

# Hag Sukkot

## סוכות

Shabbat Tishrei 17, 5771, Sept 25, 2010

32:1-32:52 MATSATI.COM / Rightly Dividing The Word of G-d

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### Come and Receive the Living Waters of Salvation!

#### השבועות הזה קוראים / This Week's Reading

תורה: Leviticus 22:26-23:44, Num 29:12-16

הפטרה: Zech 14:1-21

הברית: John 1:1-18

החדשה

Hag Sukkot, the Festival of Booths, is a time of rejoicing before the Lord according to *Vayikra / Leviticus 23:40* 'Now on the first day you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. (NASB) We are told to rejoice for a seven day period. As a symbol of the deliverance of Yisrael from Mitzrayim (Egypt), this celebration today can be a time of rejoicing as we anticipate the return of Yeshua the Messiah and the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. The rejoicing that is commanded here in this portion of the text this week is to recognize that we have an eternal truth that in Him, in Yeshua, is the foundation of our rejoicing because of the unchanging and ever present blessings that come from being His covenant people. The basic concept of the unfailing covenant, the blessing and love of God toward His people of faith, is the meaning behind how we are given the right to become the children of God. It is by the enduring riches of His covenant (see *John 1:12-14*).

### ויקרא 23:41-44

40 בַּיּוֹם הָרִאשׁוֹן שִׁבְתוֹן וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁמִינִי שִׁבְתוֹן: וּלְקַחְתֶּם  
לָכֶם בַּיּוֹם הָרִאשׁוֹן פְּרֵי עֵץ הָדָר כַּפֹּת תְּמָרִים וְעֵנָף  
עֵץ-עֵבֶת וְעַרְבֵי-נַחַל וּשְׂמַחְתֶּם לִפְנֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם  
41 שִׁבְעַת יָמִים: וְחִגַּתֶּם אֹתוֹ חֵג לַיהוָה שִׁבְעַת יָמִים בַּשָּׁנָה  
תִּקַּת עוֹלָם לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם בְּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי תִחַגּוּ אֹתוֹ:  
42 בַּסֻּכּוֹת תִּשְׁכְּבוּ שִׁבְעַת יָמִים כָּל-הָאוֹרֶחַ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל יֹשְׁבוּ  
43 בַּסֻּכּוֹת: לְמַעַן יֵדְעוּ דֹרֹתֵיכֶם כִּי בַּסֻּכּוֹת הוֹשַׁבְתִּי אֶת-  
בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּהוֹצִיאִי אוֹתָם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם אֲנִי  
44 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: וַיְדַבֵּר מֹשֶׁה אֶת-מִצְוֵי יְהוָה אֶל-בְּנֵי  
יִשְׂרָאֵל:

#### Vayikra / Leviticus 23:41-44

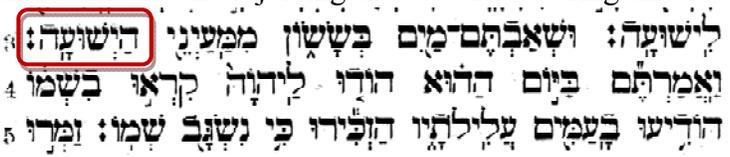
23:40 'Now on the first day you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. 23:41 'You shall thus celebrate it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. It shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 23:42 'You shall live in booths for seven days; all the native-born in Israel shall live in booths, 23:43 so that your generations may know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out from the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.' 23:44 So Moses declared to the sons of Israel the appointed times of the Lord. (NASB)

30 *John 1:12-13* says that “*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*” This verse speaks of the final and ultimate goal of the Torah that leads one to faith in Yeshua the Messiah.

35 ***John 1:12-14***  
*1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 1:13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (NASB)*

45 In addition to this, *John 1:14* points out a focus that reminds us that we are to look forward to the dwelling of the Spirit of God in our hearts. This indicates our seeing Yeshua, believing in Him, being with Him, listening to His voice, hearing His teachings, and rejoicing in His presence in our lives. The value of the relationship we now have in Yeshua prepares us spiritually for our physical presence in the world to come and Yeshua’s physical presence as we anticipate His soon return.

