

Bible Basics Conference 2026

The Feasts of Jehovah

Introduction

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Introduction

Sabbath (v. 3)	**Pentecost ('fifty days')** (vv. 15-22)
Passover (v. 5)	**Trumpets** (vv. 24-25)
Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	**Day of atonement** (vv. 27-32)
First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	**Tabernacles** (vv. 34-43)

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3,000 years of prophecy in one chapter!

(Also given 1,500 years before it commenced)

Leviticus 23

1 **And Jehovah spoke to Moses**, saying,

2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them,

Concerning the set feasts of Jehovah, which ye shall proclaim as holy convocations — **these are my set feasts**.

3 Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is **the sabbath** of rest, a holy convocation; no manner of work shall ye do: it is the sabbath to Jehovah in all your dwellings.





Leviticus 23

4 **These are the set feasts of Jehovah**, holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons:

5 In the first month, on the fourteenth of the month, between the two evenings, is **the passover** to Jehovah.

6 And on the fifteenth day of this month is **the feast of unleavened bread** to Jehovah; seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread.

…



Leviticus 23



9 **And Jehovah spoke to Moses**, saying,

10 Speak unto the children of Israel and say unto them,

When ye come into the land that I give unto you, and ye reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of **the first-fruits** of your harvest unto the priest.

…

15 And ye shall count from the morning after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave-offering, seven weeks; they shall be complete; 16 even unto the morning after the seventh sabbath shall ye count **fifty days**; and ye shall present a new oblation to Jehovah.

…



Leviticus 23

23 **And Jehovah spoke to Moses**, saying,

24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying,

In the seventh month, on the first of the month, shall ye have a rest, a memorial of blowing of **trumpets**, a holy convocation.

…



Leviticus 23

26 **And Jehovah spoke to Moses**, saying,

27 Also on the tenth of this seventh month is **the day of the atonement**: a holy convocation …



Leviticus 23

33 **And Jehovah spoke to Moses**, saying,

34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying,

On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is **the feast of booths [or tabernacles]** seven days to Jehovah.

…

44 And Moses declared **the set feasts of Jehovah** to the children of Israel.



What is a feast?

- 'Feast' = fixed time for coming together *(Strongs)*
- Verse 2: *'the set feasts of Jehovah, which ye shall proclaim as **holy convocations** — these are my set feasts'*
- Verse 37: *'the set feasts of Jehovah, which ye shall proclaim as holy convocations, **to present an offering by fire to Jehovah**, a burnt-offering, and an oblation, a sacrifice, and drink-offerings, everything upon its day'*
- Focus is not on eating, but on:
  - coming together ('convocation')
  - in separation to God ('holy')
  - to worship Him ('to present an offering to Jehovah')
  - in the prescribed manner / for the prescribed purpose ('everything upon its day')

Who participated in the feasts?

Israel (God's people):

- Following redemption from slavery in Egypt
- In view of being in the land of Canaan (e.g. v. 10)
- At the place where God would cause His name to dwell (Deut. 12:14; 16:6)

How many feasts?

1. Sabbath (v. 3)	**5. Pentecost ('fifty days')** (vv. 15-22)
2. Passover (v. 5)	**6. Trumpets** (vv. 24-25)
3. Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	**7. Day of atonement** (vv. 27-32)
4. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	**8. Tabernacles** (vv. 34-43)

How many feasts?

1. Sabbath (v. 3)	**5. Trumpets** (vv. 24-25)
2. Passover and **unleavened bread** (vv. 5-8)	**6. Day of atonement** (vv. 27-32)
3. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	**7. Tabernacles** (vv. 34-43)
4. Pentecost (vv. 15-22)	

How many feasts?

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 2)

Sabbath (v. 3)

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 4)

1. Passover (v. 5)	**5. Trumpets** (vv. 24-25)
2. Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	**6. Day of atonement** (vv. 27-32)
3. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	**7. Tabernacles** (vv. 34-43)
4. Pentecost (vv. 15-22)	

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 44)

How many feasts?

