

## Quick Overview of the Feasts of the Lord

	Festival	Purpose	Messianic Significance
Spring Feasts	<b>Passover</b> Pesach Nisan 14  *	Remembering the deliverance from Egyptian bondage. An unblemished, firstborn, male lamb was sacrificed and its blood poured on the altar. A lamb was selected for each family, and four days before the lamb was to be slain it was brought into the home for a four day examination period.	Jesus is the sacrificial lamb who died for our sins. On Nisan 14 at the exact time the lamb was to be slain, Jesus was crucified. Jesus also had a four-day examination before religious leaders and found to be without blemish.
	<b>Unleavened Bread</b> Nisan 15	Leaven symbolizes sin. Unleavened bread speaks of sanctification. God told the Jews to cleanse all leaven from their homes and eat only unleavened bread, matzah, for 7 days, symbolizing a holy walk with Him.	Jesus the “Bread of Life” without sin, was born in Bethlehem—“The House of Bread”. Just as matzah is striped and pierced, so was the Messiah. He was without sin-unleavened. This Feast falls on the day Jesus was buried.
	<b>Feast of Firstfruits</b> Nisan 17	The first of the barley harvest was brought as an offering to the priest in the Tabernacle/Temple. The priest would present the first of the harvest to the Lord by waving them back and forth. This reminded the Hebrews that God gave them the land and the harvest belonged to Him.	Jesus is the Firstfruits (I Cor. 145:20-23). Jesus’ resurrection marked the beginning of the harvest of souls. John 12:23-224,32 shows Jesus was likened to a grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying to produce a great harvest. Jesus arose on the Feast of Firstfruits—the first fruit of our salvation.
	<b>Feast of Weeks</b> Shavuot/Pentecost 50 Days after Firstfruits  *	Fifty days after the Feast of Firstfruits a remembrance of Moses receiving the Law on Sinai took place this day. Two loaves of leavened bread are presented to God—representing sinful man, Jews and Gentiles—the harvest of the Church. Jews were still slaves to Egypt (Deut. 16:9-17). Three thousand were killed that day.	Fifty days after Jesus arose a group of Messianic Jews received the Holy Spirit. Jesus said “Unless I go, the Holy Spirit will not come. But when I go, I will send the Holy Spirit to you. God wrote the Law (Torah) on the hearts of the believers and three thousand souls were saved that day---The birth of the Church.
Fall Feasts	<b>Feast of Trumpets</b> Rosh HaShannah Tishri 1	The Jewish New Year begins the high Holy Days in the Jewish month of Tishri—in September or October. A celebration of the spiritual birthday of the world or creation. Blowing of the trumpets and the coronation of the King.	Possibly depict a re-gathering of believers at the sound of the trumpet announcing that the Bridegroom is on His way. (1 Thess. 4:16-18; Rev. 19) and judgment of the wicked, or possibly it is the day of the second coming. Jesus will be King of the earth.
	<b>Day of Atonement</b> Yom Kippur Tishri 10	The holiest day in the Jewish year is spent in fasting, prayer, and confession. This was the one day a year given by God that each individual could receive forgiveness. The high priest entered the holy of holies to make atonement for the nation by sacrificing animals including two goats.	Christ our Messiah was displayed as our sacrifice. We can use this as a time of self-searching, repentance and recommitment to God. The goats represent the Jews and Gentiles. Possibly points to the day of the Messiah’s physical returning to earth, The day that Jews will recognize Jesus as Messiah and repent or it is possible that this is the Judgment Day.
	<b>Feast of Tabernacles</b> Sukkoth Tishri 15  *	God told the people they should live in booths for 7 days so that the generations would know that His people lived in booths when He brought them out of Egypt. Each Sukkoth, the Jews build and dwell or eat in booths or temporary dwellings for 7 days. A joyful celebration.	Christ is our Tabernacle or Dwelling place (John 14:14). May represent the 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth. Some believe Jesus was born during this Feast because He was born in the late fall in a “booth” and the shepherds were still in the field—December too cold to be in the field—would have been in caves.

Spring Feasts—Fulfilled with the First Coming of Messiah

Fall Feasts—Will be fulfilled in the Second Coming of Messiah

Material taken from “Biblical Holidays”, Robin Sampson & Linda Pierce