

**COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE— THIS SUNDAY!**

**GROW  
IN  
GRACE**  
NEWSLETTER

Volume 44b, No. 10, March 12, 2019 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Savior JESUS CHRIST. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen."***

**THE LORD'S TABLE and FULL Salvation!**

"Blessed/happy/fortunate, to be envied are the people who know the joyful sound, who understand and appreciate **the spiritual blessings symbolized by the feasts**; they walk, O Lord, in the light and favor of your countenance." (Ps. 89:15, Amp. Bible)

If you and I were living back in the Old Testament times— all that they did in the celebrations of these feasts **pointed to what God would do when He sent His Son**. These feasts and all the blood sacrifices of the Old Testament era were designed to convey one primary message— namely that God is holy and that only by the shedding of innocent blood can sin be forgiven and fellowship with God be restored and experienced.

In this article, we will view the Old Testament verses from the advantage point— NOT OF SHADOW but of fulfillment and substance. ***MOREOVER, WHEN WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE THIS SUNDAY, WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE FULL SALVATION***

*FROM GOD WHICH HE UNFOLDS IN THE SEVEN FEASTS OF THE LORD!* **Like a lighthouse**, the Scriptures which unveil the Feasts of the LORD, shine forth to remind all of God's redeemed children **of God's so great salvation— a salvation** that has a (1) definite beginning; (2) a definite process; and (3) a definite climax which leads into eternity with God!

**These Sacred Feasts unveil a 'Spiritual Road Map' for the Christian's life— showing (1) where we've been; (2) where we are; and (3) where God is leading us!** **REALITY:** It is so easy to get entangled in the cares of this life and lose a proper sense of purpose and destiny. We began to wander. We find ourselves like a ship off course and **CRASHING ON THE ROCKS OF SIN. WE NEED A COMPASS, WE NEED A MIGHTY LIGHTHOUSE!**

THE SEVEN ANNUAL FEASTS of the Lord, (set forth in Leviticus, Chapter 23), when received in New Testament fulfillment and application— **SHINE AS GOD'S GRACIOUS LIGHTHOUSE, beaming forth full salvation and calling us to delight ourselves in God Himself.** *AT THE LORD'S TABLE, IN ONE SIMPLE, PROFOUND OBSERVANCE— WE REJOICE IN THE FULL BLESSINGS OF ALL SEVEN FEASTS OF THE LORD!*

So open your Bibles and let's study!

**\*\*\* Leviticus 23:1-3— But first, God has ordained a weekly celebration of worship.** Here is the Biblical principle of God having designed man for work and rest. In one sense, for the New Testament Christian, every day is sabbath or rest! **EVEN SO**, the Biblical call to work and rest is still with us and greatly needed. **BUT: How can I avoid the one extreme of paganism and on the other hand also avoid Pharisee-ism?**

**Jesus is our perfect example** on how to observe the *sabbath rest principle*: (1) He worshiped. (2) He ***did good to others***. (3) And He allowed for necessary work. THE WORD OF GOD and the Holy Spirit will keep us from the futility of the Pharisee's bondage-filled-ways of Sabbath observance; and empower us into the glorious liberty of WALKING IN THE STEPS OF JESUS!

**NOW**, it seems clear that the New Testament Church usually worshiped on the First day of the week. **It is also true** that Romans 14 and other New Testament verses **show us liberty as to what specific day** is our day of rest. **In the New Testament the 'principle of rest' is preserved.**

**Isaiah 58:13-14** gives us the essence of what the Sabbath Rest principle has been and is about namely, — **DELIGHTING IN GOD:**

**Isaiah 58:13-14 (NKJV)-** “ If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, *From* doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy *day* of the LORD honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking *your own* words, ***Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD...***” **In God's economy, the Sabbath was NEVER about a set of rules but about cultivating a relationship with God.**

**MOREOVER, cultivating relationships took time in the Old Testament era and we are no different!**

ONLY ONE WHO IS GREATLY DECEIVED WOULD CLAIM THAT THEY CAN CULTIVATE A GROWING RELATIONSHIP on any level WITHOUT COMMITTING SPECIFIC, CONSISTENT TIME!

**Yes, we are to delight in God in our work, in our families... in all areas of life... every day! Nevertheless, one day in**

**seven is a unique day to delight in God Himself!** (Matt. 6:33; John 14:15, 23; Isa. 58:13-14)

**Likewise, the seven annual feasts unto the LORD encourage us to DELIGHT IN GOD and in so great salvation!**

### **I. LEVITICUS 23:4-5 - PASSOVER**

For the Old Testament Israelites, Passover was a remembrance of the night when the death angel passed over their homes sparing the first born. **For New Testament Christians, the Passover marks the beginning of salvation.** The Passover lamb beautifully pictured Christ –John 1:29... *“Behold the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world.”* 1 Cor. 5:7—***“Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.”***

**God’s message in the Old Testament and the New Testament is the same: Not when I see your good works or your golden rule living... NOT WHEN I SEE YOUR RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE— but *“When I see the blood, I will pass over you!”***

**\*\*\* NEVER FORGET THIS:** The Israelite deserved death as much as the Egyptian; AND WE deserve death and Hell as much as anyone! Do you see that? Only when you do, will you flee to Christ for His blood to pay your sin debt!

JESUS DID NOT PAY IT TO SATAN. Rather, God the Father satisfied His own holy wrath by the blood of His Son! Yes, we are delivered from Satan’s grasp and kingdom of darkness. The devil must release us. And SIN’S penalty is not only paid; but sin’s power is broken!

**CRITICAL QUESTION:** Have you ever come to Jesus with all of your sin; and cried out in similar fashion as the tax-collector: **“O God, be merciful to me a sinner?”**

## **II. LEVITICUS 23:6-8: UNLEAVENED BREAD**

In Scripture, leaven usually refers to sin. This feast pictured that those who were delivered from death by the shedding of and the applying of INNOCENT blood, have their sins forgiven! LET US RECEIVE THIS REMINDER FROM THE WORD OF GOD: \*\*\* **God has a claim on the regenerated life!** [I Cor. 5:6-8 ; 2 Cor. 6:17-18; I Thess. 5:22; II Tim. 2:19]

\*\*\* When Israel went out of Egypt by the power of God, Pharaoh and his armies pursued! When a person becomes a Christian, Satan and his armies pursue. They call you back. They will try to force you back to Egypt, back into the world of sin, self, and society! Christian friend, in our own strength we cannot conquer sin or self or Satan! IN OUR OWN STRENGTH, We cannot keep God’s holy commandments. **But Christ in us can! And so it is by Him, our High Priest, that we conquer (Ex. 13:14 & 14:14). Therefore:**

1. In obedient faith, let us put away all leaven of malice and wickedness (I Cor. 5:6-7).
2. In obedient faith, let us live a life of feeding on Christ who has no leaven.
3. In trusting faith, let us live a life of total dependence.

**The LORD’S TABLE... reminds us of all these things! DON’T MISS IT THIS COMING LORD’S DAY!**

## **III. LEVITICUS 23:9-14: FIRST FRUITS**

The Israelites could not harvest any of their early grain crop until the first bundle of grain was cut and brought to the priest. The

priest would wave it before the Lord to be accepted of God. For New Testament saints:

**The resurrected Jesus Christ is the first fruits of them that slept (I Cor. 15:20-23).** He arose from the dead. He was accepted by God. And because He, the first fruits, was accepted—so we the rest of the harvest are accepted in Him— (James 1:18—of His own will begat He us with the Word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures). **Moreover, Rom. 8:23 tells us that we have the first fruits of the Holy Spirit!** It is by the Holy Spirit that we have even now the resurrection life of Christ and the blessed hope of future resurrection!

**Now, the Feast of First Fruits was always held the third day from Passover:** Christ was crucified on the day of Passover. He arose from the dead three days later on the Day of First Fruits. **When we experience a saving encounter with Jesus Christ, it is a spiritual participation in these first three feasts:**

**1. Passover—** We are redeemed, delivered BY THE BLOOD SACRIFICE OF A SUBSTITUTE, A SIN BEARER— OUR SAVIOR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST! Christ became our Passover Lamb. THROUGH HIM, WE were and ARE DELIVERED from wrath/slavery/guilt. But that is not all: WE ALSO EXPERIENCE,

**2. “Unleavened bread”—** that is, we are separated from sin. We put away sin and feed on Christ. HOW COULD IT BE OTHERWISE?

**3. First fruits—** we are consecrated. We are accepted in the Beloved because of His resurrection and we are set apart for Him. We are not only saved from the world, the flesh and the devil, but we are consecrated— Saved to a new life in Christ.

**But that’s not all!**

**IV. LEVITICUS 23:15-16: PENTECOST**

This feast is sometimes called the Feast of Weeks. It was seven weeks or 50 days after the presentation of the bundle of First Fruits. This was originally a sort of harvest festival of thanksgiving after the people had gathered the harvest. The ancient rabbis, right or wrong, later concluded that God gave the law to Moses on this day. So this festival came to be regarded as the season of the giving of the law.

**But more significant and certain is this:**

**1. Jesus died on Passover. 2. Jesus was raised on First Fruits. 3. And the Holy Spirit came exactly on the day of Pentecost!** Are you beginning to see the relevance of God's sacred calendar of redemption?

**And the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost for express purposes: To indwell and fill and baptize believers.**

John 14:16-17—He shall be in you. Acts 1:5; 2:4 **Why?**

1. To empower the believers for the evangelizing of the world (Acts 1:8).
2. To form the body of Christ (Jew and Gentile— I Cor. 12:13).
3. To enable and empower every Christian to keep God's holy law (Ez. 36:26-27).
4. To teach us all that Jesus said. To glorify Jesus. To unveil the future  
(John 14-16).
5. To manifest in/through every redeemed sinner a miraculous orchard of fruit (Gal. 5:21-23).
6. To release through every Christian a glorious array of ministering gifts  
to build up the body of Christ. **Oh, glorious full salvation!**

**NOTICE: All of these events happen at the beginning of the Christian life:** **1. Passover**— Deliverance from judgment and Satan.

**2. Unleavened Bread**— Separation from sin. **3. First Fruits**— Consecration to Christ. **4. Pentecost**— Indwelling power for a holy/bold/witnessing life.

**We are living in the Pentecostal age. EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN IS, FROM A BIBLICAL SENSE, A PENTECOSTAL CHRISTIAN! None of this is a second work of grace.**

**ALSO: RIGHT NOW, we are living in an interval of time before the next great event of God's calendar.** My, what a solid Rock foundation the Christian has: 1. Christ died for us. 2. Christ, our unleavened bread. 3. Christ raised. 4. Christ indwelling and empowering. **Our past is forgiven AND our present is empowered.**

**But even that's not all!** For in the fall of the Jewish year came the 5. Feast of Trumpets; 6. The Day of Atonement; and 7. The Feast of Tabernacles.

## **V. LEVITICUS 23:24: THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS**

In this present hour, the Christian lives with **soberness and with hope. Soberness:** Sound the trumpet! The judgment and wrath of God is coming. **Soberness:** Rev. 18:2-5. **Hope:** JESUS CHRIST IS COMING BACK! Rev. 19-22. **Living in the conscious awareness of Christ's second coming, for the Christian, is a PURIFYING HOPE: 1 John 3:14**

## **VI. LEVETICUS 23:27: THE DAY OF ATONEMENT**

In the Old Testament, it was a sacred day of cleansing from sin.



Today, in Christ, because of Calvary, we are already cleansed from both the **penalty** of sin and the ruling **power** of sin.

But one day, when Christ comes, we shall be delivered from even the **presence** of sin and **possibility** of sin (Rev. 7:15-17; Rev. 21-22; I John 3:1-3). **No wonder PAUL CRIES OUT— (Gal. 6:14)!**

## **VII. LEVITICUS 23:34: THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES**

Here is consummation, completion, rest, and fellowship with God. Here is ruling with and rejoicing with Christ forever; sitting at His feet. And beholding His face (Rev. 22:1-5).

**Therefore: Gal. 6:14; Phil. 1:6; Phil. 3:13-14**

**Full salvation! Full salvation!** Lo, the fountain opened wide,  
Streams through every land and nation, From the Savior's  
wounded side. **Full salvation! Full salvation!** Streams an  
endless crimson tide. Oh, the glorious revelation! See the  
cleansing current flow, Washing stains of condemnation Whiter  
than the driven snow: **Full salvation! Full salvation!** Oh, the  
rapturous bliss to know. Love's resistless current sweeping All the  
regions deep within; Thought, and wish, and senses keeping Now,  
and every instant, clean: **Full salvation! Full salvation!** From  
the guilt and power of sin. Life immortal, Christ descending, Lo!  
my heart the Spirit's shrine: God and man in oneness  
blending, Oh, what fellowship is mine! **Full salvation! Full  
salvation!** Raised in Christ to life divine! Care and doubting,  
gloom and sorrow, Fear and shame are mine no more; Faith knows  
naught of dark tomorrow, For my Savior goes before: **Full  
salvation! Full salvation! Full and free for evermore!** [<http://www.hymnal.net/hymn.php/h/321>]

