

THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL AND THE CHURCH

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The repetitive use of many Feasts of Israel in Acts and First Corinthians, and them as *time markers*, reveals that the Apostles continued to celebrate them all their lives. The Church teaches that the Feasts were ‘done away with’ at the crucifixion, and therefore, Christians shouldn’t keep them, but Scripture clearly teaches otherwise:

1. Acts 2:130 AD; The Feast of Weeks (*Shavu’ot*—Pentecost; Ex. 34:22; Dt. 16:9-10)
 2. Acts 12:344 AD; The Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:8, 15f.; 23:15; 34:18; Lev. 23:6f)
 3. Acts 12:444 AD; Passover (Ex. 12:11, 27; Lev. 23:5f.; Num. 9:5; 28:16; Dt. 16:1)
 4. Acts 18:2149 AD; This coming Feast (obviously a Feast of Israel; found in the KJV/NKJV)
 5. Acts 20:657 AD; The Feast of Unleavened Bread
 6. Acts 20:1657 AD; The Feast of Weeks (*Shavu’ot*—Pentecost)
 7. Acts 27:960 AD; The Fast—The Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:1-34; 23:26-32)
- Passover is mentioned once (Acts 12:4).
 - The Feast of Unleavened Bread is mentioned twice (Acts 12:3; 20:6).
 - The Feast of Weeks (*Shavu’ot*—Pentecost) is mentioned twice (Acts 2:1; 20:16).
 - The Fast (the Day of Atonement) is mentioned once (Acts 27:9).
 - An unspecified Feast of Israel is mentioned once (Acts 18:21).

The Feasts of Israel in First Corinthians

The Apostle Paul speaks of two Feasts of Israel in First Corinthians:

8. 1st Cor. 5:853 AD; The Feast (Passover/the Feast of Unleavened Bread)
9. 1st Cor. 16:853 AD; The Feast of Weeks (*Shavu’ot*—Pentecost)

The Feasts of Israel in Acts and First Corinthians

Below are the Feasts of Israel in Acts and First Corinthians in the Gregorian months they’re celebrated in, and the number of times these ‘feasts that were done away with’ are found in Acts and First Corinthians:

1. AprilPassoverTwice.....Acts 12:4; 1st Cor. 5:8
2. AprilThe Feast of Unleavened BreadTwice Plus.....Acts 12:3; 20:6 (1st Cor. 5:6-8)
3. JuneThe Feast of Weeks—PentecostThree times ...Acts 2:1; 20:16; 1st Cor. 16:8
4. Oct.The Fast—The Day of Atonement ...OnceActs 27:9
5. ???An unspecified Feast of IsraelOnceActs 18:21

The Feasts of Israel are mentioned **9** times in the Book of Acts and First Corinthians. The use of these **9** Feasts of Israel by Luke and Paul, **8** of which are specifically used as *time markers*, telling us *when* an event happened or *would happen*, should cause every Christian to realize that these ‘Feasts of the Jews’ were obviously still being celebrated by all Christians in the days of the Apostles. The Church teaches that the Feasts of Israel were done away with, but the Book of Acts and First Corinthians clearly refute that false teaching.

The Book of Acts is the *only divinely inspired* history of the Church for the first **34** years *after* the resurrec-

tion—the time when the Apostles were alive and teaching about faith in Yeshua (the Hebrew name of Jesus). Acts reveals that all Christians were living out their faith in Yeshua through the Feasts of Israel. If not, Luke wouldn't have used them as *time markers* because no Gentile would have known *when* the event that Luke spoke of happened. The same holds true for Paul, who wrote First Corinthians in 53 AD, 23 years *after* the resurrection or 11 years *before* Luke wrote Acts. The Feasts of Israel were still valid in the days of the Apostles because Luke and Paul wrote of these feasts, and no others. The Feasts are *not* part of the Ten Commandments, but part of Mosaic Law, which reveals that Mosaic Law was kept by all Christians in Apostolic times.

Neither Luke nor Paul ever speak of celebrating Easter or Xmas. Easter¹ and Xmas are *not* found *anywhere* in the New Testament. They are pagan feasts that came into Christianity through the Roman Catholic Church, after all the Apostles were dead, and they *nullify* God's holy feasts, having nothing biblically to do with Yeshua. If God wanted us to celebrate the birth of His Son as Xmas, it would have been *written* somewhere in the New Testament *and* Scripture would record the date of Messiah's birth. When Xmas came into the Catholic Church, about 400 AD, even the Catholic priests fought against it! They knew it was pagan, but today most Christians don't realize this *and try to defend it*, even though there is obviously no *scriptural* defense for it.

