


# Unleashing the Old Testament

*with Alan Gilman*  
Bible Teacher

Session 7



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## The Torah (The Feasts)



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### The Feasts

#### Overview

Feast Name	Leviticus
Shabbat/Sabbath	23:3
Pesach/Passover	23:4-8
Shavuot/Weeks (Pentecost)	23:15-21
Yom Truah/Trumpets	23:23-25
Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement	23:26-32
Sukkot/Booths	23:33-36



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שַׁבָּת

Shabbat/  
Sabbath

- ❖ Part of the 10 Words
- ❖ Holy and blessed day
- ❖ Day of rest (not working)
- ❖ Holy convocation (assembly)
- ❖ Included family, slaves, & animals
- ❖ Commemorated creation & exodus
- ❖ Special occasion to trust God



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שַׁבָּת

Shabbat/  
Sabbath

- ❖ Special sacrifices were made
- ❖ Bread in Mishkan (Tabernacle) was to be changed
- ❖ Failure to observe was punishable by death



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### Is Shabbat for today?

- ❖ Key component of Sinai Covenant
- ❖ Not part of the four items of Act 15
- ❖ The keeping of days is undermined by the N.T.



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### Is Shabbat for today?

Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? You observe days and months and seasons and years! I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. (Galatians 4:8-11; cf. Romans 14:5; Colossians 2:6)

*But...*



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### Is Shabbat for today?

*An important question...*

Is the  
 24 hour per day,  
 7-day week,  
 365-day/year,  
 non-stop routine  
 a legitimate godly alternative?



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פסח

Pesach/  
Passover

- ❖ Pilgrim feast (barley harvest)
- ❖ Commemoration of the exodus
- ❖ Week-long feast
- ❖ 1 and 7th days were sabbaths
- ❖ Combined with Feast of Unleavened Bread (matzah)



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פסח

Pesach/  
Passover

- ❖ Special sacrifices were made
- ❖ Special commemorative family meal (with matzah and bitter herbs)
- ❖ Eventually anticipated Messiah
- ❖ Applied by Jesus to himself (communion)



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שבועות

Shavuot/  
Weeks  
(Pentecost)

- ❖ Pilgrim feast (wheat harvest)
- ❖ 50th day after Passover
- ❖ One-day sabbath
- ❖ Holy convocation (assembly)
- ❖ Special sacrifices
- ❖ Traditionally commemorates giving of Torah
- ❖ Occasion of outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2)



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תְּרוּעָה

Truah/  
Blowing  
(of Trumpets)

- ❖ 1st of three feasts in seventh month
- ❖ Time of remembrance using ram's horns (shofars)
- ❖ One-day sabbath
- ❖ Holy convocation (assembly)
- ❖ Special sacrifices
- ❖ Became Jewish New Year



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יום כִּפּוּר

Yom Kippur/  
Day of  
Atonement

- ❖ 2nd of three feasts in seventh month
- ❖ Complete one-day sabbath
- ❖ National day of humiliation and repentance
- ❖ Holy convocation (assembly)
- ❖ Special sacrifices, including the cleansing of the Ark of the Covenant by the High Priest



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סֻכּוֹת

Sukkot/  
Booths  
(Tabernacles)

- ❖ 3rd of three feasts in seventh month
- ❖ 3rd of three pilgrim festivals (final harvest)
- ❖ Seven days, plus an extra day
- ❖ Seven days in booths (temporary shelters)
- ❖ Remember wilderness wanderings



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סֻכּוֹת

Sukkot/  
Booths  
(Tabernacles)

- ❖ Celebration/thanksgiving with growing things
- ❖ 1st & 8th days: sabbaths/holy convocations
- ❖ Special sacrifices throughout
- ❖ Only festival mentioned that all nations will keep in the future (Zechariah 14:16-19)



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**Are the Feasts for Today?**

- ❖ The keeping of days is undermined by the N.T. (Gal. 4:8-11; Rom. 14:5; Col. 2:6)
- ❖ Historical/harvest aspects for Israel in particular are central
- ❖ Dependent on the sacrificial system
- ❖ Attempts at “keeping” are partial at best

*Yet...*

*Much to learn about God and life from them*



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## The Feasts

### Divine protection when doing God's will

Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel. For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land, when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year.

(Exodus 34:23-24)



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