

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
 Class #261 – Tuesday PM July 15, 2008

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.

The Feast of Booths has concluded - that feast took place in the 7th month on the Jewish calendar (SEP-OCT).

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

Next seven major events in the life of Christ –

1. Heals the man born blind (**John 9:1-38**)
2. Deals with the Pharisees & teaches the parable of the Good-Shepherd (**John 10:1-21**)
3. Sends out 70 disciples on a missionary tour in Judea (**Luke 10:1-16**)
 - a. They go out for about two months.
 - b. He visits the cities they are sent to.



4. Enters Jerusalem for the Feast of Dedication - Hanukkah (**John 10:22-39**)

- a. 10th month of Tevet (DEC-JAN).
 - b. The religious leaders tried to arrest Him.
5. Departs for Bethany beyond the Jordan (**John 10:40-42**)
 6. The seventy return to Bethany (**Luke 10:17-37**).
 7. Death and Resurrection of Lazarus in the vicinity of Jerusalem (**John 11:1-46**)

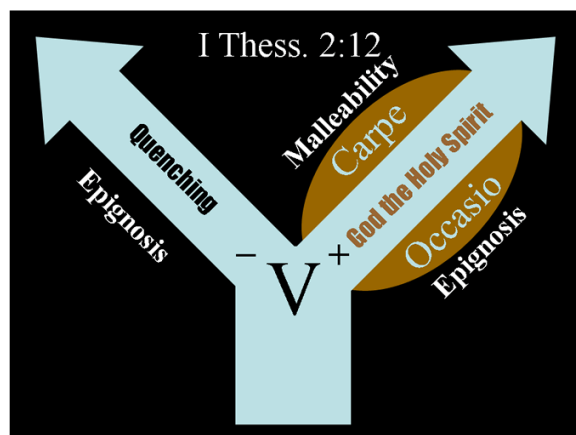
During the Feast of Booths, many Jews believed in Him as Messiah (**John 8:30**).

The Lord remained in Jerusalem to teach these new believers (**John 8:31**).

POD (Review): Suffering is an opportunity for God’s work to be displayed or manifested in you (**John 9:3**).



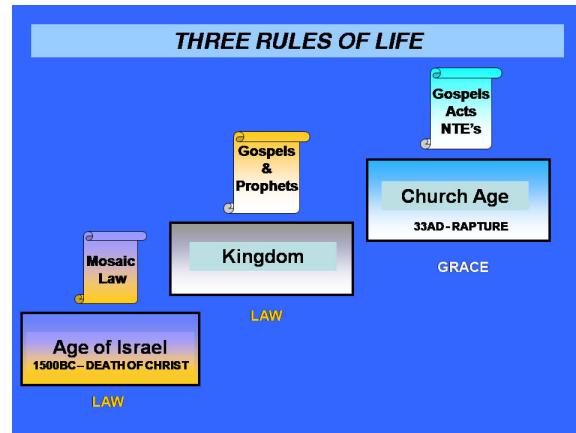
POD (Review): *But you must be willing to cooperate with God in your suffering or adverse circumstances.*



POD (Review): When the believer cooperates with God in suffering, God is glorified and the believer attains new heights in the spiritual life (**2 Cor. 12:9**).

POD (Review): When the believer cooperates with the Lord, he has a testimony to others (**John 9:7-33**).

POD (Review): The believer who is moving forward in the Church Age plan of God will experience (**ὁράω – HORAIO – To see; to experience**) the Lord's hand in his life (**John 9:35-38**).



- Assembling together in the Word (**Heb 10:23-25**)
- Cooperating with the Lord in the manifestation of your spiritual gift for the common good (**1 Cor. 12:7**)

Prayer is a manifestation of the love of Jesus Christ for a fellow believer.

- Fulfilling the responsibilities of a Church Age Believer Priest as the Lord works in us to will and to do.

John 9:38 And he said, "Lord, I believe [I am believing]." And he worshiped Him.

John 4:24 – Review "spirit and truth."

John 9:39-41 And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

- The judgment He is speaking about is pronouncing condemnation which He has done several times with the Pharisees because they have rejected Him.
- Examples: **Matt. 23:13-29**; **Luke 6:24-26**; **11:42-52**; **John 9:41**
- ... so that those who do not see (**βλέπω – See physically**) may see.
- Messiah was prophesied to restore the sight of the blind when He came to His own (**Isa. 35:5**; **Matt 11:5**)
- ... and that those who see (*physically* – like the Pharisees) may become blind.
- They become [*spiritually*] blind because their own arrogance prevents them perceiving the meaning to the words and works of Jesus Christ.

Arrogance is devastating to believer and unbeliever alike.

- Pharisees are unable to accurately interpret the Lord's doctrine.
- Examples: **John 6:51-52; 7:33-36; 8:31-33; 10:1-6**

⁴⁰ Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?"

- Their question demands a negative answer because it begins with the negative μή.
- They are not asking this question to find out what He thinks; they are mocking Him in unbelief.
 - Their arrogant rejection of Him is what is blinding them.

POD: Lack of faith results in spiritual blindness.

- This is why many believers cannot see the Lord's hand in their life.
 - Lack of faith in His word
 - Lack of faith in His ability

⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

- Their sin that remains is rejection of Him.
- If they would admit their inability to see and trust in Him, they would be healed of spiritual blindness.

John 10:1 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber.

- In the ancient world, the sheep were kept in a fold during the winter.
 - **Fold - ἀλή - AULE** – *fold or courtyard*
- This was an enclosed space without a roof, surrounded by stone walls with briars on top.
- There was one door (**θύρα - THURA**) - the only way to enter.
- Food is NOT plentiful in the winter.
 - So the predators going to look for food will look at the flock.
 - That's why the sheep were kept in the fold at night.
 - The shepherd would lead his sheep out during the day and back in at night.
 - He had a hired hand, a **θυρωρός - THUROROS** – *a doorkeeper or gatekeeper*.
 - The *doorkeeper* was responsible to open and close the door.

John 10:1-16 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door [*Jesus Christ*] into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber [*Pharisees*]. ² But he who enters by the door is a shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice,

- The fold kept several flocks – not just one.
- Many shepherds used the fold collectively.
- Each shepherd would gather his respective flock by simply calling them.
- When he called, his flock would hear his voice.
- The sheep are able to hear the shepherd’s voice by the spirit of the shepherd.

. . . and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

The church [a flock] within the fold of God is able to identify the one God has designed to shepherd them with the Word when they simply listen to his word.

Malleability and dependence on the Spirit is required.

⁴ “When he puts forth all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

The shepherd is designed to lead the way.

Hebrews 13:7, 17

- The Lord is not only *the door by which one enters the fold* by faith, but He is the shepherd.
- **Psalm 23** - The Lord is my shepherd.
- The Pharisees do not hear his voice; therefore they do not belong to Him.

⁵ “A stranger they simply will not follow, but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.”

- That’s what the flock of Israel is beginning to do.
- They are beginning to flee from the Pharisees and listen to the voice of their shepherd, Jesus Christ.

⁶ This figure of speech Jesus spoke to them,

- This is a figure of speech because He is not referring to the literal door of the fold and shepherd, but to Himself as the Door and Shepherd.
- The flock is Israel, whether or not they wish to recognize their shepherd as the Lord or not.

. . . but they did not understand what those things were which He had been saying to them.

- They understood the concept of the shepherd gathering his flock from the fold, but were clueless to what He meant by those figures of speech.
- Their own arrogance was blinding them to the truth.

⁷ So Jesus said to them again,

- Now He puts it in lamebrain terms for them because they are spiritually blind and cannot understand.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.” ⁸ All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ **I am the door;** if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly. ¹¹ **I am the good shepherd;** the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters *them*. ¹³ *He flees* because he is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep. ¹⁴ **I am the good shepherd,** and I know My own and My own know Me, ¹⁵ even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep, which are not of this fold;

- “Other sheep” - Gentiles!

I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock *with* one shepherd.”

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