50 The festival of Sukkot, a harvest festival in the late fall, it was customary to thank the Lord for the produce for that year. As a result, prayers were offered up to thank God for the coming winter rains. A custom was developed during the second temple period to illustrate this time of prayer and thanksgiving where the priest would take water from the pool of Siloam and carry it back to the Temple.  
55 Crowds of people would follow behind the priest and sing the Hallel *Psalms (113-118)* as they entered the temple mount area. According to historical accounts (*Talmud, Sukka 5*) this was repeated for 7 days, each of the first 6 days the priest would circle the Altar one time. On the seventh day, there would be seven circles made around the Altar. The ceremony would end when the priest would pour the water out upon the altar. This ritual during the festival of Sukkot became known as Simcha Bet Hashoevah meaning the “Rejoicing of the House of Drawing Water.”

60 It is within the ceremony of the drawing of the water during the festival of Sukkot that we find the greatest significance for our lives today. The drawing of the water and the rejoicing that occurred during this festival is developed from a  
65  portion of scripture from the book of *Yeshayahu / Isaiah* regarding the ceremony. *Yeshayahu / Isaiah 12:3-4: 12:3 Therefore you will joyously draw water From the springs of salvation. 12:4 And in that day you will say, ‘Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples; Make them remember that His name is exalted.’ (NASB)* The scriptures say that you will draw water from the springs of salvation. Note here that the Hebrew word for salvation is “Yeshua” (יְשׁוּעָה) the name of the Messiah. The outpouring of the water upon the Altar prophetically illustrated the days of messianic redemption when the Holy Spirit is today poured out upon the hearts of the people

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80 who would place their faith in Yeshua, in God's salvation. God has built His habitation; He has tabernacled with us, in our hearts that are established under the Messiah's rule and reign. The joy and celebration of the festival of Sukkot brought the thought of salvation to the people's hearts and should bring joy to our hearts today too.

On the last day of the festival, Yeshua stood and cried out:

85 **John 7:37-43**

85 *7:37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 7:38 'He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.' 7:39 But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. 7:40 Some of the people therefore, when they heard these words, were saying, 'This certainly is the Prophet.' 7:41 Others were saying, 'This is the Christ.' Still others were saying, 'Surely the Christ is not going to come from Galilee, is He? 7:42 'Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?' 7:43 So a division occurred in the crowd because of Him. (NASB)*

100 Yeshua used the illustration of the festival and the pouring out of the water upon the altar to say that *'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 'He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'* As a result of this proclamation of Yeshua, and the nature of the ceremony that led the people to look for the coming of the Messiah, the people asked whether Yeshua is a prophet and the Christ (Messiah). Yeshua was asking the people of that time *"Do you really want the living waters of salvation? Do you really understand the significance of this ceremony? Do you desire the Holy Spirit of God?"* In light of the nature of the festival and ceremonial pouring out of the water, these statements created quite a stir in the Temple and caused a division in the crowd because of Him.

110 According to the Scriptures, Yeshua's claim that he is the promised Messiah of the Torah, Neviim, v'Ketuvim (the Law, Prophets, and Writings) is uncontested. However, the controversy the people faced in the first century concerning Yeshua is still prevalent today. When properly understood, the festival of Sukkot should lead us to believe, like many in the first century, that Yeshua is the Messiah who he claimed to be and as John wrote to be *"God dwelling in our midst"* tabernacling with us in our hearts. It is such a joy to experience the living waters of the Holy Spirit that Yeshua promised for us today. How would you respond to what Yeshua asked in that day, during this festive time of celebration, *"Do you want the living waters of salvation? Do you really understand the significance of this ceremony? Do you desire the Holy Spirit of God in your life?"* If you say yes to these questions, come say the following prayer with me.

Heavenly Father,

130 I recognize that I am unworthy of the mercy and grace that You have  
shown to me. On a daily basis I need Your strength. I know that salvation is the  
work that You do within me and not something that I am capable of achieving by  
any means. This festival of Sukkot has reminded me of my need for Your living  
waters of salvation that refresh and renew my life. Please forgive me of my sins  
135 and have mercy upon me in Yeshua's name. I believe that Yeshua's life was  
given on my behalf and I am so thankful for that. Please send me Your Holy  
Spirit to renew my mind, create in me a new heart and restore to me the joy of  
Your salvation. Please let Your Spirit become a well of living waters within my  
heart. In this festive time of rejoicing, I rejoice in You by rejoicing in Yeshua and  
140 in the wonderful way in which You have provided for my salvation. Thank You  
Lord.

I pray all of this in Yeshua's Name, Amen.

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**Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!**

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הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,

“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever