

FEAST OF BOOTHS

**Blow Trumpets
Songs of Praise
Opening Prayer**

First Day

Also known as the Feast of Tabernacles and Feast of Ingathering, as it is kept at the end of the summer harvests in Israel. It celebrates the gathering of God's people to restore the Earth.

This feast is first given to us in Lev 23:37-44. It is nothing less than a celebration of the coming Thousand year reign of Jeshua Messiah.

All of God's People who were either raised from the dead or transformed when Jeshua our Messiah returned will rejoice with Jeshua:

1Th 4:13 But I want you to know, my brethren, that you should not be sorrowing for those who sleep like the rest of mankind who have no hope.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jeshua died and rose, even so God will bring those who have fallen asleep in Jeshua with Him.

1Th 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of our Lord, that we, we who have life which remains until the coming of our Lord will not overtake those who are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For our Lord, He with a command and with the voice of the head angel and with the blast of the trumpet of God, will descend from heaven. And those who died and are in the Messiah will rise first.

1Th 4:17 And then we who remain, we who have life, we will be carried away with them, as one in the clouds, to meet with our Lord in the air. And in this way we will always be with our Lord.

1Th 4:18 Therefore, comfort one another with these words.

At last the earth will be free from Satan's evil influence:

Rev 20:1 And I saw another angel from heaven, who had with him the key to the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he seized the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

Rev 20:3 and he cast him into the abyss, and shut and sealed the top of it, that he would not seduce all the nations again. After these years it is allowed to release him for a little time.

The era of incompetent and corrupt human governments will be finished: Psm 2:1-9

Jeshua will replace them with His world government:

Rev 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded, and there were great voices in heaven that said, "The kingdom of the world has become our God's and His Messiah's, and He shall reign for ages of ages!"

Zech 14:16-19 - Feast to be kept during the Thousand Years Peace (Also mentioned in Ezek 45:18 to 25).

It is also a day on which we are to give an offering to Jehovah (Deu 16:16-17).

Jehovah will give His servants positions in His government (and His church) that reflect the faithfulness and trustworthiness that they displayed in their earthly lives. Jeshua alludes to

this situation in this parable:

Luk 19:12 Therefore He said: “A certain man, son of a great noble, went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself and to return.

Luk 19:13 “So he called ten of his servants, and he gave ten minas to them, and said to them, ‘Trade until I return.’

Luk 19:14 “But the citizens of his city hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this one to reign over us.’

Luk 19:15 “And when he received the kingdom and returned, he said that they should call these servants to him, to whom he had given the money, that he could know what every last one of them had gained.

Luk 19:16 “And the first came, and said, ‘My Lord, your mina has gained ten minas.’

Luk 19:17 “He said to him, ‘Well done, good servant; because you have been found faithful with little, you will be given authority over ten talents.’

Luk 19:18 “And the second came, and said, ‘My Lord, your mina has made five minas.’

Luk 19:19 “And he also said to that *one*, ‘You will also be an authority over five talents.’

Luk 19:20 “And another came, and said, ‘My Lord, Behold your mina, which has been with me since I placed it in a purse.

Luk 19:21 ‘For I feared you, as you are a harsh man, collecting what you did not lay down, and reaping what you did not sow.’

Luk 19:22 “He said to him, ‘From your *own* mouth I will judge you, wicked servant! You knew that I was a harsh man, collecting what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow.

Luk 19:23 ‘Why didn’t you give my money to the exchangers, that when I come and demand it, I could collect it with its interest?’

Luk 19:24 “And to those standing before him, he said, ‘Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas with him.’

Luk 19:25 They said to him, ‘Our Lord, he has ten minas with him.’

Luk 19:26 He said to them, ‘I say to you, that to everyone who has, it will be given to him; and whoever who does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.

Luk 19:27 ‘Now my enemies, those who did not want me to reign over them, bring them and slay them before me.’”

Rev 20:4 And I saw seats, and they sat on them, and judgement was given to them and the souls of those who were cut off¹ for the testimony of Jeshua and for the word of God, and because these had not worshipped the beast nor its image, nor received the mark between their eyes or on their hands.² They lived and reigned with Messiah for one thousand years.

Rev 20:5 And this *is* the first resurrection.³

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has his part in the first resurrection, and over them the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of Messiah, and they will reign with Him one thousand years.

The Feast is also a celebration of the vast number of people who, faced with unquestionable

¹ As in the Peshitta, meaning that all who were killed for their faithfulness to God are included. The Greek instead (and incorrectly) has “beheaded”, restricting this group to only one unusual method of death.

² Literally ‘on between their eyes’, suggesting the mark might be visible as well as internal.

³ Many Greek manuscripts begin this verse with “But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished.”

proof of Messiah's existence and authority when he returns, decide to turn to him. This aspect is brought out by this being a celebration held **after** the Israelites had completed their main summer harvest (Leviticus 23:39).

The name 'booths' also brings out more understanding about the Thousand Years. A booth (also known as a tabernacle) is a temporary dwelling. In Leviticus 23:40 & 44 God says to live in a booth during this feast. It reminds the Jews (and us) of the Exodus, the giving of the Instructions on Mount Sinai and the forty years they had to wander in the desert living in booths because of their disobedience towards God. It teaches us that those who are part of the first resurrection on Messiah's return will live with Him in temporary dwellings until the New Jerusalem is brought down after the Thousand Years ends. The fact that this Feast is a week long reminds us that living in the Millennium will be process of growing and developing for all of us.

