



October 1, 2017

\* He Is Savior, Acts 4:12

## H.I.S. Ministries October 2017 Newsletter, covering September 2017

There are seven Feasts that God has set for Israel to observe each year. They are believed to have a profound prophetic meaning, expected to be revealed during these annual feasts. The fall feasts of Israel have been the “*talk of the world*” during the last few months. There has been expectation that something big might happen during these fall feasts. Let’s look at what these feasts mean and what has already been fulfilled during them!

The Feasts begin with *Passover*. (Lev. 23:5.) Exodus 12 tells the story of Israel’s liberation from Egypt. It is seen as the Feast of salvation from slavery and bondage.

God’s Calendar is a Lunar Calendar, based on phases of the moon rather than earth’s revolution around the sun. Each month the Jewish calendar month starts with a new moon, reaching the full moon in the midst of the twenty-eight day cycle. Those accustomed to the lunar calendar would be able to estimate on any clear night what day of the month it was. Sun, of course, does not change daily – we see it whole, or not at all. The Lunar calendar seems to have been God’s intention from the start. In Genesis we see that day begins at sundown or moon rise. (Gen. 1:5.) Ungodly men, amazed by the greatness of the sun, early on begun worshipping sun. Sun-worship is a leading form of paganism even today.

*Passover always falls on a full moon – the first full moon of spring.*

The Second Feast is *the Feast of Unleavened Bread*. The Third Feast is *the Feast of First Fruits*. The Fourth Feast is *the Feast of the Harvest or Pentecost*. There has been a prophetic fulfillment to these four feasts, clearly seen by those who became followers of Christ 2000 years ago and continuing. Even the sceptics had to admit that it was more than coincidental that *Jesus was crucified on Passover*, celebrated by the Jews as salvation by “*the blood of the lamb*”, commemorating freeing Jews from bondage in Egypt (Ex. 12:5-6), and the Christians from sin. The Second Feast focuses on eating unleavened bread for a week. *Leaven in the Bible is a symbol of sin.* (1 Cor. 5:7-8.) Unleavened bread Christians take as communion with Him, *represents the sinless body of Jesus.* *The Feast of First Fruits* is celebrated on the Sunday following (Lev. 23:15-17). [Non-Jews generally call this Feast *Easter*.] This was the last feast that the Lord personally fulfilled while on earth. *Pentecost is celebrated on Sunday, 50 days after the First Fruits.* The Holy Spirit came on *Pentecost, the Day of the Feast of Harvest*, (Acts. 2:1) actually *harvesting three thousand souls*, the same number that was killed on the day that the law came down from Mount Sinai. (Ex. 32:28.) They were killed because of the golden calf. “*The letter kills but the Spirit gives life.*” (2 Cor. 3:6.)

The last three feasts have not seen a fulfillment - as of yet. I am sure that you have noticed that among Christians there has been more speculations and writings about these last days of September than perhaps ever before. This is the time of *Jewish Fall Feasts*. People are looking for signs! Expectation is in the air! We do not know when, but we know that the time will come when these Feasts too will have their fulfillment - at once. We need to remember that biblical signs are for Israel, though we (gentiles) believe that we are to

pay attention to what God has done in the past with and for Israel, and what He will still do. The entire Bible is God's Word written by the Jews for the Jews (Rom. 1:16), but we are told that these *writings are for our learning as well* (Rom. 15:4). It is because through studying God's Word we have become *believers in the God of Israel and her Messiah*, and we know that He cares for us.

At the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> of September began **Rosh Hashanah, the "Feast of Trumpets"** (the Jewish New Year) that is to be celebrated till the evening of September 22nd. Expectations among Christian believers and the Jews about these fall feasts has been that *perhaps God will do something now, during this time...for trumpets are clearly associated with God's announcement of something big and miraculous* as the Rapture certainly would be ... 1 Cor. 15:51-52, **"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."** Also - 1 Thess. 4:16-17, **"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with the shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. And then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."** These are similar declarations to what was proclaimed in Joshua 6:5. Israelites first believed God and then witnessed how the huge walls of the City of Jericho fell by the sound of the trumpet, we can likewise believe and trust that the Lord can bring our loved ones, *"dead in Christ"*, up from the earth and meet the rest of us in the air... right? Yes, we can believe and expect that He will do it some day. The name of the Israel's leader at the walls of Jericho was **Joshua** – Hebrew name of our Lord Jesus, whose name **in Hebrew is Yeshua or Joshua in English**. Nothing is impossible to God.

