

Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#37] *The Joy of the LORD's Harvest* – Deut. 15:19–16:17

Sermon Outline – May 20, 2018

Children's Sermon: The Joy of Restoring Lost Things

- “You keep trying to pick a fight, but I'm still just happy you're alive.”
- Luke 15:3–32 – Lost Lamb; Lost Coin; Lost Son(s)

Luke 15:7, 10, 29–32

⁷ Just so, I tell you, *there will be more joy in heaven* over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, *there is joy before the angels of God* over one sinner who repents.”

²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.’ ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, *you are always with me*, and all that is mine is yours. ³² *It was fitting to celebrate and be glad*, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”

- Where's the joy?

Tithes (Deut. 14:22–29)

Review from last 2 Sundays

Notes:

Entering the Rest that Jesus makes available: Joy & Generosity

Hebrews 4:11

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

Next 2 Weeks:

1. **Generosity:** Release for the Poor – Deuteronomy 15:1-18
2. **Joy:** Feasting before the Lord – Deuteronomy 15:19-16:17

How Was Israel Being Taught to Keep the Sabbath?

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Remember Yahweh's blessings (from Egypt to Canaan)
both in generosity and joy.



Dedicate Firstborn Males of Your Herd and Flock

^{19b} You shall do no work with the firstborn of your herd, nor shear the firstborn of your flock.

[15:1-18 or 16:1-17 – Nice Transition]

Eaten Before the Lord

²⁰ *You shall eat it, you and your household, before the LORD your God year by year at the place that the LORD will choose.*

Unless there is a Serious Blemish (21-23; Home, Blood)

The Three Required Annual Feasts

Passover & The Feast of Unleavened Bread: New Creation

¹ “Observe the month of Abib and *keep the Passover to the LORD your God*, for in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of **Egypt** by night. ² And you shall *offer the Passover sacrifice* to the LORD your God, from the flock or the herd, **at the place that the LORD will choose, to make his name dwell there.** ³ *You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat it with unleavened bread, the bread of affliction—for you came out of the land of **Egypt** in haste—that all the days of your life you may remember the day when you came out of the land of **Egypt.** ⁴ No leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory **for seven days**, nor shall any of the flesh that you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain all night until morning. ⁵ *You may not offer the Passover sacrifice within any of your towns* that the LORD your God is giving you, ⁶ **but at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell in it**, there you shall *offer the Passover sacrifice*, in the evening at sunset, at the time you came out of Egypt. ⁷ And *you shall cook it and eat it* **at the place that the LORD your God will choose.** And in the morning you shall turn and go to your tents. ⁸ For **six days** you shall *eat unleavened bread*, and on the seventh day there shall be *a solemn assembly to the LORD your God.* You shall do no work on it.*

The Feast of Weeks: Freewill Offering

⁹ “**You shall count seven weeks.** Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain. ¹⁰ Then you shall keep the **Feast of Weeks** to the LORD your God with *the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand*, which you shall *give as the LORD your God blesses you.* ¹¹ And *you shall rejoice before the LORD your God*, you and

your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your towns, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are among you, **at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell there.** ¹² *You shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt* (Cf. Dt. 5:15); and you shall be careful to observe these statutes.

The Feast of Booths: Altogether Joyful!

¹³ “**You shall keep the Feast of Booths seven days,** when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress. ¹⁴ *You shall rejoice in your feast,* you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. ¹⁵ For **seven days** you shall keep the feast to the LORD your God **at the place that the LORD will choose, because the LORD your God will bless you** in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, **so that you will be altogether joyful.**

Conclusion

¹⁶ “**Three times a year all your males** shall appear before the LORD your God **at the place that he will choose:** at the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*, at the *Feast of Weeks*, and at the *Feast of Booths*. **They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed.** ¹⁷ Every man shall give as he is able, **according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.**

Summary:

- ✓ Sabbath Shape to these Feasts
- ✓ Remember Yahweh’s Deliverance from Egypt
- ✓ Yahweh will Bless Israel Richly
- ✓ Israel is Commanded to Use Yahweh’s Tribute to Rejoice Before Him 3 Times a Year

Yahweh **rescued** Israel from Egypt to bring them into the **joy** of **His** abundant harvest provision (i.e. His rest).

The Joy of the LORD’s Harvest Written on Our Hearts

...Fired at our Life & Heart

Ours is the joy of being lost and found. We are first being gathered and then we join the joyful harvest.



Colossians 2:16–17

¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a **festival** or a new moon or a **Sabbath**. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things to come, but *the substance belongs to Christ*.

We are the Eternal Harvest: (3 Feasts)

John 4:34–36 (Woman at the Well)

³⁴ Jesus said to them... ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. ³⁶ Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and **gathering fruit for eternal life**, so that sower and reaper may *rejoice together*.

How the Gospel of Jesus Writes this Law on Our Hearts:

- ✓ We See We are Lost
- ✓ We See Jesus is Our Passover Lamb

1 Corinthians 5:7–8

⁷ Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For *Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed*. ⁸ Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with *the unleavened bread* of sincerity and truth.

2 Corinthians 9:10

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase *the harvest of your righteousness*.

- ✓ We Participate in the Joy of the Harvest (Feast of Pentecost)

Mark 4:26–29

²⁶ And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and *the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how*. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

- ✓ The Final Ingathering is Before Us (Feast of Booths)