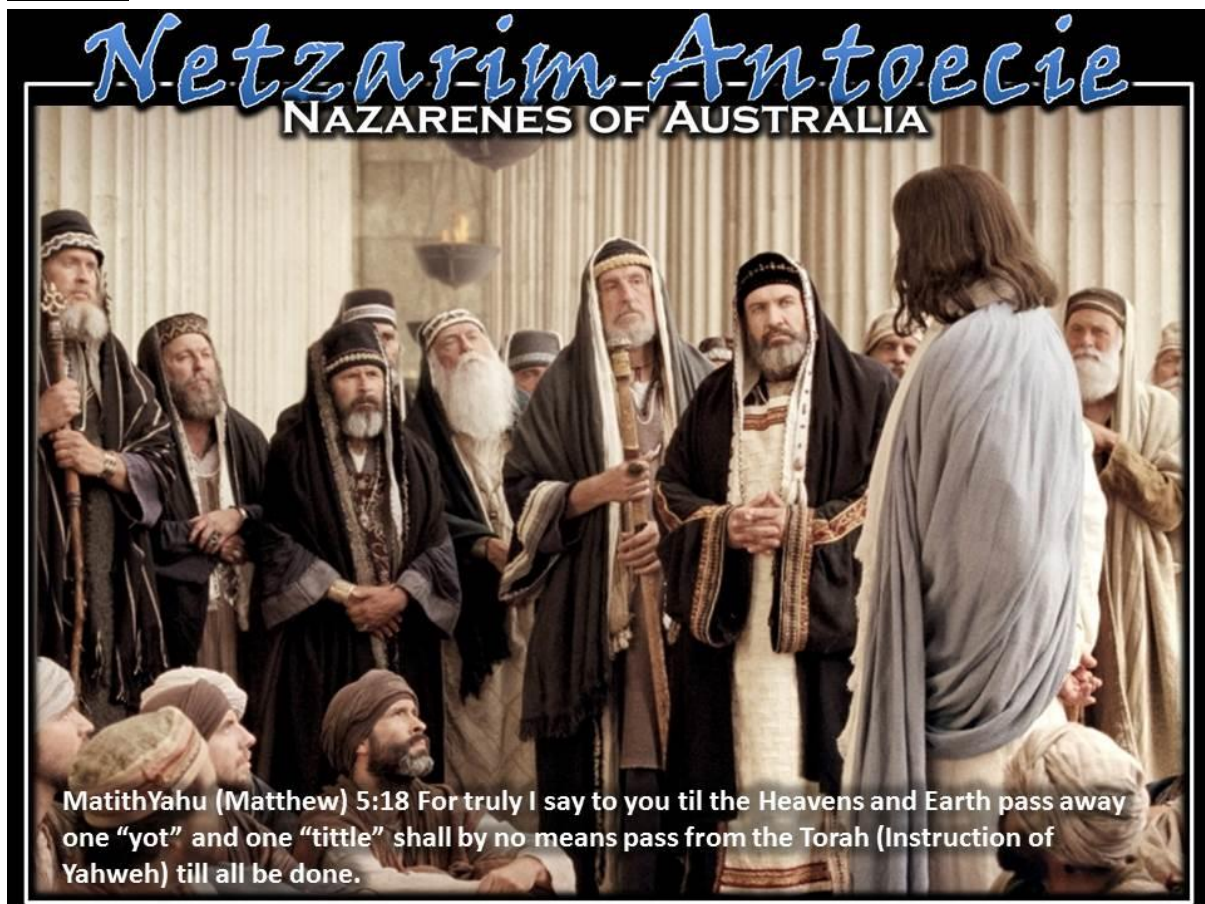
Also we may not realize it but the Pentecost (Shavuot) at Mount Sinai caused 3000 people to be slaughtered but the Pentecost we celebrate when the Holy Spirit came upon the believers, 3000 people were saved but what is interesting is that this Feast according to Yahweh required all males to be at the Temple on this special day so Scripture makes that point abundantly clear though that truth has often been misunderstood:



Ma'aseh Sh'liychiym (Acts of the Apostles) 2:1 And when the day of the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) had fully come they were all with one mind in one place.

