Holidays and Holy Days – Fall 2019

Week 1: OT Feasts and Cycle of Holy Days

• The Appointed Feasts of the Lord
  
  o Leviticus 23
    
    ▪ Sabbath (Shabbat) – 7th Day of the Week
    
    ▪ Passover (Pesach) & Unleavened Bread (Hag Hamatzot) – Early Spring
    
    ▪ Feast Firstfruits (Yom HaBikkurim) - Early Spring
    
    ▪ Feast of Weeks / Pentecost (Shavnot) – Late Spring
    
    ▪ Feast of Trumpets / New Year (Rosh HaShanah) – Early Fall
    
    ▪ Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) - Early Fall
    
    ▪ Feast of Tabernacles / Booths (Sukkot) - Early Fall
  
  o Additional Holy Days
    
    ▪ Rejoicing in the Law (Joy of Torah) – Fall (last day of Tabernacles)
    
    ▪ Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah, Feast of Lights) – Early Winter
    
    ▪ Feast of Lots (Purim, Preservation of the Jewish People) – Late Winter
  
  o Additional Special Years
    
    ▪ Sabbatical / Sabbath Year – every 7 years
    
    ▪ Year of Jubilee – After 7th Sabbatical years – i.e after 49 years completed, or once every 50 years (~ once every generation)

  o Themes / Purpose of these Feasts
o **Note on Grouping of 7 Main Feasts:**
  - **Spring:** Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits ...
  - **Late Spring:** Weeks / Pentecost (50 days after Firstfruits)
  - **Fall:** Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacle

o **Note on Fulfillment** *(more next week)*
  - **Spring:** Christ’s Death, Burial and Resurrection
  - **Late Spring:** Coming of the Spirit ... Gap until 2nd Coming
  - **Fall:** Return of Christ, Judgement / Final Forgiveness of Sins (ingathering of Israel), Set Up Eternal Kingdom / God Dwell with Man

- **Cycle of Observances**
  - **Daily Cycle**
    - **Night and Day** *(Genesis 1, Psalms)*
    - **Work to Eat** *(2 Thessalonians 3:10), Not Lazy* *(Proverbs 10:4), Gives to Beloved Sleep* *(Psalm 127:2)*
  - **Weekly Cycle**
    - **Work and Rest** *(Genesis 2:1-3)*
    - **Sabbath** *(Exodus 20:8-11, Exodus 31:12-18, Leviticus 23:3, Isaiah 58:13-14)*
    - **Place of Sacrifices** *(Leviticus 21-22)*
o Seasonal / Yearly Cycle
  § Cycles to Seasons / Life (Psalm 104; Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)
  § Festivals / Convocations / Pilgrimages (review Lev. 23, Duet. 16)

o Cycle of Years (more in week 4)
  § Sabbatical / Sabbath Year (Leviticus 25:1-7)
  § Year of Jubilee (Leviticus 25:8-22...)

o Cycle of Judgments and Recommitment
  (seen throughout OT, represented in cycle of Week, Feasts and Years)
  § Iniquity and Sacrifice (Isaiah 1:2-4...10-20)
  § Judgment (Ezekiel 20:18-24; Amos 8; II Chronicles 36:17-24)
  § Renewed Vows (Nehemiah 10:30-33...)

(note: we will come back to Christ’s fulfillment and Paul’s instruction on how to practice these over the next 3 weeks, then turn to celebrating Advent, Christmas and Epiphany)