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 2)

Sabbath (v. 3) — Weekly

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 4)

1. Passover (v. 5)	**5. Trumpets** (vv. 24-25)
2. Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	**6. Day of atonement** (vv. 27-32)
3. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	**7. Tabernacles** (vv. 34-43)
4. Pentecost (vv. 15-22)	

Annual

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 44)

How many feasts?

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 2)

Weekly

Sabbath (v. 3)

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 4)

Annual

1. Passover (v. 5)	Month 1
2. Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	
3. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	
4. Pentecost (vv. 15-22)	Month 3 (but linked with month 1)

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 44)

How many feasts?

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 2)

Weekly

Sabbath (v. 3)

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 4)

Annual

1. Passover (v. 5)	Month 1
2. Unleavened bread (vv. 6-8)	
3. First-fruits (vv. 10-14)	
4. Pentecost (vv. 15-22)	Month 3

50 days (approx.)

4 months

5. Trumpets (vv. 24-25)	Month 7
6. Day of atonement (vv. 27-32)	
7. Tabernacles (vv. 34-43)	

The set feasts of Jehovah (v. 44)

What do the feasts represent?

- Old Testament was written for our instruction (1 Cor. 10:11)
- Law (incl. Lev. 23) speaks of good things to come (Heb. 10:1)
- Feasts expressly included in this (Col. 2:16-17)

Three Sevens

						Letters to assemblies (Rev. 2-3)	
						Ephesus	Past
						Smyrna	Past
						Pergamos	Past
						Thyatira	Continuing
						Sardis	Continuing
						Philadelphia	Continuing
						Laodicea	Continuing

Three Sevens

			Parables of the kingdom (Matt. 13)			Letters to assemblies (Rev. 2-3)	
			Sower	Outward/ gospel		Ephesus	Past
			Wheat and tares	Outward		Smyrna	Past
			Mustard seed	Outward		Pergamos	Past
			Leaven	Outward			
						Thyatira	Continuing
			Treasure	Inner		Sardis	Continuing
			Pearl	Inner		Philadelphia	Continuing
			Net	Inner		Laodicea	Continuing

