

JUST AHEAD — THE WORLD TOMORROW

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Why are we here? What is the point?

The Holy Days are “Appointed Times” ... keeping us aware of God’s Eternal Plan for the salvation of the whole world.

Autumn: We have kept Yom Teruah ... Yom Kippur ... and now into the Millennium ... and The World Tomorrow.

In this world .. most of us occasionally get bogged down in the world today. Lots of challenges ... frustrations.

A big part of the Feast is reminding us of what lies ahead. Renewing the vision every year as we go around the cycle. We enjoy the physical Feast ... hopefully giving us a little foretaste of what is to come. The key lesson is a foretaste of the world to come.

Deuteronomy 16:13-15

13 "**You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days**, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress.

14 "And **you shall rejoice in your feast**, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates.

15 "**Seven days you shall keep a sacred feast to the LORD your God** in the place which the LORD chooses, because the LORD your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, **so that you surely rejoice**.

Hebrew: Sukkot

Nehemiah 8:1-2

1 **Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel.**

2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month.

Nehemiah 8:14-18

14 And they found written in the Law, which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month, ("Booths" = Sukkot = 7 days)

15 and that they should announce and proclaim in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the mountain, and bring olive branches, branches of oil trees, myrtle branches, palm branches, and branches of leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written."

16 Then the people went out and brought them and made themselves booths, each one on the roof of his house, or in their courtyards or the courts of the house of God, and in the open square of the Water Gate and in the open square of the Gate of Ephraim.

17 So the whole assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and sat under the booths; for since the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day the children of Israel had not done so. And there was very great gladness. *(It was a festival)*

18 Also day by day, from the first day until the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day there was a sacred assembly, according to the prescribed manner.

Israel only kept the Feast "physically" and really not much more than that.

The original name for The Feast was "The Feast of Ingathering".

Exodus 23: 14-17

14 "Three times you shall keep a feast to Me in the year:

15 "You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt; none shall appear before Me empty);

16 "and the Feast of Harvest, the firstfruits of your labours which you have sown in the field; and the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you have gathered in the fruit of your labours from the field.

17 "Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord GOD

It's a Harvest Festival: the 2nd Harvest.

There are 2 harvests in God's Plan ... The Feast of Harvest (Pentecost ... the firstfruits) ... and the latter Harvest ... the Feast of Ingathering.

They foreshadow 2 spiritual harvests.

Matthew 9:35-38

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

37 **Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few.**

38 **"Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest."**

The Harvest is plentiful.

The 2nd Harvest will be huge! Hundreds of millions of people?

Today ... there are very few believers ... Satan is still "god of this age" ... deceiving people. But once Jesus is back ... with lots of His saints —Kings and Priests —a Great Harvest can get underway ... in a beautiful world that today we can only dream about.

Isaiah 32:1-4

1 **Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, (Jesus)**

And princes will rule with justice. (The resurrected saints)

2 A man will be as a hiding place from the wind,

And a cover from the tempest,

As rivers of water in a dry place,

As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

3 The eyes of those who see will not be dim,

And the ears of those who hear will listen.

4 Also the heart of the rash will understand knowledge,

And the tongue of the stammerers will be ready to speak plainly.

Isaiah 32: 12-14

12 **People shall mourn upon their breasts**

For the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine.

13 On the land of my people will come up thorns and briers,
Yes, on all the happy homes in the joyous city;

14 Because **the palaces will be forsaken,**

The bustling city will be deserted.

The forts and towers will become lairs forever,

A joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks—

A time of trouble ... until ... God's spirit is poured out:

Isaiah 32:15

15 **Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high,**

And the wilderness becomes a fruitful field,

And the fruitful field is counted as a forest.

Isaiah 32:16-18

16 **Then justice will dwell in the wilderness,**

And **righteousness remain in the fruitful field.**

17 **The work of righteousness will be peace,**

And the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

18 **My people will dwell in a peaceful habitation,**

In secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places,

Isaiah provides many beautiful word pictures of the World Tomorrow.

Isaiah 35:1-10

1 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,

And **the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;**

2 It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,

Even with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,

The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,

The excellency of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands,

And make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted,

"Be strong, do not fear!

Behold, your God will come with vengeance,

With the recompense of God;

He will come and save you."

5 Then **the eyes of the blind shall be opened,**

And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

6 Then **the lame shall leap like a deer,**

And **the tongue of the dumb sing.**

For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,
And streams in the desert.

