

The Biblical Feast God's Plan of Salvation Through Redemption

Sunday Sermon – 9/29/2024

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Leviticus 23:4, 23-25 "In addition to the Sabbath, these are the Lord's appointed festivals, the official days for holy assembly that are to be celebrated at their proper times each year.

...Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 24 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. 25 You shall do no customary work on it; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord.'"

The Bible's content has many different meanings. It includes literal content, symbolic interpretations, representations, and prophetic significance. Each layer adds depth and richness to understanding the text, making the Bible a deep and multifaceted source of wisdom, Knowledge and insight.

As we search the scriptures, we discover three very important attributes of God that will help us understand from a biblical perspective!

God is a God of planning.

God said that Jesus was sacrificed from the foundation of the world. 1 Peter 1:19-20 (New Living Translation) 19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. 20 God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

Before Humanity was ever created, God had ordained Jesus Christ to be the sacrifice for our salvation and redemption. He Planned it out in advance!

God is a God of order:

The seven days of creation witness the divine order of God's work. Genesis chapters 1 and 2 outline the creation of the earth, depicting the complexities of each day. As each day unfolds, it builds upon the achievements of the previous one, ultimately leading to perfection.

Days of creation list

Day 1: Light Day 2: Atmosphere / Firmament Day 3: Dry ground & plants Day 4: Sun, moon & stars Day 5: Birds & sea creatures Day 6: Land animals & humans

Day 7: The Sabbath of rest

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God carefully planned the creation to renew and restore the Earth, making it a welcoming and nurturing place for humanity.

The divine attribute of order provides valuable guidance for humanity, offering deep insights into how the principles of the Kingdom of God lead to the fulfillment of all things and serve as a blueprint for humanity's creative ability to fulfill God's will on earth.

Without order we will eventually have chaos!

God is a God of patterns

The act of redemption (which literally means to buy back) starts the process of God's detailed pattern for the total salvation of humanity.

The Greek word for salvation is soteria, which comes from the word soter, meaning "savior," and sozo, meaning "save, rescue, deliver restoration to health, soundness, safety, and well-being. Preservation from danger and destruction, being delivered from enemies, such as the devil and his demons, being physically healed of all diseases and afflictions.

Salvation is more than just getting that ticket to heaven, it's a pattern of life, a process of being totally restored from spirit through soul and ultimately getting our new glorified body at the rapture on the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Because we are redeemed, we have a right to the total salvation package.

So, how do God's feast days fit into all of this???

God's 7 annual feast days map out this systematic pattern, entailing steps for total salvation through His redemption of humanity.

Redemption is the act of Jesus paying the price for our sins by using His blood (which represented the perfect life He lived) as currency.

Leviticus 17:11-12 (NLT) for the life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making you right with the Lord. It is the blood, given in exchange for a life, that makes purification possible.

As we acknowledge and celebrate these feast days, our expectations and focus are properly aligned with Jesus Christ—who He is, the work that He has done for us, and what we have a right to expect now in this age and the age to come when we ruled and reigned with Him for 1000 years.

Through Jesus' act of redemption. God makes total salvation possible by taking humanity through the following steps:

Reconciliation- Taking us from being enemies of God to being children of God with all rights and privileges. Romans 5:10 (NIV) For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Remission- Having all our sins and the results, consequences, and penalties that come from committing those sins totally eradicated, destroyed, and resolved as if they never happened.



Repentance- Having our minds renewed and transformed to the mind of Christ so we can be all God said we can be, have all God said we can have, and do all God said we can do.

Rewards- God rewards us for our faithfulness and commitment to Him, Allowing Him to turn a profit for the Kingdom of God through us.

Rulership- Taking authority and rule in this life and the thousand-year reign at Jesus's second coming.

Understanding God's seven annual feasts will help us understand God's master plan of salvation. The first four feasts have already taken place. We celebrate and acknowledge them because they pointed out the work of Jesus at His first coming. His life, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, seating, and the sending of the Holy Spirit.

These first four are:

Passover: The Israelites celebrated the Passover to commemorate their deliverance from the Egyptians. We should acknowledge and celebrate it because of our deliverance from the bondage of that old slave master satan through the "finished work of Jesus Christ." Him being the sacrificial Lamb and shedding of His blood by which we have redemption. Jesus has purchased us from the ownership of satan.

Feast of Unleavened Bread: Leaven is an agent, as yeast, that causes bread dough to expand and rise during baking. The apostle Paul compared leaven to sin (1 Corinthians 5:6-7).

God set aside seven full days for this feast, the number seven representing completion and perfection in Scripture, believers should remember that He is holy and that we try to conduct ourselves in holiness as He is (1 Peter 1:16).

The days of unleavened bread are a picture of the second phase of the repentance process: striving to eliminate sin from our lives <u>by identifying the wrongs</u> and <u>yielding to the Holy Spirit's leading to do so.</u>

First-fruit: Jesus is the first of those who are born again. Because He is the first, we should desire to be like Him.

Romans 8:29-30 (NLT) For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself.

Day of Pentecost: This feast day is celebrated because God sent the Holy Spirit to live in us and be with us, so we can walk in the victory that Jesus won on the cross.

The Holy Spirit is our agent for Change and Victory!

So we see that the first four feasts are a celebration of Jesus Christ and the marvelous results we have as believers because of His finished work.

We have to look forward to these *Last Three Feast Days*: the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah), the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles. When understood, they give a clear picture of our Blessed Hope!

Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah):

The Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah as their New Year or head of the year.

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We acknowledge this as God's New Year as it relates to prophetic implications.

Remember when we read the Bible, we must read it for its historical record, symbolic meaning, life application, (how we apply it to our lives) and the prophetic significance that it has for us in these days.

But as born-again believers, we should know that the *prophetic significance* of this Holy Day points to the rapture! The day when Jesus will come to get us and spare us from the Wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

This is our blessed hope to be caught up to meet Him in the air and to be forever with Him.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58 Behold, I tell you a mystery: (the Feast of Trumpets was a mystery until God gave Paul this revelation) We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." ...57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"We celebrate the Feast of Trumpets to honor the total victory we have in Christ Jesus. When the trumpet sounds, the full manifestation of that victory will occur as we are raptured up to meet Him in the air, go to the bema seat of Christ, and receive our just rewards for the good things we have done in this body."

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. *The vainer the labor, the less the reward.*

Vain labor is labor that is not done in faith, trusting Him to get results through us!!!

The Bible is a supernatural book, and because it is a supernatural book, those of us who believe in it ought to have supernatural expectations. Therefore, being caught up to meet Jesus in the air is a supernatural act, but we should expect that along with other supernatural things that are promised in His word.

Hebrews 9:26-28 (ERV)now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. <u>To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.</u>

This scripture suggests those who are not early waiting for Him will not see Him.



2 Timothy 4:8 (ERV) Now, a prize is waiting for me....Yes, he will give it to me and to everyone else who is <u>eagerly looking forward to his coming.</u>

We live in an evil world that is being reserved for destruction by fire (2 Peter 3:7). Jesus Christ came to save us from this evil world so that we should not perish with the world. (Galatians 1:4)