Three Sevens

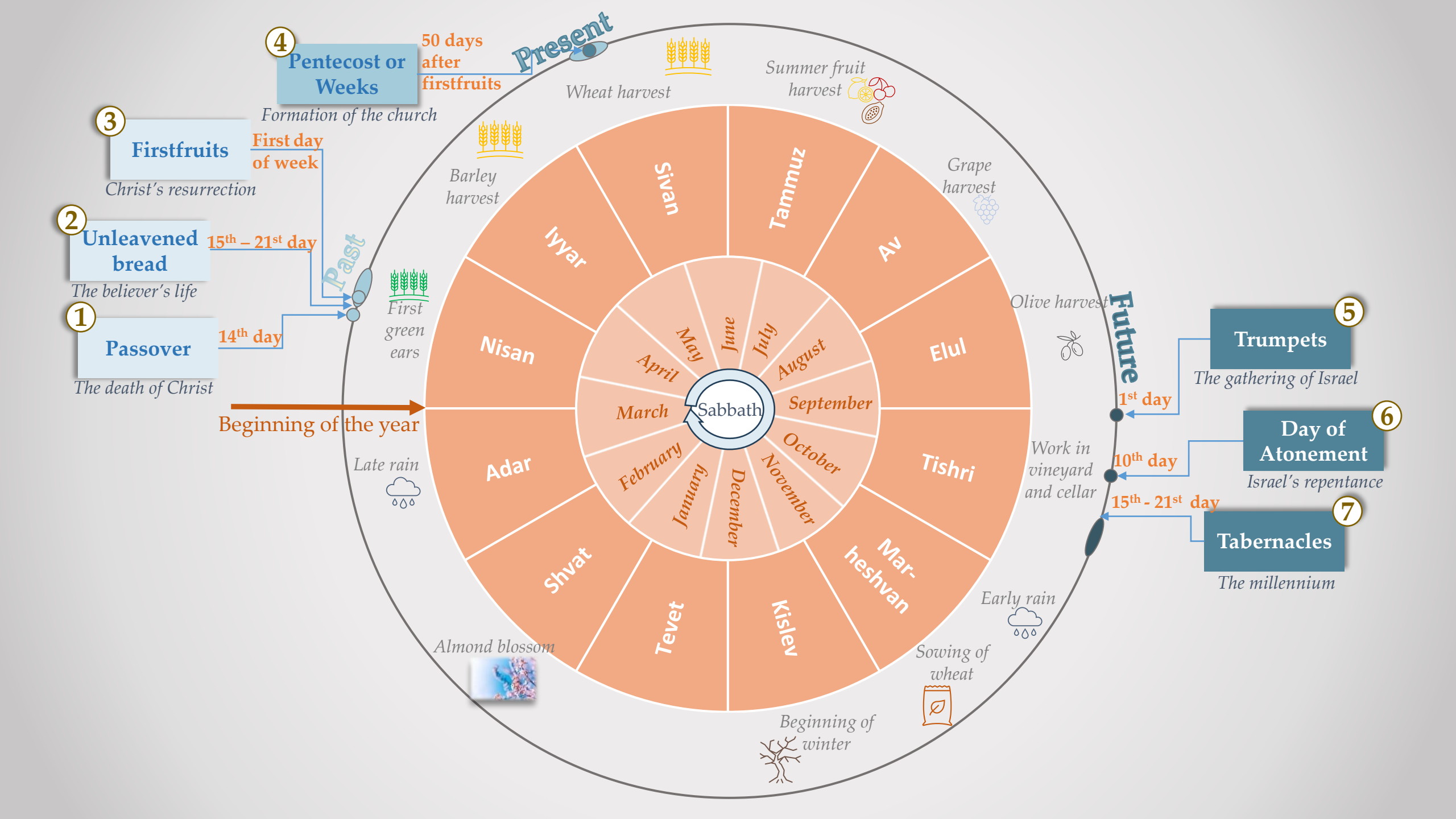
Feasts of Jehovah (Lev. 23)			Parables of the kingdom (Matt. 13)			Letters to assemblies (Rev. 2-3)	
Passover	Assembly/ foundation		**Sower**	Outward/ gospel		Ephesus	Past
Unleavened bread	Assembly		Wheat and tares	Outward		Smyrna	Past
First-fruits	Assembly		Mustard seed	Outward		Pergamos	Past
Pentecost	Assembly		Leaven	Outward			
						Thyatira	Continuing
Trumpets	Israel		Treasure	Inner		Sardis	Continuing
Day of atonement	Israel		Pearl	Inner		Philadelphia	Continuing
Tabernacles	Israel		Net	Inner		Laodicea	Continuing

What do the feasts represent?

- Old Testament was written for our instruction (1 Cor. 10:11)
- Law (incl. Lev. 23) speaks of good things to come (Heb. 10:1)
- Feasts expressly included in this (Col. 2:16-17)

- Leviticus 23 = overview of God's dealings towards human race, in blessing, from cross to millennium

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar
Feast (name)	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Weeks	Trumpets	Day of Atonement	Tabernacles					
Feast (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life	Christ's resurrection	Formation of the church	The gathering of Israel	Israel's repentance	The Millennium					
Emblem												
Fulfilment	Past			Present	Future							


4
Pentecost or Weeks
50 days after firstfruits
Formation of the church
3
Firstfruits
First day of week
Christ's resurrection
2
Unleavened bread
15th – 21st day
The believer's life
1
Passover
14th day
The death of Christ
Beginning of the year
Past
Present
Future
Nisan
Iyyar
Sivan
Tammuz
Av
Elul
Tishri
Mar-heshvan
Kislev
Tevet
Shvat
Adar
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December
January
February
Sabbath
First green ears
Barley harvest
Wheat harvest
Summer fruit harvest
Grape harvest
Olive harvest
Work in vineyard and cellar
Early rain
Sowing of wheat
Beginning of winter
Almond blossom
Late rain
5
Trumpets
1st day
The gathering of Israel
6
Day of Atonement
10th day
Israel's repentance
15th - 21st day
7
Tabernacles
The millennium

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar

Feast (name)	Passover
Feast (number)	1
Meaning	The death of Christ
Emblem	
Fulfilment	Past