7 **The parched ground shall become a pool,**

And **the thirsty land springs of water;**

In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,
There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

8 **A highway shall be there, and a road,**

And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.

The unclean shall not pass over it,

But it shall be for others.

Whoever walks the road, although a fool,
Shall not go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,

Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it;

It shall not be found there.

But **the redeemed shall walk there,**

10 And **the ransomed of the LORD shall return,**

And come to Zion with singing,

With everlasting joy on their heads.

They shall obtain joy and gladness,

And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A Feast of Tabernacles "Favourite". ☺

Isaiah 11:1-9

1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

The Spirit of counsel and might,

The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD,

And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes,

Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

4 But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,

And decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,

And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins,

And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

6 **"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,**

The leopard shall lie down with the young goat,

The calf and the young lion and the fatling together;

And a little child shall lead them.

7 **The cow and the bear shall graze;**

Their young ones shall lie down together;

And the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8 **The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole,**

And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den.

9 **They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,**

For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD

As the waters cover the sea.

The knowledge of the Lord blankets the earth. Think what this means!!

And people will need to be taught.

Romans 10:13-18

13 For **"whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."**

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,

Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, who has believed our report?"

17 **So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

18 But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed:

"Their sound has gone out to all the earth,
And their words to the ends of the world."

How beautiful are the feet — of those who preach glad tidings ... the way to a wonderful life.

Paul implies “how beautiful” even in this age — but even more so for the resurrected saints in the World Tomorrow.

Daniel 7:13-14, 27

13 "I was watching in the night visions,

And **behold, One like the Son of Man,**

Coming with the clouds of heaven!

He came to the Ancient of Days, (Jesus coming to The Father)

And they brought Him near before Him.

14 Then **to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,**

That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

Which shall not pass away,

And His kingdom the one

Which shall not be destroyed.

27 **Then the kingdom and dominion,**

And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,

Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.

His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

The whole world-wide system of government will change — for the better!

We'll have to teach millions — both what to “unlearn” as well as what they need to know to really experience the very best in life.

Isaiah 25:6-9

6 And in this mountain

The LORD of hosts will make for all people

A feast of choice pieces,

A feast of wines on the lees,

Of fat things full of marrow,

Of well-refined wines on the lees.

7 And **He will destroy on this mountain**

The surface of the covering cast over all people,

And the veil that is spread over all nations.

8 **He will swallow up death forever,**

And **the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces;**

The rebuke of His people

He will take away from all the earth;

For the LORD has spoken.

9 And it will be said in that day:

"Behold, this is our God;

We have waited for Him, and He will save us.

This is the LORD;

We have waited for Him;

We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

Life will be a "Feast". God will destroy the covering veil of blindness and ignorance. "The web that is woven over all the nations".

There will be a lot of experienced helpers in the World Tomorrow — including King David. God will appoint the best!

Ezekiel 34:11-13

11 'For thus says the Lord GOD: "Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.

12 "As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.

13 "And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country.

God will bring back the scattered people — the 2nd Exodus.

Ezekiel 34:23-24

23 "I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them--My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd.

24 "And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

King David resurrected.

Ezekiel 34:25-31

25 "I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.

26 "**I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing**; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; **there shall be showers of blessing.**

27 "Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase. They shall be safe in their land; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke and delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them.

28 "And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid.

29 "I will raise up for them a garden of renown, and they shall no longer be consumed with hunger in the land, nor bear the shame of the Gentiles anymore.

30 "**Thus they shall know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and they, the house of Israel, are My people,**" says the Lord GOD. ' "

31 "**You are My flock, the flock of My pasture; you are men, and I am your God,**" says the Lord GOD.

A wonderful world.

All those people who shun the Old Testament completely miss all of this! Virtually all the details of the Millennium are in the Old Testament. It's key!

Jeremiah 31:1-9

1 "**At the same time,**" says the LORD, "**I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.**"

2 Thus says the LORD:

"The people who survived the sword
Found grace in the wilderness--
Israel, when I went to give him rest."

3 The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying:

"Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love;
Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

4 **Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt,
O virgin of Israel!**

You shall again be adorned with your tambourines,
And **shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.**

5 You shall yet plant vines on the mountains of Samaria;
The planters shall plant and eat them as ordinary food.

6 For there shall be a day

When the watchmen will cry on Mount Ephraim,
'Arise, and let us go up to Zion,
To the LORD our God.' "

7 For thus says the LORD:

"Sing with gladness for Jacob,
And shout among the chief of the nations;
Proclaim, give praise, and say,
'O LORD, save Your people,
The remnant of Israel!'

