

Love Is For Ever -- Rediscovering Abba's Fantastic Truths

Please read Exodus 12:1-27

Feast of Weeks (a.k.a. Pentecost) Today.

Did you know that the Sabbath is an institution? As believers, we have often heard of a “Sabbath institution,” but have you ever wondered what that might mean and what might be included? In this study, we will present to you many pieces of a puzzle and as we study together the final result will be a more full understanding of the phrases “Sabbath institution,” and “the Sabbath more fully.”

Perhaps the Greek word “Pentecost” should be the first obstacle removed. Pentecost does not mean “feast of weeks” in the Greek language. *Feast of Weeks* is the name given to this mo’ed (appointed time) by the Almighty Himself. This may not seem important at the moment, but as you grasp the concept of “the Sabbath more fully” you will begin to see that Satan has tirelessly attacked the Sabbath institution.

“By causing men to violate the second commandment, Satan aimed to degrade their conceptions of the Divine Being. By setting aside the fourth, he would cause them to forget G-d altogether.... In order to obliterate G-d from the minds of men, Satan aimed to tear down this great memorial. If men could be led to forget their Creator, they would make no effort to resist the power of evil, and Satan would be sure of his prey.” *Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 336*

Sabbath slipped to Sunday. Passover has been surpassed by Easter. The count to Feast of weeks has been shortened to a mere 50 days after wavesheaf. Every article of the Sabbath institution has come under attack or is simply ignored by believers. The sorry fact is that we, as professed believers, have silently watched Satan force his cruel deception upon YHWH’s Sabbath institution, then to add insult to injury, we have joined Satan in practicing and promoting his counterfeits over the institutions set up by our Creator. Satan’s master stroke has been an attempt to change the law itself, so as to lead men to violate its precepts while professing to obey it. Adventists have retained the weekly Sabbath thinking themselves a cut above other Protestants; yet join them elsewhere in the idolatrous practice of Satan’s illegitimate institutions. We realize some SDA’s reading this may feel a twinge of righteous indignation rising but when everyone recognizes the counterfeits that we have blindly embraced, hopefully any ire will be directed at the appropriate target: the father of lies, the Adversary and accuser of the brethren.

First things first. **Genesis 1:14-15** says that at Creation, the lights in the sky were for *seasons*, yet there was no winter, spring, summer or fall at Creation. The Hebrew word translated *seasons* is mo’edim, or appointed times, and indeed, YHWH’s calendar is a lunar/solar calendar. The lunar cycle regulates His appointed times and one revolution of the sun marks the beginning and end of each appointed time. Feast of weeks is a statute and was observed in some manner before the instructions were given to Moses. Noah observed the statutes. Abraham was commended for being a statute keeper. It’s interesting (and incorrect) when folks say that the feasts first came about with Moses....

Sing aloud unto the Almighty our strength: make a joyful noise unto the Mighty One of Jacob.

Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

For this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the Mighty One of Jacob.

This He ordained in Joseph for a testimony, when He went out through the land of Egypt: where I heard a language that I understood not. Psalm 81:1-5

Exodus 19:1 says the Commandments/Covenant were spoken in the 3rd month. However, Moses came down from the mountain carrying the Tablets of the Covenant in the 4th month—40 days after the commandments were spoken. That day was Feast of Weeks. Feast of Weeks is in the 4th month at the time of the summer wheat harvest and is associated with fire. There are several witnesses attesting to this fact: Sampson torches the Philistines’ wheat--**Judges 15:1-5**, Saul crowned king; Samuel calls fire from heaven--**I Samuel 12:17-18**, and of course the cloven tongues of fire descend on those in the upper room signifying the renewed covenant--**Acts 2:1-4**.

Leviticus 23 lists the following as YHWH’s set feasts: the weekly Sabbath, Passover, Unleavened Bread, Feast of Weeks, Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles.

The weekly Sabbath is the pinnacle, and only the tip of the iceberg. All the feasts are appointed times and they stand or fall together. So many use **Colossians 2:14-17** to show that Paul nailed the feasts (holy days) to the cross, but if that is true, he has done likewise with the new moons and Sabbath—going against what **Isaiah 66:22-23** says about the events that will continue even in the new earth. Paul did not offend his Hebrew faith by what he wrote in **Colossians 2**. He was a feast keeper. The Sabbath institution is the foundation supporting the Sabbath.