On the other hand, the *resurrection* of Yeshua is pictured in First Fruits (Sheaf), which is celebrated on the Sunday of the 7 day Feast of Unleavened Bread.² God made provision for us to observe the death *and* resurrection of His Son, and the transformation of our nature into Yeshua's, in Passover, First Sheaf and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. God gave the Feasts to Israel at Mt. Sinai *with His Son in mind*. He didn't forget to give us a day to celebrate His Son's death (Passover/the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread) and His resurrection (the Sunday of First Fruits within the Feast of Unleavened Bread), and our glorious transformation into the Image of Yeshua (the 7 day Feast of Unleavened Bread), with the eating of unleavened bread every day, which pictures us becoming like Yeshua; transformed, sinless and glorified (Lev. 23:4f.; 1st Cor. 5:6-8; cf. 2nd Cor. 3:18).

Also, God's 7th day Sabbath is mentioned **11** times *after* the resurrection: Acts 1:12; 13:14, 27, 42, 44; 15:21; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4; Col. 2:16; and Heb. 4:9 (where the KJV and NKJV *fail* to correctly translate the Greek word *Sabbatismos* in Heb. 4:9). Sunday is mentioned twice (1st Cor. 16:2), and one time it's not Sunday at all, but actually Saturday night (Acts 20:7).³ *Not once* does the New Testament say that Sunday has replaced the Sabbath, or that the Church was meeting on Sunday *instead* of the Sabbath; something we would expect if the Sabbath that had been kept by Israel for **14 centuries** had been done away with.

After the Book of Acts, secular church history confirms that *all Christians* kept Passover and the 7th day Sabbath (i.e. Mosaic Law) for at least **60 years** *after* the resurrection—until the rise of what would become the Roman Catholic Church.⁴ About 120 AD Rome threw out Sabbath, Feasts and Mosaic Law, and brought in Sunday, Easter and anti-Mosaic Law theology. Scripture reveals that they didn't have *authority* from God to do that.

¹ Every English Bible rightly has *Passover* for Acts 12:4, except the King James Version. The Greek word is *πάσχα* (*Paska*; Passover). The KJV has *Easter*. The KJV is wrong and is also wrong in Heb. 4:9, where it only has *rest* instead of *Sabbath rest*. Hebrews was written 37 years *after* the resurrection, yet the author speaks of Sabbath, not Sunday rest.

² For more on this see *First Sheaf* at <http://seedofabraham.net/First-Sheaf.pdf>. Also, there is a feast of Israel that commemorates the birth *and* return of Yeshua. It's not the Feast of Tabernacles, but *the Feast of Trumpets*. Read about it and why 'the Rapture' isn't biblical at <http://seedofabraham.net/The-Feast-of-Trumpets.pdf>.

³ Sunday is seen only *once* in the entire New Testament *after* the resurrection (1st Cor. 16:2), and it wasn't a day 'for church.' Paul wrote that *each individual* was *to set aside* some money he had made on Sunday, the first day of the work week, for the poor believers in Jerusalem. He'd collect it when he came to Corinth (1st Cor. 16:1, 3; cf. 2nd Cor. 9:1f.).

⁴ The Roman Catholic Church is *not* a Christian church because its teaching on salvation and Mary are blatantly false, along with most of its other doctrines. The Pope and Catholicism is an outrage to God (Dan. 7:25; Rev. 17:5, 9; 18:4; see *What's Wrong with the Catholic Church?* at <http://seedofabraham.net/Whats-Wrong-with-the-Catholic-Church.pdf>, and also, Alexander Hislop's classic, *The Two Babylons* at <http://seedofabraham.net/The-Two-Babylons.pdf>.

For more understanding about the Feasts and Sabbaths, see *The Feasts of Israel as Time Markers after the Resurrection* at <http://seedofabraham.net/The-Feasts-of-Israel-as-Time-Markers.pdf>. Also, you can read Samuele Bacchiocchi's classic, *From Sabbath to Sunday* at <http://seedofabraham.net/From-Sabbath-to-Sunday.pdf> to find out when and why the Roman Catholic Church threw out Sabbath, Feasts and Mosaic Law.

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