A week after **Rosh Hashanah**, in the evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, begins **the Most Holy Day** in the Jewish Calendar, **"Yom Kippur", the Day of Atonement** (30<sup>th</sup> of September). After that, on the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> of October begins **"Sukkot", Feast of Tabernacles**, celebrated for 7 days. Each year, on **the Feast of Tabernacles**, devout Jews will build little shelters outside of their homes and worship in them. These shelters represent the Lord's shelter for His people in the world to come. Jesus celebrated this feast. (See John 7.) This feast will be an important part of kingdom worship during the Millennial. (Zach. 14:16-19.) The Lord will establish His Tabernacle in Jerusalem (Ez. 37:26-27) and the world will come every year during the thousand years to appear before the King and worship Him.

God laid out the feasts in the calendar year to also reflect, in proportion, the history of the Church. It was during **the first three feasts when the crucifixion, burial and resurrection** occurred. Matthew 27:53 relates that after the Lord's resurrection, some graves were opened and the dead rose and were seen in Jerusalem.[It may be seen as a promise of the *resurrection of the "dead in Christ"* when the Rapture will take place (1 Thess. 4:16) perhaps during **the Feast of trumpets...**] After the resurrection there was a pause of 50 days before the coming of the Holy Spirit. Since that time we have had a long pause - before the coming of the huge harvest, **the Rapture of the Church**.

**God's prophetic design is seen in these seven feasts:** Six feasts representing work of the Lord and the last one representing the rest! Biblical history describes some six thousand years, and then, in the near future, a thousand-year *rest* for the believers. These seven feasts reassure us about the coming **pre-tribulation Rapture** that could be seen as the reward for the Church at the Trumpets. Without Pre-Tribulation Rapture, the church would have to go with unbelieving Israel though the Great Tribulation.

[Note: We combined some of this information from a Jewish believer, Zola Levitt's booklet, **the Seven Feasts of Israel**. We had the pleasure and honor to meet and hear Zola teach here in Salt Lake City, at Calvary Chapel, many years ago. He was a Jew, thoroughly educated in the synagogues. In 1971 he was brought to faith in Jesus, the Messiah of Israel. He went to be with his beloved Messiah Jesus some years ago. We look forward to meeting Zola again and thanking him for his teachings – perhaps at the Rapture. ]

**Questions from a Mormon lady:** *"I have read your statements about the LDS Church. I respect your opinion, but I have a couple of questions that I hope you will answer for me. You said that Joseph Smith was practicing polygamy 10 years before he said that he had the revelation about polygamy. You also indicated that he had an affair with a young woman name Fanny Alger and that he had numerous wives who had already living husbands. Where are the sources for this information?*

*In your writing you make Joseph Smith to be a liar and deceiver. Can you explain to me why a man would hold to his beliefs that you say he had just made up, and then go through persecutions that he did? Why would he suffer like he did if it was all a lie that he himself had created, and have his children killed and that he was tarred and feathered and beaten many times. He never had any financial gain from this so-called lie. I ask: WHY? Why would he do this if what he taught was not true?*

*And why have you dedicated your life to the downfall of the Mormon church? If you do not believe in Mormonism, why don't you just walk away and be done with it? What is your motive behind this? I have been a Mormon most of my life. I know that this church is full of good people who do good works. You have obviously perked my interest and I would like to hear what you have to say to me. Thank you."*

