Yeshua, the First Fruits

Feast of First Fruits

"But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by one man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming..." — 1 Corinthians 15:20-23.

Yeshua is the First Fruits. Yeshua is first in order and is derived from the Babylonian Goddess Ishtar. Christianity has come to call this feast Easter, whose name means the harvest until the first fruits were presented (Antiquities of the Jews 3.10.5). It is unfortunate that modern Christianity has come to call this feast Easter, whose name is derived from the Babylonian Goddess Ishtar.

Yeshua's Fulfillment of the Spring Feasts is Exact!

The accuracy in which Yeshua fulfilled the Spring Feasts at His first appearance is inescapable! Because Yeshua's fulfillment of the Spring Feasts is so exact, it seems reasonable that He will also fulfill the remaining Fall Feasts. It is likely that:

• Yeshua will come to catch away His bride (the church) to heaven fulfilling the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah or Yom T’ruah) (1 Thes 4:16-17) for seven days (Saint John 5:28,29). On the Feast of Trumpets, we will receive the Holy Spirit.

• Yeshua will return to earth to judge and cleanse the earth. The Day of Atonement will then signify the Great and the Final Atonement (Yom Kippur)(Lev 16) for the sins of the world. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest will enter the Holy of Holies to present the Blood of the Lamb for the Last Time.

• Yeshua will come to earth to reign over the earth (Revel 19:11,16). On the Feast of Tabernacles, we will receive the Holy Spirit again.

References


Feasts Are Divine Appointments - Shadows of Things to Come

How do we know that God intended the feasts to show His plan for salvation? One of the clues that indicates the feasts have more significance than mere tradition and remembrance is found in Leviticus 23:4:

"These are the appointed times which you shall proclaim at the times appointed by God (the holy convocations)" — Leviticus 23:4.

The four Spring Feasts picture the first coming of Yeshua. He sacrificed Himself on the Feast of Passover, was buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread, was resurrected on the Feast of First Fruits, and He sent the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost).

The practices of each of these Spring Feasts clearly depict the death and resurrection of Yeshua.

• Yeshua is the Passover Lamb of God. “behold, the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world!” — John 1:29.

• Yeshua is the Unleavened Bread of Life. “I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread also which I shall give for the life of the world is My flesh.” — John 6:51.

• Yeshua is the First Fruits. “But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep...” — 1 Corinthians 15:20.

• Yeshua sent the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost). “And when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place...” — Acts 2:1-4.
Yeshua Fulfills the Spring Feasts

The first coming of Yeshua completely fulfilled the pattern set by the four spring feasts.

Passover (Pesach)
Exodus 12:2-11, Leviticus 23

Historically, Passover marks the national liberation of the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery. Pesach, the Hebrew name of the feast literally means “the lamb.” God instructed each Hebrew family in Egypt to take an unblemished year-old male lamb to their home on the tenth day of the first month. They were to examine the lamb for four days to see that it was perfect. On the fourth day at twilight, they were to kill the lamb and take some of the lamb’s blood and place it on the two doorposts and the lintel of their house. On the first Passover, the avenging angel of God killed every firstborn male throughout the land, from Pharaoh, to slave, to camel. The angel would “Passover” those homes by placing the blood of a lamb on their doorposts and lintels.

Passover lamb

The Passover Lamb

Yeshua was prepared for sacrifice and beaten on the morning of Passover, just as a lamb was sacrificed in the Temple to be prepared for Passover morning.

Luke 23:33

"...Now when morning had come, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death..." — Matthew 26:4"  

Lambs Slain “Between the Evenings”

Yeshua was slain at the same time the unblemished lamb was slain on Passover. According to God’s instructions the Passover lamb had to be slain “between the evenings” (Exodus 12:6). Yeshua gave up His spirit at the exact time the lamb were to be killed — the ninth hour. “Between the evenings” and “the ninth hour” are based on the manner by which the Temple priests calculated time. Both refer to the same time — three o’clock in the afternoon.

Mark 15:34, Luke 23:46

Lamb’s Preparation for Sacrifice

Passover morning was prepared on Passover morning. Just as a lamb was sacrificed in the Temple was prepared on Passover morning.

Mark 14:12, Luke 22:13

The Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag HaMatzah)
Leviticus 23:5-8

Historically, the Feast of Unleavened Bread is a remembrance of God bringing the Hebrews out of Egypt. It begins at sunset of Nisan/Aviv 15. In ancient Israel, days were counted from evening to evening, therefore sunset (6:00 PM) of Nisan/Aviv 15 begins a new day — Nisan/Aviv 16. The Feast of Unleavened Bread continues for seven days until Nisan/Aviv 21. During this period only unleavened bread is to be eaten. The first meal, eaten on the evening of the 15th, is special. After the Hebrews sacrificed the Passover lamb, they were to roast and eat all the flesh of the lamb (head, legs and entrails) together with bitter herbs and unleavened bread (matzah). No bone of the lamb was to be broken (Exodus 12:46).

Traditionally, the meal begins as the woman of the house lights candles. The man takes three loaves of unleavened bread and places them in a white linen envelope that has three compartments. The unleavened bread looks like a flat cracker. It is marked with stripes and has holes pierced through from cooking. The father removes the middle loaf from its compartment, breaks it, wraps it in a separate piece of white linen and “buries” it behind his chair cushion or in a drawer where it is later “redeemed” by the father for a price. During the meal, four cups of wine are drunk. The Passover meal concludes with singing. One of the traditional songs is Psalms 118:21-24. In it we find the prophetic tragedy of the Nation of Israel rejecting the Messiah:

I shall give thanks to Thee, for Thou hast answered me: and to Thee have I spoken; and Thou hast become my salvation. This stone, which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it...

Yeshua, the Bread of Life Fulfills the Feast of Unleavened Bread

"I am the bread of life..." — John 6:35.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread is symbolic of Yeshua’s death and burial. Yeshua fulfilled all the patterns of the feast.

No Bones Broken

Though it was a common and merciful Roman practice to break the legs of the crucified to hasten their death and relieve their suffering, none of Yeshua’s bones were broken, just as the Passover lamb is to have no bone broken.

"The soldiers therefore came, and broke the legs of the first and of the second who was crucified with Him; But coming to Jesus, when they saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs..." — John 19:33-34

Yeshua, the Pure Unleavened Bread

When breaking the bread at His last meal, Yeshua said to His disciples, “Take and eat; this is my body.” — Matthew 26:26.

Leaven represents sin, thus unleavened bread is a good representation of our sinless Messiah, the Bread of Life. Yeshua bore stripes from Roman beatings; the unleavened bread is marked with stripes. Yeshua was pierced in the side when He was crucified; the unleavened bread has holes pierced through for cooking. Yeshua was born in the town of Bethlehem, which translates from Hebrew: “House of Bread”. Like the farmer who wraps the unleavened bread in linen, hides (buries) it and later redeems it, Yeshua was wrapped in linen, buried and He paid the price of our redemption with His perfect sacrifice.

"And He wrapped Him body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb...” — Matthew 27:59

The Feast of First Fruits (Yom HaBikkurim)
Leviticus 23:9-14

Historically, the Feast of First Fruits was the day that the Hebrew slaves went down into the Red Sea and emerged alive on the other side, while Pharaoh was swallowed up by the Red Sea. This set the Israelites free as the First Fruits from Egyptian bondage. The Feast of First Fruits falls on the day after the Sabbath, during the week of the Sabbath.