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar

Feast (name)	Passover
Feast (number)	1
Meaning	The death of Christ
Emblem	
Fulfilment	Past

Exodus 12

*'Christ, **our Passover**, was sacrificed for us'*
(1 Cor. 5:7)

Christ's death also the foundation for future blessing of Israel (e.g. Isa. 53)

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar

Feast (name)	Passover	Unleavened Bread
Feast (number)	1	2
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life
Emblem		
Fulfilment	Past	

'Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore ***<u>let us keep the feast</u>****, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.'*
(1 Cor. 5:7-8)

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar

	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits
Feast (name)			
Feast (number)	1	2	3
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life	Christ's resurrection
Emblem			
Fulfilment	Past		

1 Corinthians 15 (resurrection chapter):
'But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become ***the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep****'*
(v. 20)

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar

Feast (name)	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Weeks
Feast (number)	1	2	3	4
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life	Christ's resurrection	Formation of the church
Emblem				
Fulfilment	Past			Present

*'**<u>When the Day of Pentecost [or 50th] had fully come</u>**, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit …'*
(Acts 2:1-4)

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Emblem				
Fulfilment	Past			Present

Note: first 4 feasts have been fulfilled – therefore last 3 must also await fulfilment

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Feast (name)	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Weeks	Trumpets
Feast (number)	1	2	3	4	5
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life	Christ's resurrection	Formation of the church	The gathering of Israel
Emblem					
Fulfilment	Past			Present	Future

Numbers 10

'They will see the Son of Man coming …. And He will send His angels with ***<u>a great sound of a trumpet</u>****, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.'* (Matt. 24:30-31)

Month (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Month (name)	Nisan	Iyyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av	Elul	Tishri	Mar-heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shvat	Adar
Feast (name)	Passover	Unleavened Bread	Firstfruits	Pentecost or Weeks	Trumpets	Day of Atonement						
Feast (number)	1	2	3	4	5	6						
Meaning	The death of Christ	The believer's life	Christ's resurrection	Formation of the church	The gathering of Israel	Israel's repentance						
Emblem												
Fulfilment	Past			Present	Future							

Lev. 16; Zech. 12

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Emblem												
Fulfilment	Past			Present	Future							

'Then Israel shall dwell in safety,
The fountain of Jacob alone,
In a land of grain and new wine …'
(Deut. 33:28)

'My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.'
(Isa. 32:18)

Sabbath

- God's purpose for His creation: Him and mankind to be at rest, enjoying communion (Gen. 2:1-3; 3:8-9; Rev. 21:1-4)
- After sin entered the world:
  - creation no longer at rest (Gen. 3:17; Rom. 8:22)
  - mankind must labour (Gen. 3:17-19) – but more importantly is under the burden of sin (Matt. 11:28)
  - but in grace, God and the Lord Jesus have been at work from that moment until now (Gen. 3:21; Mark 10:45; John 5:17)
- God's purpose will be fulfilled
- Sabbath is mentioned first to confirm this

Coming together in assembly today

- Feasts were Jehovah's feasts:
  - ordained and directed by Him
  - for Him
- Sadly:
  - Israel not good at keeping them (e.g. Neh. 8:17)
  - some even established their own feasts (e.g. Jeroboam in 1 Ki. 12)

- Lord has given directions for believers to come together in assembly today (BBC 2024)
- Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25)

Coming together in assembly today

- Feasts were 'holy convocations'
- Preceding chapter (Lev. 22): all about holiness and suitability of offerings

- By the time the Lord was on earth, feasts of Jehovah had become 'feasts of the Jews' (e.g. John 5:1; 6:4; 7:2)

- How is it when we come together in assembly (1 Cor. 11)?
- *'As he who has called you is holy, be ye also holy in all your conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy'* (1 Pet. 1:15-20)

Why study the feasts?

- To understand God's counsels for the earth
- To see the wide blessing flowing from Christ's death on the cross
- To appreciate the privileges of being part of the assembly
- To be challenged to be imitators of Christ
- To remember that God will fulfil His plans for Israel
- …

'Jehovah, for thy servant's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all this greatness, to make known all these great things'
(1 Chr. 17:19)