“Again the people were reminded of the sacred obligation of the Sabbath. Yearly feasts were appointed, . . . The object of these regulations was stated: they proceeded from no exercise of mere arbitrary sovereignty; all were given for the good of Israel.

“These laws were to be recorded by Moses, and carefully treasured as the foundation of the national law, and, with the ten precepts which they were given to illustrate, the condition of the fulfillment of G-d’s promises to Israel.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 311. See if you recognize a pattern emerging in the following:

Weekly—One works six days and then rests on the seventh day, **Exodus 20:8-11**. (Second witness, **Deuteronomy 5:12-15**) The word Sabbath (Shabbat) means *rest*. The number seven has special significance in the Sabbath institution. Counterfeit: Any day other than the Creation Sabbath.

Yearly—The land is to be worked six years and then it is to rest the seventh year. You can read from cover to cover and you will not find one word in Scripture indicating that the land Sabbaths have been done away with. It is part of the unchanging covenant, **Exodus 23:10-11**. (Second witness, **Leviticus 25:1-7**) Not counterfeited--ignored.

Millennial—Earth is to be inhabited for six thousand years, and then rest for the seventh millennium. The wicked on earth are slain by the brightness of His coming, and the righteous, living and dead, are all caught up together to dwell where Yahushua is for the next 1,000 years. **Revelation 20:1-6**, see also **I Thessalonians 4:13-18** and **John 14:1-3**. Second witnesses are hard to find here, but envision what **II Peter 3:7-12** might mean regarding this millennial concept. Seven days—seven thousand years. For seven days of Creation—YHWH and His Law have stood on trial for seven thousand years. Counterfeit: the 1,000 years of peace on earth, a.k.a. the millennial reign of peace.

Seven Days—Next there are 7 annual Sabbaths in which no servile work is to be done; they are holy convocations to meet with YHWH. The first and last day of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement and the first and last days of Feast of Tabernacles, as found in **Leviticus 23**. Seven total. All are important, but the seventh has the most significance for us—the Last Great Day of the Final Harvest Feast of Tabernacles (**John 7:2, 37**), the Second Coming. Counterfeits: New Years, Easter, Halloween, Christmas, etc.

Seven weeks of days—From Wave Sheaf are counted 7 Sabbaths complete (7 complete weeks). Then we are to count 50 days after the morrow after the 7th Sabbath. **Leviticus 23:15-22** (Second witness, **Deuteronomy 16:9-12**) See **Acts 2:1**, *Pentecost* means count fifty. Counterfeits: the Christian Pentecost, and the Season of Lent.

Seven weeks of years—This cycle has been in place since the fall of mankind. The earth was worked for 49 years, (7 x 7 land Sabbath cycles = 49 years). After the 49th year comes the 50th or the year of Jubilee, **Leviticus 25:8-18**. (There are many witnesses throughout **Leviticus 25** and **27**). Obscure catholic counterfeit, mostly ignored.

Stephen Haskell, says this: “The weekly Sabbath was a stepping-stone leading up to the other Sabbatic institutions; and besides being a memorial of creation, it pointed forward to the final rest of the Jubilee.” *The Cross and its Shadow*, p. 249. Would you dare tamper with any portion of YHWH’s Sabbath institution? Do you see anything that can be dispensed with? All are a part of the Sabbath More Fully.

“Strict integrity should be cherished by every student. Every mind should turn with reverent attention to the revealed word of G-d. Light and grace will be given to those who thus obey G-d. They will behold wondrous things out of his law [Torah]. Great truths that have lain unheeded and unseen since the day of Pentecost, are to shine from G-d's word in their native purity. To those who truly love G-d the Holy Spirit will reveal truths that have faded from the mind, and will also reveal truths that are entirely new. . . . The lips of children will be opened to proclaim the mysteries that have been hidden from the minds of men. The L-rd has chosen the foolish things of this world to confound the wise, and the weak things of the world to confound the mighty.” *Review and Herald*, 8-17-1897

Be a Berean!