This verse tells us that all were surely at the Temple possibly in an upper study room or in the Temple proper but not in some small upper room apartment according the commands of Elohim which would be an open area when the sound of the rushing wind and the tongues of fire fell which could be observed by all at the Feast. This is why it says that the Feast had fully come leaving us with no doubt that it was the Appointed day that Yahweh had chosen to do the mighty outpouring of his Spirit.

I hope from these examples that we can begin to see how Yahweh the Elohim of all creation works according to his ordained Calendar so if that be true maybe we need to take note of all his appointed times since Yahshua says this:



MatithYahu (Matthew) 5:18 For truly I say to you til the Heavens and Earth pass away one "yot" and one "tittle" shall by no means pass from the Torah (Instruction of Yahweh) till all be done.

This is a reference to the Millennium Kingdom and the reign of Yahshua on Earth for a 1000. I hope with this in mind we can see that not all is complete and all is tied to the Appointed times of Yahweh.

Even we find Shaul (Paul) referencing the Feasts, to enhance our understanding that beyond the Resurrection the believers were still observing the feasts.

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Paul (Sha'ul) Referencing the Feasts of Yahweh

Ma'aseh Sh'liychiym (Acts of the Apostles) 18: 21 But Shaul (Paul) took leave of them saying, I must by all means keep this coming Festival in Yerushalayim (Jerusalem).

Acts 27:9 Now when much time was spent and when sailing was now dangerous because the Yom Kippur fast was now already past. (HTNT)

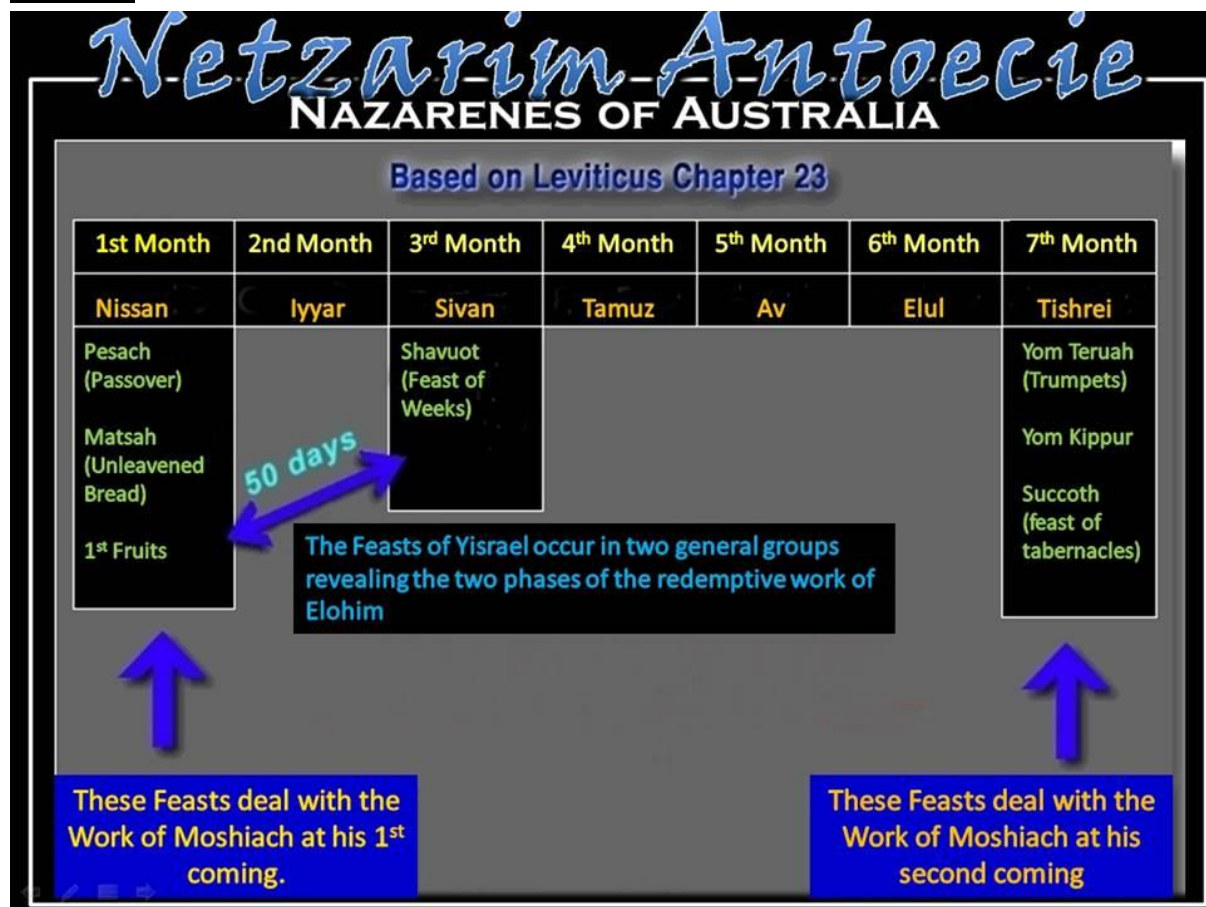
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Very late into the narrative of the book of Acts we find a reference to Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement giving us clear evidence that the Feasts of Yahweh were a common Celebration and the shortage of much reference was simply the result of being a common thread among the Jewish & Nazarene community. The reference here is to the Fast which does not pertain to an Individual Fast but the National Fast that is still performed today by all religious Jews so we also must reconsider its importance:

Acts 27:9 Now when much time was spent and when sailing was now dangerous because the Yom Kippur fast was now already past. (HTNT)

The Unveiling of the Feasts:

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Since we do generally celebrate the Feasts of Passover and Shavuot (Pentecost) though the Feast of Unleavened Bread & first Fruits is generally ignored I would like to focus on the Fall Feasts and what they represent. Unfortunately through tradition even Passover has been called Easter which actually refers to the Pagan God of fertility that fell about the same time and replaced it as a result of the highly Anti-Semitic mindset of the Roman Church.

The Prophetic implications of The Feast of Trumpets:

What we may have failed to see because through Rome our understanding has been veiled is that the what is known as the Fall Feasts are a future revelation on Yahweh's prophetic Calendar and therefore the celebrating of these is a constant reminder of the second coming of Yahshua and what that entails.

In Hebrew thought the Day of Trumpets was the only Feast that no-one could determine beforehand since it was determined by the sighting of the first slither of the moon and therefore the same language is employed in Yahshua's second coming:

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MattithYahu (Matthew) 24:36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Master Yahshua himself will descend from the Heavens with a shout and the voice of the chief Messenger (Angel) and with the Trumpet (Shofar) of Elohim (God) and the dead in Messiah shall rise first.

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For this reason it is still believed that Yahshua will come on the Feast of Trumpets just as Shaul (Paul) seems to be implying as this was the Hebrew belief:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Master Yahshua himself will descend from the Heavens with a shout and the voice of the chief Messenger (Angel) and with the Trumpet (Shofar) of Elohim (God) and the dead in Messiah shall rise first.

For the World however this is not a blessed day but a day when the books are opened and the Heavenly court sits in Judgement for the next ten days leading up to Yom Kippur so we then begin to understand why the Jews call this time "**the Ten Days of Awe**" since they have not known the peace of knowing Yahshua.



2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Messiah that each one may receive according to what he has done in the body, whether good or bad.

For the faithful on the other hand this day is a day of great joy and anticipation as it is about the coming Bridegroom. This day is the theme of the Parable of the 10 Virgins so every rehearsal of this day should fill us with exceeding joy so why would we not want to celebrate it:

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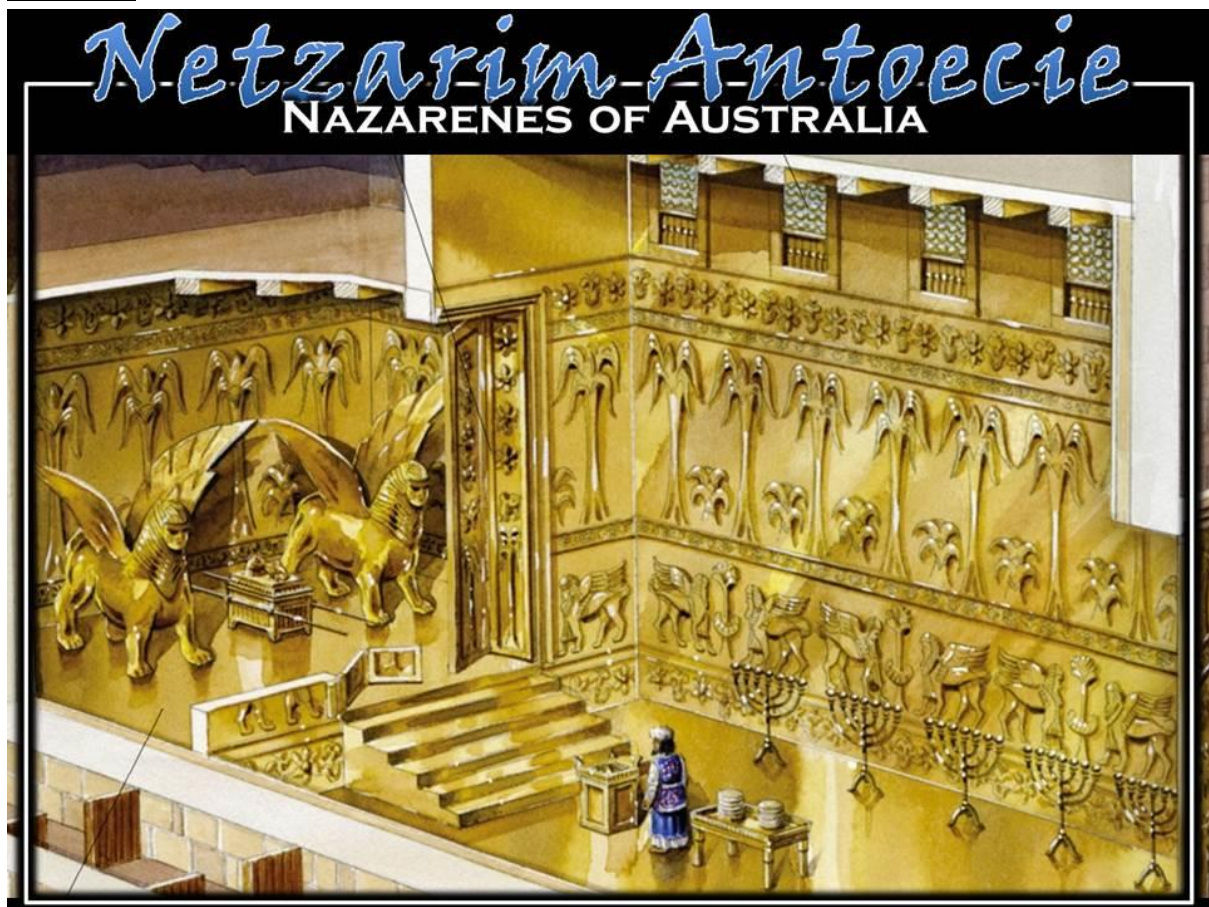


Hitgalut (Revelation) 19:7-9 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give glory to him; for the Marriage of the Lamb is come and his Bride has made herself ready.

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The Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) Revelation:

To Yisrael the Day of Atonement represented that Yahweh had forgiven them for the great sin of the Golden Calf and therefore it represented a desire for the Nation to return to the presence of Yahweh just as Adam experienced before he sinned. For this reason there was fasting and sacrifices made and it was the only day in the year that the Nations representative being the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies.



This theme of the passage back to Yahweh is perfectly portrayed in the Temple of Solomon with its decorations revealing the entry to Eden with trees and flowers on the walls and Cherubim carved in gold on the doors.

What we observe is that all aspects of Yom Kippur were shadows of what would be accomplished:

Yahshua in Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement)


Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement is the most Holy day to the Israelites so we need to understand why. This can best be seen by understanding the difference between Passover & the Day of Atonement.