**My reply:** You asked about Fanny Alger. She was a 14-year old girl the Smiths had taken into their home in 1831 as a "servant girl". According to the records, Joseph married her in early 1833. Joseph Smith claimed to have received a revelation on God commanding polygamy on July 12, 1843. [This date is verified in the *History of the Church*, vol. 5, pp. 500-501. This revelation is part of the Mormon scriptures in D&C, Section 132, though it now says that this revelation was "recorded" on that day, implying that he could have received it much earlier since he had plural wives at least from 1833 on.] LDS professor, Todd Compton, in his book, *"In Sacred Loneliness"*, lists 33 polygamous wives of Joseph Smith, and their life- stories. Joseph Smith married, between 1838 and 1842, eleven women who had living husbands and four other women. He married the rest of his polygamous wives (17 of them) in 1843, the year he claimed to have received the revelation on polygamy. [As you can see, he had married at least 16 women before he said God commanded polygamy.] Ages of majority of Joseph Smith's wives were from 14 to 20 years when he married them. (*"Nauvoo Polygamy"* by George Smith is also well documented book that might help you to see what polygamy really was.) Polygamy was illegal in the United States and that is why he lied about his 33 polygamous wives, even to the last month of his life. You doubted that Joseph Smith ever lied. Lies about his multiple wives alone proved that he was a habitual liar. But that was not all, for years before he started the LDS Church, he had made a living by fooling people with his "peep stone", telling for a fee, of course, where buried treasures could be found. [BTW, no treasures were ever found!] He was arrested and fined in 1826 for "practicing glass looking" or "profession of witchcraft".

*The Comprehensive History of the Church*, vol. 1, pp. 128-132, records that Joseph's "translation" of the Book of Mormon was done with this same "peep-stone" (also called a seer-stone) he had used when he was "directing treasure-hunts". He dictated the Book of Mormon to his scribes by placing his "peep stone" into his hat and "reading" his "translation" from the stone (no plates in sight). That is another proof of his lying/deception. No children of Joseph Smith were killed. The only child of his who died was a baby that was born in 1828, two years before he started his church. After that he applied for a membership in the local Methodist Church where his wife, Emma, was a member. He was rejected because of his occult practices that he was not ready to repent of.

Soon after starting his church in 1830, Joseph Smith moved his Church to Kirtland, Ohio, where, with his counselor, Sidney Rigdon, he started a "Kirtland Safety Society, an Anti-Banking Company". They even printed their own money – "Three Dollar Bill". (This may be where a saying, "as phony as a three dollar-bill" originated...) He fooled his own followers and others out of a lot of money with his "anti-banking society", and eventually he had to flee from town and declare bankruptcy.

He took his followers from there to Missouri (1836), and from there to Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1838. Former BYU professor, D. Michael Quinn, documented and wrote about Smith's life and deceptions in his book *"Mormon Hierarchy, Origin of Power"*. [His second volume, *"Mormon Hierarchy, Extension of Power"* reports what took place after Joseph Smith.] You thought he didn't get paid for his lies! Yes, he did! Joseph Smith was quite rich – more than just *well-to-do*. He never had to work – his followers even built him his Mansion in Nauvoo and his "Red-brick Store" and more. He soon declared himself to be *Lt. General*. He had his own Army, and he was parading on the streets riding on a white horse with a General's uniform. Surely you have seen these pictures in Church's books and magazines? He was even running for the President of USA. All this is recorded in *the History of the Church* and other LDS books.

You asked why I have dedicated my life to *the downfall of the Mormon Church*? I am only exposing the falsehoods of Mormonism because I was one of them and sincerely believed the lies of the Church. I know that most of Mormons are good people, who, like I was, are believing that they are following a true prophet and true gospel. They need to be informed that Mormonism is a counterfeit gospel that leads its followers to eternal destruction. (Isa. 8:20; 9:15-16.) Now that I know, I must warn others! If I didn't warn others, God would hold me responsible for keeping the truth from them. We, who have been warned, are like "watchmen on the wall" in early Israel – when they saw the danger, they were to *blow the horn and warn*. If the watchman didn't warn and people perished, God would require their blood from watchman's hands who knew better. (See Ezekiel 33:7-9.) Thus if I warn, as I am here doing, but they do not listen or pay attention, I am not held responsible for their demise any longer.

