

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

John 7:2 Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near.

In our last two classes we noted the 7 Feasts that God commanded Israel to observe in the Mosaic Law from Leviticus 23.

1. Passover (Lev. 23:5; Ex. 12:1-13; 42-49)
2. Unleavened Bread (Lev. 23:6-8; Ex. 12:14-20)
3. First Fruits (Lev. 23:9-14)
4. Pentecost (Lev. 23:15-22)
5. Trumpets (Lev. 23:23-25)
6. Atonement (Lev. 23:26-32)
7. Booths (Lev. 23:33-43)

- We noted that the Lord observed these feasts.
- He provided the Lamb without spot or blemish - Jesus Christ - to be nailed to the cross by the hands of men on the Passover.
- His Son was buried on the day of **Unleavened Bread** and raised from the dead on **First Fruits**.
- 50 Days later, God the Holy Spirit was sent on the day of **Pentecost** for a summer harvest of about 3000 souls.

The next feast God will celebrate will be the *Rapture of the Church* when the trumpet of God will sound and we will be changed in the twinkling of an eye, and caught up together to meet our Great God and Savior in the clouds.

- God will then observe the **Feast of Atonement** during the 2nd advent of Christ which will end Daniel's 70th week - the 7 year Tribulation.
- Then the **Feast of Booths** will be observed in the Millennial kingdom by all the nations as per **Zechariah 14:16**.
- The **Feast of Booths** is celebrated from the 15th-22nd of the Jewish month of Tishri which falls on our calendar in the Sept-Oct time frame.

God's Lunar Calendar

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>FEAST</u>	<u>EQUIVALENT</u>
1. Nissan	30	PO,UB,FF	Mar-Apr
2. Iyar	29		Apr-May
3. Sivan	30	PENTECOST	May-Jun
4. Tammuz	29		Jun-Jul
5. Av	30		Jul-Aug
6. Elul	29		Aug-Sep
7. Tishri	30	TRPTS, ATN, BTHS	Sep-Oct
8. Cheshvan	29/30		Oct-Nov
9. Kislev	29/30		Nov-Dec
10. Tevet	29		Dec-Jan
11. Shevat	30		Jan-Feb
12. Adar	29/30		Feb-Mar

- The feast of Booths is approaching.
- Because the Jews were commanded to observe these feasts the Lord Jesus Christ observed that feast also.
- Jesus Christ was born under the Law and He fulfilled that Law.

John 7:3 Therefore His brothers said to Him,

- These are the sons that Mary and Joseph had after the birth of Jesus Christ.
- What His brothers said must be understood in light of **John 7:5**.

John 7:5 For not even His brothers were believing in Him.

- Were believing – πιστεύω – PISTEYOU – Progressively walking in unbelief
- They heard His offer; they heard His teaching yet they continued to walk in unbelief.
- They gave no credence to His claims at all.
- This is where you begin to see the reality of His statement from **Matt. 13:57**.

Matt. 13:57 “A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household.”

Jesus Christ was rejected by the citizens of Nazareth on two occasions and on one they tried to kill Him; He was rejected by His brothers, as well.

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Hebrews 4:15-16 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses . . .

- Jesus Christ is our High Priest; He does sympathize with our weaknesses.
- **Sympathize** – συμπαθέω – SUMPATHEO - *Suffering*
 - σύν plus πάθος – SUN plus PATHOS – *With suffering*

συμπαθέω – SUMPATHEO

“. . . is from the time of **Aristot.** used first for him “who has the same πάθος,” “who is affected like another by the same sufferings, impressions, emotions,” or “who suffers, experiences etc. the same as another” (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament).

That’s your wonderful Savior – Jesus Christ.

He can sympathize with your weaknesses, your afflictions, your struggles, and your family issues.

. . . but One who has been tempted in all things . . .

- Everything was thrown at Him that Satan could possibly throw at Him.
- Satan’s number one objective was to derail the Eternal Son of God from the Father’s plan.
- The world and all its glory to be enjoyed was offered to Him.
- All He had to do was say no to fulfilling the Father’s plan for His life.

He could have said - NO - I don’t want to go and die for sinners that keep on sinning!

There is no greater love than the love of Jesus Christ who did go to the cross and die for sinners – sinners that keep on sinning!

- The *Fruit of the Spirit* does not come from an over-abundance of Bible doctrine in our soul.
- The *Fruit of the Spirit* is the Spirit of God who produces God’s love, God’s joy, God’s peace, etc. as you depend on the Spirit of God.
- The *Fruit of the Spirit* does not depend on the amount of doctrine in your soul – what matters is your walk by faith in the Spirit who indwells you and He manifests God’s love in you.
- It is only through God’s love produced in you, by the Spirit, that enables you to forgive as God has also forgiven you.

He sweated blood over His need to go to the cross.

He prayed with such fervor - “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.” **Matt. 26:39**

You will find no greater rest in this life until you submit to the entirety of God’s will for you.

He longed to gather the children of Israel, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but they were unwilling.

- He came to His own and His own received Him not.
- He was “a man of sorrows; acquainted with grief.”

. . . yet without sin.

Aristot. Aristotle, of Stageiros (c. 384–322 B.C.), with his teacher Plato the greatest of the Greek philosophers and the founder of the peripatetic school, quoted in each case from the comprehensive edition of the Academia Regia Borussica, 1831 ff.

- ❖ How could we not draw near to Him in light of these facts?
- ❖ How could we not cast all our anxiety upon Him? He cares for us!
- ❖ He is the most understanding Person you could turn to - His compassions they fail not.

¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

This is not a throne of judgment but of grace.

John 7:3-10 Therefore His brothers said to Him, “Leave here [Capernaum] and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing. ⁴ For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be *known* publicly.”



- This is a trap that His brothers wanted Him to fall into; He is being betrayed by His own brothers.
- They know He has presented Himself as Israel’s Messiah, the King, and the promised descendant of David who would rule.
- They know He has offered the kingdom to the nation.
- But they have rejected Him - they want Him to fall into the hands of the religious leaders who are seeking to kill Him.
- Since Messiah is a public figure, they tempt Him to offer Himself publicly.

If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.”

⁵ For not even His brothers were believing in Him.

⁶ So Jesus said to them, “My time is not yet here, but your time is always opportune.

With this statement He conveys to His brothers that He is on God’s timeline and they are not so they can leave anytime they want.

⁷ “The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil.

- He has condemned the righteousness of the Pharisees.
- Exposed everyone's need to receive God's perfect righteousness by faith in Him; apart from the works of the Law
- They would rather attempt to get to heaven through a system of works by keeping the Law – or the Pharisees' interpretation of it.

Rom. 3:20 “By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in God's sight.”

- He rejects their counsel of betrayal.

⁸ “Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come.”

- He has to observe the Feast because He is under the Law (**Lev. 23**).
- He is not saying that He is not going to the feast at all.
- He is saying, that His time to depart for the feast is not now; not with them!
- The brothers would take the caravan from Capernaum to Jerusalem, through territory governed by the religious leaders who are seeking to kill Him.

⁹ Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee. ¹⁰ But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret.

The Lord travels to Jerusalem in private through Samaria for the Feast of Booths.

Luke 9:51-57 When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem; ⁵² and He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. ⁵³ But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem.

- Notice how prejudiced the Samaritans were.

⁵⁴ When His disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵ But He turned and rebuked them, [~~and said, “You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; ⁵⁶ for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.”~~] And they went on to another village. ⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, “I will follow You wherever You go.”

1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard Bible (NASB) unless otherwise noted.