8 Behold, **I will bring them from the north country,
And gather them from the ends of the earth,**

Among them the blind and the lame,
The woman with child
And the one who labours with child, together;

A great throng shall return there.

9 They shall come with weeping,
And with supplications **I will lead them.**

**I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters,
In a straight way in which they shall not stumble;**

For I am a Father to Israel,

And Ephraim is My firstborn.

Jeremiah 31:11-14

11 **For the LORD has redeemed Jacob,**

And ransomed him from the hand of one stronger than he.

12 **Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion,
Streaming to the goodness of the LORD--**

For wheat and new wine and oil,
For the young of the flock and the herd;

**Their souls shall be like a well-watered garden,
And they shall sorrow no more at all.**

13 "Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance,
And the young men and the old, together;

For **I will turn their mourning to joy,
Will comfort them,**

And make them rejoice rather than sorrow.

14 I will satiate the soul of the priests with abundance,

And My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, says the LORD."

Looks idyllic? Beautiful environment — plus all the real truth ... helped by King David — plus Abraham/Isaac/Jacob ... Elijah ... Moses ... Noah ... etc.

It sounds like a great world — music and dance — great friendships likely to last for eternity?

Zechariah 8:1-8

1 Again the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying,

2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'I am zealous for Zion with great zeal;

With great fervour I am zealous for her.'

3 "**Thus says the LORD:**

'I will return to Zion,

And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth,

The Mountain of the LORD of hosts,

The Holy Mountain.'

4 "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'Old men and old women shall again sit

in the streets of Jerusalem,

Each one with his staff in his hand

Because of great age.

5 The streets of the city

Shall be full of boys and girls

Playing in its streets.'

6 "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'If it is marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days,

Will it also be marvellous in My eyes?'

Says the LORD of hosts.

7 "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'Behold, I will save My people from the land of the east

And from the land of the west;

8 I will bring them back,

And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem.

They shall be My people

And I will be their God,

In truth and righteousness.'

Jerusalem the city of Truth. Old men and children in the street.

Micah 4:1-7

1 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days

That the mountain of the LORD's house

Shall be established on the top of the mountains,

And shall be exalted above the hills;

And peoples shall flow to it.

2 Many nations shall come and say,

"Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

To the house of the God of Jacob;

He will teach us His ways,

And we shall walk in His paths."

For out of Zion the law shall go forth,

And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

3 He shall judge between many peoples,

And rebuke strong nations afar off;

They shall beat their swords into plowshares,

And their spears into pruning hooks;

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

Neither shall they learn war anymore.

4 But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree,

And no one shall make them afraid;

For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

5 For all people walk each in the name of his god,

But **we will walk in the name of the LORD our God**

Forever and ever.

6 "In that day," says the LORD,

"I will assemble the lame,

I will gather the outcast

And those whom I have afflicted;

7 I will make the lame a remnant,

And the outcast a strong nation;

So the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion

From now on, even forever.

Many nations streaming to Jerusalem to learn!!

Jerusalem is likely to be our home city!?

The picture is of a world (or a nation ... initially) of unbelievable abundance.

Amos 9:13-15

13 "**Behold, the days are coming,**" says the LORD,

"When the plowman shall overtake the reaper,

And the treader of grapes him who sows seed;

The mountains shall drip with sweet wine,

And all the hills shall flow with it.

14 **I will bring back the captives of My people Israel;**

They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them;

They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them;

They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them.

15 I will plant them in their land,

And no longer shall they be pulled up

From the land I have given them,"

Says the LORD your God.

The plowman overtakes the reaper. The waste cities will be rebuilt.

And ... of course ... KEEP THE FEAST!!!

Zechariah 14:8-9

8 And in that day it shall be. *(The day of Jesus' return and the Kingdom set up)*

That living waters shall flow from Jerusalem,

Half of them toward the eastern sea

And half of them toward the western sea;

In both summer and winter it shall occur.

9 And **the LORD shall be King over all the earth.**

In that day it shall be--

"The LORD is one,"

And His name one.

Zechariah 14: 16-19

16 **And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.**

17 And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

18 If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain;

they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

19 **This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.**

Jehovah King over the earth. Everyone keeping The Feast! (*And the other Holy Days*)

Acts 3:19-21

19 "**Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,**

20 "and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before,

21 "**whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things,** which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

Times of refreshing! Times of restoration! Soon? I hope so!

Until then ... let's keep The Feast in anticipation!