

Lesson #5 – Special Days and Feast

God set aside several special days and feasts for the Israelites to remember special things that they had gone through. They were not to forget how God had helped them.

Once a year Aaron, the High Priest, would make a special offering for the atonement for the sins of the people. This day, called “The Day of Atonement,” was very important because this offering of a goat would put the people “at one with God” again.

Aaron first had to offer a goat for himself so that he could be able to enter the Most Holy Place. Then he would put on his special garments and offer an offering for the people. Two goats would be used on the Day of Atonement. One was sacrificed and the blood of the goat was put on the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant in the Most Holy Place.

The other goat was called the SCAPEGOAT. Aaron put his hands on the head of this goat and confessed the sins of the people. This goat was then sent out into the wilderness. This was a sign that the sins of the Israelites were gone.

We do not have to do this now because Jesus was our sacrifice for sin. When we are baptized, our sins are washed away – they are gone. That makes us at one with God. It is our Day of Atonement!

We have a lot of special days we celebrate and a lot of memorials. We celebrate the day we were born (birthday). We celebrate Valentines Day to remember those we love. We have Memorial Day to remember those who have fought for our country. We have the 4th of July to remember when the U.S. became a country. We have Thanksgiving Day when we remember the pilgrims. There are many others.

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We have memorials like the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial that honor presidents. We have museums to remember important people and events. We have parades, grave markers, and all kinds of things to remember things.

God set up several Feast and ways to remember important things:

1. **The Passover Feast** was to remember God passing over Egypt. All Israel was safe because they had the blood on the doorposts. All escaped slavery.
2. **Pentecost** was 50 days after Passover. This was to remember it took 50 days to get to Mt. Sinai where the Law was given. It's also called "Feast of Weeks."
3. **Feast of Booths or Tabernacle** was 7 days of living in make-shift booths of palm or willow branches. This was to remind them of camping in tents for 40 years and how God took care of them.

The Sabbath Day was their holy day to rest and remember God. Today we are to remember the first day of the week or Sunday. We are to worship God as He commands us today – to sing, pray, give, be taught God's Word, and take the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a memorial. We should remember the death of Jesus on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. We do this every Sunday. God wants His people to remember many important things. He wants us to be holy as He is holy.

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QUESTIONS

- T. F 1. God wants his people to remember.
- T F 2. There were many special days to remember.
- T F 3. We do not need to remember God today.
- T F 4. Two goats were used on the Day of Atonement.
- T F 5. One was sacrificed and one was sent away.
- T F 6. We still must bring 2 goats to “atone” for sins.
- T F 7. Jesus is our sacrifice for sin.
- T F 8. Our sins are washed away in baptism.
- T F 9. The Passover Feast was to remember how they escaped Egypt.
- T F 10. Pentecost was 40 days after Passover.
- T F 11. They had to build a house to celebrate the Feast of Booths.
- T F 12. The Lord’s Supper is a Memorial to the death of Jesus.