Rev 21:7 “And he who overcomes shall inherit these things, and I shall be his God and he will be My son.

Rev 21:8 “But the cowards, and unbelievers, and the evil, and the defiled, and murderers, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and idol worshippers, and all liars shall have their part in the lake of fire burning with brimstone, which is the second death.”

Rev 21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven vessels filled with the last seven plagues came and talked with me, saying, “Come, I shall show you the Bride, the Lamb’s wife.”

Rev 21:10 And he carried me in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending from heaven, from the presence of God.

Rev 21:11 And it had the glory of God. And its light was like precious stones, like jasper, as clear as crystal.

The full description of the New City of Peace will be read on the Last Great Day, which represents the Day it comes to earth.

Rev 22:6 Then he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true.” And Lord Jah, God of the spirit of the holy prophets⁴, sent His angel to show His servants the things which will happen soon.

Rev 22:7 “Behold, I am coming soon! Blessings to the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

Rev 22:8 I am John, who saw and heard these things. And when I saw and I heard, I fell *down* to worship before the feet of the angel who showed these things to me.

Rev 22:9 Then he said to me, “Seer! No! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God!”

Rev 22:10 And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

Rev 22:11 “He who does evil will do evil again; and he who is foul will be foul again; and the righteous will do righteousness again; and the holy will be sanctified again.”⁵

Rev 22:12 “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, and I shall give to everyone according to his work.

Rev 22:13 “I am the Alap and I am the Tau, the First and the Last, the Origin and the Fulfilment.”

Rev 22:14 Blessed are those doing His commandments; they will have access to the trees of life, and

⁴ As in the Peshitta, also see 2 Kings 21:10, 2 Chron 24:19, Jeremiah 25:4, Amos 2:11

⁵ Unlike the Greek, the Aramaic still allows the possibility that sinners could repent even at this last moment.

they shall enter the city through the gates...

Rev 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming.” Come quickly, Lord Jah Jeshua!⁶

Rev 22:21 The grace of our Anointed Lord Jeshua be with all of His saints. Amen.

Booths also reminds us that those who turn to Messiah after His return will live in their temporary mortal bodies until the end of the Thousand Years, as shown in the next section.

The Thousand Years will be a time of joy for all who are blessed with the opportunity to live in it (Jeremiah 31:1-14 and Isaiah 25:1-9). Sickness will be very rare and easily cured with the leaves from the Trees beside the River of Life. All children will live to be a hundred years of age. Sadly, a few will reject Jeshua and try to walk in unrighteousness (Isaiah 29:17-19, Ezek 37:21 to 28). Jeshua will lead us in a program of renewal that will see most of the earth turned into a paradise that today only seems to be an unachievable dream (Joel 3:17-21). He promises us that it will be a time when there is plenty for everyone. No longer will we have wars and famines, nor oppression and anger (Isaiah 2:2-5).

God will heal the earth from the ravages brought on it by man’s disobedience and Satan’s deceptions (Ezek 47:1 to 23). The last chapters of Ezekiel describe how God will divide up the land. Everyone will have a part in His plan, and everyone will benefit from their own labour. The country will be full of small, productive farms (Isaiah 65:17-25). The cities will be beautifully designed, clean and welcoming. Education will be valued and all will have access to it. God will ensure that all development will benefit His entire Creation, and we will be trained in all the skills and knowledge required to implement His plans.

These wonderful events make the Feast of Booths a time of great rejoicing, which is foreshadowed in Matthew 21:

Mat 21:1 Now as He drew near to Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, by the side of the Mount of Olives, Jeshua sent two disciples,

Mat 21:2 saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and at once you will find a donkey that is tied, and a colt with her. Loose *them* and bring *them* to Me.

Mat 21:3 “And if a man speaks to you, say this to him, ‘They are needed for our Lord,’ and at once he will send them here.”

Mat 21:4 But this happened to fulfill that which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

Mat 21:5 “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and riding on a donkey; upon a colt, the foal of a female donkey.’”⁷

Mat 21:6 So the disciples went and did just as Jeshua had commanded them.

Mat 21:7 They brought the donkey and the colt and they laid their garments on the colt, and Jeshua rode on him.

Mat 21:8 And a multitude of crowds spread their clothes on the road; but others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

Mat 21:9 Then the multitudes who went before Him and those who followed behind Him cried out,

⁶ As in the Peshitta.

⁷ From Zec 9:9

and they were saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David!⁸ ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of Jehovah⁹!’ Hosanna in the highest!”

Mat 21:10 And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was troubled, and they were saying, “Who is this?”

Mat 21:11 But the multitudes, they said, “This is Jeshua, the prophet who is from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Let us also rejoice that Jeshua, God’s Son, came to save us. May the entire Feast of Booths be a celebration for you, looking forward to when Jeshua returns and reclaims the whole earth.

The next and final annual Holy Day is the Last Great Day which looks forward to the time when the New Jerusalem comes to earth and Jehovah God comes to live with us for eternity.

Closing Prayer

Prepared by the Central Highlands Church of God www.chcpublications.net
Using the CHCoG translation based on the Aramaic NC.

⁸ Hosannah is an Aramaic word meaning ‘Save Now’.

⁹ As in Psa 118:26 and Shem-Tob’s Hebrew Matthew. Lord Jah in the Peshitta.