

“GOD’S APPOINTED TIMES”

Leviticus 23:1-2

“And the Lord spoke to Moses saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The Feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are my Feasts.’”

(vs. 3) “Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of Solemn Rest, a holy convocation. You shall do no work on it; it is the Sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings.”

****The purpose of the Sabbaths***

1. To provide a sign of the Covenant
2. A visual aid or picture of the Messiah

The Sabbath before Moses:

- A. The Sabbath at Creation – (Gen. 2:1-3)
 - First time that there is an allusion to the Sabbath in the Bible.
 - God sets in place a universal principle that He wants all mankind to understand.
- B. The Sabbath and the Giving of the Manna – (Exodus 16:23-30)
 - The Sabbath and Moses
 - o The Sabbath at Sinai – (Exodus 20:8-11)

When God “rested” on the seventh day, it wasn’t because He was tired. It was because He was finished. God never gets tired or weary. (Psalm 121:4)

- A. The Sabbath is a reminder of creation
- B. The Sabbath was a reminder of Israel’s redemption from Egypt. (Deut 5:15)

The Sabbath is a Sign (Exodus 31:12-17)

*The Sabbath was a pledge, seal, sign or a guarantee of a perpetual evidence of God’s covenant with the Jews.

The Sabbath as a Visual Aid

- A. “Holy Convocation” – Mikrah – “Dress Rehearsal”

*As the Hebrew people would keep these Sabbaths and Feast days, they would act as rehearsals and dramas of the story of redemption and pictures of the coming Messiah so they would not miss their Times of Visitation.

A rehearsal implies preparation for a future event of fulfillment.

Genesis 1:14

“Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years.”

The Hebrew word for “Seasons” is **Ha Moyadim** – the “Appointed Times.”

For the observant Jew, there were **70 “Appointed Times.”**

52 Sabbaths each year

7 Days of Passover (Including the related Feast days)

3 One day Feasts; Shavuot, Yom Teruah, Yom Kippur

7 Days of the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)

1 Day for Assembly

70 Appointed Times

The Hebrew Day – (See IPAD)

*Jesus said in **Matt. 5:17-18**

“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to **destroy**, but to **fulfill**. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away on jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the Law till all is **fulfilled**.”

The Hebrew word for:

Fulfilled – correctly interpret

Destroy – Give false interpretation

See definition of Sabbath (*Mounce’s Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words*)