**Yes, the sacred Feasts of the LORD call us to a mighty revival of delighting in God. And surely in the New Testament fulfillment of them, we are being called to delight in God and in SO GREAT SALVATION!**

\*\*\* I AM SURE that the LORD GOD is pleased to use these glorious FULL SALVATION CELEBRATIONS to help keep us from SHIPWRECK.

\*\*\* They give us a yearly ROADMAP so that every week and throughout the year, saints in Christ are reminded of— WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST, WHOSE WE ARE, AND THAT WE ARE ON A JOURNEY HOME!

**YES— *“Blessed/happy/fortunate, to be envied are the people who know the joyful sound, who understand and appreciate the spiritual blessings symbolized by the feasts; they walk, O Lord, in the light and favor of your countenance.”***

***AT THE LORD’S TABLE THIS COMING LORD’S DAY... WE WILL BE CELEBRATING GOD’S GLORIOUS FULL SALVATION — ALL SEVEN FEASTS ARE INCORPORATED IN THE LORD’S SUPPER!***

***Grace and Peace in Christ! James Bell***

*www.southsidegallatin.org*

## **SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:**

**MONDAYS:** Jail Ministry— (This ministry is ON HOLD... PRAY FOR opening of doors!)

**TUESDAYS:** Come and sing every Tuesday night at Gallatin Health Care Nursing Home. Meet at the front door at **5:15PM.**

## WEDNESDAYS:

➔ **6:30pm— Wednesday CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE** ➔ Enter via **IRON STEPS, side door**

➔ 6:30pm— **Youth** Activities and Bible Study— enter, side double doors

**WEDNESDAYS: ➔ 6:30pm— Young Family Prayer Time!** THIS IS a time of study and prayer geared toward **families with children in the nursery and pre-K class**. \*\*\* Meet in Bethany's pre-k class at 6:30pm with a snack and fellowship time. \*\* After this will be a time of study; and learn a song related to the study. \*\* There is a time of prayer; with focus on one of the seven groups for whom the adults are praying. \*\*

In this time PARENTS and CHILDREN will discuss what missionaries are, what they do, and whatever else may be appropriate. THIS FAMILY PRAYER GROUP will also seek to incorporate in this time an activity to have a letter prepared to send to the missionaries. The children will sign it, draw pictures, etc., AND ALL OF THIS SO AS TO encourage the missionaries by letting them know this class is praying for them. ALL OF THIS IS FOLLOWED UP BY HAVING a time to release some energy, either in the gym, or as the weather warms up, out on the playground.

**\*\*\* LADIES BIBLE STUDY— Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2019 @ 11:00am; Continuing in LUKE.** ENTER at the back of the church building, [*Doors open at 10:30am... re-locked at 11:10am*]

**\*\*\* MEN: EVERY SATURDAY @ 8:00am:** Men's Fellowship/Bible

Study! **(STUDY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN!)** ENTER AT THE back of Church building... under the drive-thru awning. **[DOORS OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIP, Juice, coffee, Hardee's biscuits & Donuts at 7:30am!]**

**\*\*\*\* SHARE the Preaching of the Word of God!**

<http://www.southsidegallatin.org/>  
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## **SUNDAY SERVICES, MARCH 17, 24, 31**

**9:30am— Sunday School Classes for All Ages**

**10:45am— Sunday Morning Worship Service**

## **SPECIAL NOTES FOR SUNDAYS:**

**\*\*\* March 17— LORD'S SUPPER, at conclusion of morning worship // 5:00pm— HOME GROUPS**

**\*\*\*\* March 24— 6:00pm... Church-wide, EQUIPING DISCIPLES...by *DEVELOPING CHRIST-HONORING MARRIAGES!***

**\*\*\*\*\* March 31— 6:00pm... 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Evening PRAISE & Worship!**

**Heating & Air Funding**  
**GOAL:** \$20,500  
Total Given: 13,442.53  
*Remaining Balance:*  
\$7,057.47