At Passover the Wrath of Elohim was averted by Yisrael placing their trust in YHWH through the blood of the lamb placed on their doorposts just as a new believer comes to the faith and Judgement is diverted to Yahshua but all this came before the knowledge of the Torah at Mount Sinai with Yisrael just as it came to the New believer at conversion however upon understanding the Word the concept of the Day of Atonement becomes a continuing work of Messiah. To fully understand the greater significance of Yom Kippur [the Day of Atonements] we need to understand that at Mt. Sinai Yisrael received the knowledge of the righteous requirements of Yahweh through being given the Covenant Words but only 40 days later they had disregarded them by making a Golden Calf & thereby were judged deserving of death. Just as Yisrael deserved death so do we for flaunting the Holy Covenant since we have known his righteous expectation but have not fully observed them. At conversion a new believer is not yet aware of all the expectations of Yahweh but at the Day of Atonement we admit to being aware and yet failing them and so deserving of punishment but now we know through Yahshua's great sacrifice of Atonement we can know forgiveness & praise Yahweh for his undeserved mercy.

One thought that is of interest is that Yisrael has always believed that all their problems like the Holocaust derive from their failure to fully Atonement for the sin of the Golden Calf as one of their most respected sages suggest:

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The Spiritual Residue of the Golden Calf

“There is no punishment that comes upon Yisrael which does not have in it some retribution for the sin of the Golden Calf”

Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki)

Rashi says:

“There is no punishment that comes upon Yisrael which does not have in it some retribution for the sin of the Golden Calf”

But an interesting verse may give us the solution for this thought:

Shemoth (Exodus) 32:34 And now go lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you. See my Messenger goes before you and in the day of my visitation I shall visit their sin upon them.

This verse seems to suggest the wrath to come but what I see is that Yahweh was already revealing that the wrath would fall at his appropriate time not on them but on Yahshua and the sacrifices were designed to put off that punishment so were unnecessary after Yahshua took upon him sin.

To see how Yahshua is reflected in The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) to pay for wilful sin after knowing the truth should only heighten our desire to honour this day.



The Truth about the Feast of Tabernacles:

To the Yisraelites this Feast was an ordained feast given by Yahweh to remind them that when they lived in the desert their reliance was on Yahweh who Tabernacled or pitched his tent among them. Since Atonement was made for them the Feast of Tabernacles becomes a time of “New Beginnings” so each year this becomes once more a time of joy believing in the forgiveness and renewal for a new year but even more than that the Joy of the Torah always brings Yisrael unrestrained joy because once again YHWH gave his Torah after the first Tablets of the 10 Covenant Words were smashed.

How then does this feast reveal Yahshua? It is most wonderfully represented at his first coming in the following:

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Yochanan (John) 1:14 And the Word was made flesh and Tabernacled among us and we beheld his esteem as of the only begotten of the Father full of favour (grace) and truth.

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If you are not sure if Sukkot is significant look at the facts:

This was the 7th Feast, occurring during the 7th Month, during the 7th full moon of the year and was to be celebrated for 7 days.

Sukkot also encompasses the entire timeline of Creation from the beginning until there is a New Heavens & Earth with each day reflecting 1000 years finishing with the thousand year reign of Messiah. YHWH must however separate the 8th Great day because it is when he completely wipes away the Heavens & the Earth to establish the New Heavens & the New Earth therefore it is a picture of New Beginnings.

The most beautiful picture of the Feast of Tabernacles is revealed when all things become New:



Hitgalut (Revelation) 21:1-3 And I saw a renewed Heavens and a renewed earth for the first Heavens and the first Earth had passed away and there was no more sea.2 And I John saw the set apart city the New Jerusalem coming down from Elohim out of the Heavens prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of the Heavens saying “behold the Tent of Elohim is with men and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people and Elohim himself will be with them and be their Elohim.

Conclusion

It is my hope that we come to see the beauty of the Feasts that Yahweh gave his people and understand that by doing them we come into greater fellowship with him because if we love him it is shown by doing things His way at his divinely appointed times to remind us of the good things to come when we remain faithful. The glory of these feasts is that though they are a remembrance they reveal the full extent of his redemption plan which will have its conclusion with Yahshua's 2nd coming and the restoration of all things. Amein!