

THE JEWISH FEASTS					
NAME	JEWISH MONTH (Pre) & Post Exilic	GREGORIAN MONTH	PASSAGES	CELEBRATED	FULFILLMENT
Passover / Erev Pesah	(Abib) Nisan 14-21	March/April	Ex. 12:2–20; 13:6-8 Lev. 23:5 Num. 28:16 Deut. 16:3-8	<b>Israel's Deliverance from Egypt.</b> This was a not Holy Convocation (servile work could be performed). Each year the firstborn child would celebrate Ta'anit Bechorim (a fast) as a memorial of being spared from the tenth plague	<b>The Death of Christ</b> The Messiah is the Passover Lamb (1 Cor. 5:7) shed for the sins of mankind. The Messiah was crucified at the same time that the lambs were slaughtered for the Passover.
Unleavened Bread / Hag-Hamatzot Last day of feast is called Yom Tov	(Abib) Nisan 15-21	March/April	Ex. 23:14, 17; 34:18-22; Lev. 23:6–8; Num. 28:17-25; Deut. 16:1-8, 16-17	<b>Israel's Release from Bondage &amp; Crossing of the Red Sea</b> The first and last day of the feast were Holy Convocations (no servile work could be performed). In preparation for this celebration, all leaven was to be removed from the house. Each year the parents would bring their new firstborn child to be dedicated to the Lord's service. All men were required to attend this service (it was an extension of the Passover).	<b>The Sinlessness of Christ &amp; the Release of Mankind from the Bondage of Sin</b> Leaven is a picture of sin in the Bible. The Messiah knew no sin; He is the sinless Bread of Life (John 6:32, 48-51). He was the perfect sacrifice. Believers are to remove the leaven (sin) of their lives and replace it with the Unleavened Bread of Christ (1 Cor. 5:8).
First-fruits/ the Omer (Barley Sheaf)	(Abib) Nisan The day after the weekly Sabbath following Passover	March/April	Ex. 34:25-26 Lev. 23:9-14 Nu. 9:10-11	<b>Israel's Presentation of First Fruit of Barley Harvest to the Lord</b> This was not a Holy Convocation. It was celebrated by waving the first barley gleanings before the Lord. This is the first in a series of 'sheaf/ wave offerings'.	<b>The Resurrection of Christ</b> The Messiah is the first fruits from the dead (1 Cor. 15:20). He is the first in a series of resurrections. The Messiah ascended into Heaven to present Himself before the Father as the 'sheaf offering'.
Weeks / Harvest / Pentecost / Shavout (Wheat Sheaf)	Sivan 50 days after the weekly Sabbath following Passover	May/June	Ex. 23:14-17; 34:22; Lev. 23:15–21; Num. 28:26-31; Deut. 16:9-12, 16-17; Acts 2:1; 20:16; 1 Cor. 16:8	<b>Israel's Reception of the Law &amp; Presentation of First Fruit of Wheat Harvest to the Lord</b> This was a Holy Convocation. Marks the giving of the Law, God's oath of eternal devotion to Israel, and Israel's pledge of loyalty to God. It was celebrated by waving two loaves of unleavened bread before the Lord. All men were required to attend this service. It took place during the season of the latter rains.	<b>The Descent of the Holy Spirit &amp; Beginning of the Church</b> The Holy Spirit indwells believers. The 'latter rains' shows the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Church; the 'early rains' shows the descents of the Holy Spirit on Israel (Jol. 2:23; Zech. 10:1; Ja. 5:7). God's law is now written in the hearts of believers (Jer. 31:33b-34; Heb. 10:14-18). As well, points to the great harvest of wheat that will be gathered at the end of the age (Matt. 13:24-30; 36-43).
Trumpets / Rosh Ha-shanah	(Ethanim) Tishri 1	September/October	Lev. 23:23–25; Num. 29:1–6	<b>Israel's Civil New Year</b> This was a Holy Convocation. Memorial of creation. The trumpet was blown to signify the beginning of the Jewish civil year. Originally a call for assembly; later it was seen as a call to repentance.	<b>The Rapture of the Church</b> The trumpet will sound, the voice of the archangel will be heard, the Messiah will appear in the clouds (1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Thess. 4:13-18) and the Church will be gathered together in the air with him (the wheat gathered into the barn - Matthew 13).
Day of Atonement Yom Kippur	(Ethanim) Tishri 10	September/October	Ex. 30:10; Lev. 16:29-34; 23:26-33; Num. 29:7-11	<b>Israel's National Day of Fasting and Sorrow for Sin</b> This was a Holy Convocation. A memorial of God's forgiveness of the sin of the Golden Calf. The high priest entered into the Holy of Holies to make atonement for the nation's sin. This signified their cleansing from sin and their reconciliation with God. The people were to 'afflict their souls' and fast.	<b>The Tribulation &amp; the Return of the Messiah</b> Currently, the Messiah is the Great High Priest of the believer. He has entered once in the Holy of Holies in Heaven to reconcile man with God (Heb. 9). In the future, the Tribulation will bring the Jews to a place of sorrow and repentance. When the Messiah returns they will look upon Him whom they have pierced and received Him as their Messiah and King (Zech. 12:10; Rom. 11:1-6, 25-36).
Booths / Tabernacles / Sukkoth Last day of feast is called Feast of Willows / Hoshana Rabbah	(Ethanim) Tishri 15-21	September/October	Ex. 23:19' 34:22; Lev. 23:33-43; Num. 29:12-39; Deut. 16:13-17	<b>Israel's Forty Years of Wandering &amp; Presentation of the First Fruit of Fruit Harvest</b> The first day was a Holy Convocation. It was a memorial of the forty years of wilderness wanderings. For seven days, the people moved out of their homes and lived in booths. Branches would be cut from palm, willow and other trees and waved before the Lord to celebrate the final gathering of the harvest. It is a time of rejoicing and fellowship. All men were required to attend this service. It took place during the season of the early rains. On the last day of the feast, willow branches would be beat on the ground signifying a cleansing from sin.	<b>The Millennium</b> Following the Return of the Messiah, His angels will go forth and gather His people (Matthew 24:31). The 'early rains' shows the descent of the Holy Spirit on Israel. The Messiah will establish His Kingdom on earth and will once again dwell with His people, reigning and ruling over them (Mic. 4:1-7). The Millennial Kingdom will be brought to a close with the Great White Throne of God where the wicked will be gathered for the final judgment before being sent into the lake of fire for eternity.