

A HOLY CALENDAR

FEASTS, FESTIVALS, AND CHRIST

Sermon Questions

1. What comes into your mind when you consider a feast or festival?

2. The _____, providing the rhythm of life, is an expression of a society's values.
3. What is the most important thing on your calendar? _____
4. Israel's calendar served as a compass to point to _____ (Col 2:16–17).
5. What is significant about the firstborn in God's word? (circle all that apply)
 - i. The firstborn was a sign of God's provision—and more is yet to come.
 - ii. The firstborn belonged to God and should be given back to him in worship.
 - iii. The firstborn carries the idea of uniqueness, rank, or importance.
 - iv. The firstborn looks to God's salvation from Pharaoh in Egypt.
 - v. The firstborn is connected to redemption, substituting the life of a lamb for the life of a person.
6. The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread celebrated Israel's escape from _____.
7. Where does the Bible call Christ the Passover Lamb or Lamb of God? _____
8. Christians should celebrate Passover as described in the Old Testament. (True/False)
9. Pentecost is another name for the Feast of Weeks. (True/False)
10. Pentecost points to the harvest of _____ due to the work of Christ and the outpouring of the Spirit.
11. The Feast of Booths is also called The Feast of _____.
12. When Jesus celebrated the Feast of Booths, he said he was the living bread and water that grants eternal life. (True/False)
13. The Feast of Booths, Pentecost, and Passover are celebrated each _____.
14. When we gather before the Lord, we don't come empty-_____, we come thankful and rejoicing!

Discussion Questions

1. The sermon emphasizes that a society's (and an individual's) calendar reveals its deepest loyalties and what it worships. Looking at your own weekly and yearly rhythm, what currently holds the central place in your calendar? What does this reveal about your ultimate allegiance, and where might God be prompting you to make adjustments?
2. How do the three main feasts in Deuteronomy 16 (Passover/Unleavened Bread, Weeks/Pentecost, and Booths) function as "shadows" that point to Christ? Which aspect of their fulfillment in the Lord's Supper, the harvest of souls, or Christ tabernacling with us was most encouraging or clarifying to you?
3. Israel was commanded to make the holy feasts fixed points in their national calendar. In the New Covenant, the Lord's Day serves as our weekly fixture. How well is the Lord's Day currently functioning as the stabilizing anchor and priority in your week? What practical steps could you take to protect and rejoice in it more faithfully?
4. The sermon reminds us not to come before the Lord empty-handed and to rejoice in his presence. As you consider God's provision and redemption in Christ, what specific ways can you offer yourself, your time, your resources, or your gifts more fully to him this week?
5. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon?

Discussion Questions for Children

1. God told his people to have special holy days (like big parties) every year to remember how he saved them and took care of them. What are some special days or holidays your family celebrates? How can we make sure our special days (especially Sundays) help us remember Jesus and thank him for being our Savior?
2. The feasts in the Bible were like shadows that pointed to Jesus, who is the real thing! Just like Passover pointed to Jesus as our perfect Lamb. Which part of the sermon (Passover, Pentecost, or Booths) helped you see Jesus better? How can we make Jesus the most important person in our family's calendar and on Sundays?