



The Appointed Teams of YAHWEH / YHWH / Yehovah are outlined in the book of Leviticus chapter 23. The list of Appointed Times are included in the figure to the right according to the season of the year in which they are to be observed.



In this particular teaching we will focus on the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot in Hebrew)! Let's take a journey through the scripture to discover the power of this particular Feast.

Feasts of Tabernacles

The instructions about the observance of Feast of Tabernacles are outlined in Leviticus 23:33-44:

Leviticus 23:33-44 The Scriptures (ISR 1998)

- (33) And יהוה spoke to Mosheh, saying,
- (34) "Speak to the children of Yisra'el, saying, 'On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is the Festival of Booths for seven days to יהוה.'
- (35) 'On the first day is a set-apart gathering, you do no servile work.
- (36) 'For seven days you bring an offering made by fire to יהוה. On the eighth day there shall be a set-apart gathering for you, and you shall bring an offering made by fire to יהוה. It is a closing festival, you do no servile work.
- (37) 'These are the appointed times of יהוה which you proclaim as set-apart gatherings, to bring an offering made by fire to יהוה, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a slaughtering and drink offerings, as commanded for every day
- (38) besides the Sabbaths of יהוה, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your voluntary offerings which you give to יהוה.
- (39) 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you gather in the fruit of the land, observe the festival of יהוה for seven days. On the first day is a rest, and on the eighth day a rest.
- (40) 'And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of good trees, branches of palm trees, twigs of leafy trees, and willows of the stream, and shall rejoice before יהוה your Elohim for seven days.
- (41) 'And you shall observe it as a festival to יהוה for seven days in the year – a law forever in your generations. Observe it in the seventh month.
- ((42) 'Dwell in booths for seven days; all who are native Yisra'elites dwell in booths,
- (43) so that your generations know that I made the children of Yisra'el dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Mitsrayim. I am יהוה your Elohim.' "
- (44) Thus did Mosheh speak of the appointed times of יהוה to the children of Yisra'el.

Feast of Tabernacles is one of the Fall Feasts of Yahweh. The Hebrew word sukkot is the plural form of the word sukkah, (Hebrew, hK'su) which means a thicket, a booth made of inter-woven boughs. This booth could be a shelter in the field for cattle, a shelter for workers in the field at harvest time, or for men in battle, or a shelter from the sun.

This Feast is a reminder to us of the provision of our Almighty Yahweh Elohim (The Lord God). It was set forth by the Father to remind the Children of Israel that He made provision for them in the wilderness so that they dwelled in tents safe from the elements of the earth. And so it is a reminder to us today that our Heavenly Father always provides for us! Other scriptures that speak of Feast of Tabernacles include: Numbers 29:12 and Deuteronomy 16:12-16.

Below is an outline of the instructions about the observance of Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) according to Leviticus 23:33-44:

SCRIPTURAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Lev 23:34: Begins on the 15th day of the 7th month and lasts for 7 days.

Lev 23:35: No work to be done on the first day.

Lev 23:36: Bring an offering each day.

Lev 23:36: No work to be done on the eighth day.

Lev 23:40: Gather Four Species

Lev 23: 40: Rejoice before Yahweh / YHWH

Lev 23:42: Live in Tents

Let's talk a little bit more about the four species talked about in Leviticus 23:40. It's in this verse that we are instructed to gather four species and rejoice before Yahweh for 7 (seven) days!

During the Feast of Tabernacles Yahweh instructs us to wave the four species and rejoice!

The Four Species are also known as the Lulav and the Etrog
Leviticus 23:40 The Scriptures (ISR 1998)

(40) 'And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of good trees, branches of palm trees, twigs of leafy trees, and willows of the stream, and shall rejoice before יהוה your Elohim for seven days.

- The four species mentioned in the scripture:
 - An Etrog/Citron– it looks like a big bumpy lemon.
 - The heart of a date palm tree
 - Myrtle branches
 - Willow branches



Feast of Tabernacles in the New Testament / Renewed Covenant

In the Renewed Covenant / New Testament we see that Yeshua (Jesus) attended the Feast of Tabernacles after an intense conversation with His brothers (John 7:1-10):

(1) And after this יהושע was walking in Galil, for He did not wish to walk in Yehudah, because the Yehudim were seeking to kill Him.

(2) And the festival of the Yehudim was near, the Festival of Booths.

John 7:1-10 The Scriptures (ISR 1998) - continued

- (3) So His brothers said to Him, ‘Get away from here and go into Yehudah, so that Your taught ones also see the works that You are doing.
- (4) “For no one acts in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these works, show Yourself to the world.”
- (5) For even His brothers did not believe in Him.
- (6) יהושע therefore said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.
- (7) “It is impossible for the world to hate you, but it hates Me because I bear witness of it, that its works are wicked.
- (8) “You go up to this festival. I am not yet going up to this festival, for My time has not yet been filled.”
- (9) And having said this to them, He stayed in Galil.
(10) But when His brothers had gone up to the festival, then He also went up, not openly, but as it were in secret.

One last thought – Yeshua pitches His tent among us!

In John 1:14, we see a reference to a Sukkah/Tent as the scripture declares “And the Word became flesh and pitched His tent among us, and we saw His esteem, esteem as of an only brought-forth of a father, complete in favour and truth.” The Scriptures (ISR 1998). There are two schools of thought about the timing of the birth of the Savior: one that He was born during Tabernacles and one that He was born closer to Passover time. One of the scriptures that point to the school of thought that He may have been born during Tabernacles is John 1:14. Both schools have credible scriptural and historical insight about the timing of the birth of our Savior.

Yeshua (Jesus) Pitches His Tent Amongst Us!
John 1:14 The Scriptures (ISR 1998)
And the Word became flesh and pitched His tent among us, and we saw His esteem, esteem as of an only brought-forth of a father, complete in favour and truth.

Because of the aforementioned information we as a congregation of Believers in Yeshua stopped celebrating December 25th as the birth of the Savior some time ago. This is not a denial of His birth but rather an acknowledgement of the insight we’ve received that ties His birth to the Feasts of YAHWEH instead of December 25th. And because we truly believe that if you learn better you ought to do better so we and our families made this shift in our celebration of His birth.

What other believers have said to us include:

- 1) “We should reclaim December 25th for Yeshua (Jesus).” The problem with this statement is that this day NEVER belonged to the Savior so we can’t reclaim something that never actually belonged to us as Believers in the Savior Yeshua (Jesus).
- 2) “It doesn’t matter when we celebrate His birth as long as we celebrate it.” There are several issues with this statement but we’ll just say that if I tried this theory with your birthday you wouldn’t appreciate it at all.

So as we celebrate this time of Tabernacles, whether you’re of the school of thought that He was born during Tabernacles or during the season of Passover, let us remember that Yeshua (Jesus) the Savior was indeed born, died, and rose again just for us. And we as a Family of Believers should commit to do everything we can within our power to celebrate this time as our Heavenly Father would desire (according to the Holy Scripture) and not the traditions of men.