I am not asking you, or anyone, to just believe me, but what I am asking is that you check things out. Verify all that I am saying! These above mentioned books are a good starting point on facts about Mormonism, but above all you must study the Bible and compare all Mormon teachings to doctrine presented in the God's Word. Jesus prayed (John 17:17) that we'd sanctify ourselves with God's truth, assuring, "THY WORD IS TRUTH". God says, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for DOCTRINE, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (2 Tim. 3:16.) We are not to be gullible, but we must test all things, comparing each teaching against the Bible and hold onto that which is TRUTH. (1 Thess. 5:21; 1 John 4:1; 1 Tim. 4:1.) I hope this helped. I hope to hear from you again.

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Comments from another LDS: "You keep saying that Mormons do not believe in the same Jesus as the Bible teaches! Of course we do! His name is in our buildings. Our Church is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We learn the stories about Jesus, His life, His ministry, His miracles, all of it from the Bible. We believe in Him, we are saved by Him. He is our elder brother from preexistence. We lived there with Him before we came to earth. He was chosen there as the Savior to pay the penalty of Adam's transgression, and He gained us our resurrection. Eternal life is much more than resurrection. We will have eternal life through obedience to Him on a condition that we obey His commandments and fulfill our duties by following our Church leaders and doing our work for the dead who cannot save themselves without us. The LDS scriptures instruct us about the baptism for the dead, saying, "...for their salvation is necessary and essential to our salvation...without them we cannot be made perfect, neither can they without us be made perfect." (Read: D&C 128:15, 18.)

### Reply:

The reason why we say that *your Jesus is not the Jesus of Christianity* is also because your leaders have taught that Jesus of Christianity is not the Jesus of the LDS Church. [If you'd want quotes for that, I can provide them.] You said that "Jesus" taught about in Mormonism is a brother of all humankind from preexistence. However, Jesus of the Bible is God, who became a man, not a created being as we are. (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14; 8:24,58; 20:28 etc.) We need to know who God is, as taught in the Bible, to be able to come to the correct conclusion of who Jesus is. God as is taught in the Bible is a Triune God – three eternal

Persons, but One God. (Deut. 6:4; James 2:19; 1 John 5:7.) God taught in Mormonism is a former mortal man, now an exalted man, who had a god before him - and that men can also become gods. God of the Bible says that HE IS NOT A MAN, HE IS SPIRIT. (Numb. 23:19; Hosea 11:9; John 4:24.) God the Son, the Second Person of the Triune God, became a man to pay our sin-debt and give us salvation as God's Gift. (Eph. 2:8-9.) You say that we all preexisted! Really? Did we all come from heaven? Are we all spirit brothers and sisters? I don't think so. The Bible does not teach that, nor does it teach about God who is married and has many wives, and that we all were born "above", "near Kolob" to him and his wives, Jesus being the eldest and Lucifer one of the next ones...Is this not what Mormonism teaches? I'm sure you know that! But Jesus said, "Ye are from beneath: I AM from above: ye are of this world; I AM not of this world. I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I AM He (God), ye shall die in your sins." (John 8:23-24, 58; 3:13, 31.) JESUS IS GOD. Only God can forgive sins. (Mark 2:7b.) As you see, Jesus refuted that anyone except He came from heaven (above). He is the Great I AM, Eternal God, who took a form of man to die for us. (Phil. 2:5-8; John 1:1, 14.) He came to reveal God to us (John 1:18; 14:9; Col. 1:15) for God is Spirit, and no one can see God as He is. (John 1:18; 4:24; 1 John 4:12.) Jesus said that without knowing who God is, and that He, Jesus, is the One sent by the Father, we cannot have eternal life with Him. (John 17:3.) Knowing Him means having an intimate, personal relationship with Him. [Intimate friendship is a two-way relationship.] You say that you have read all about Jesus from the Bible, but do you KNOW HIM? Obviously not! We all could repeat factual stories we have read of many famous people we have never personally known. We may even talk about them as if we knew them. For example I could tell you many facts about President Trump and what he has done etc., but if you were able to ask him what he thought of me, he would say I do not know her! The same with Jesus – that you know stories about Him does not mean that He knows you! Jesus said, "Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? And in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:22-23.) ["Iniquity" is telling untruths about Jesus, who He really is.] Jesus himself warned about this type of deception (Matt. 24:4-5) and Paul sternly alerted about "another Jesus", different than Jesus who is God in the flesh, and of "another gospel" and of "another spirit" that is accompanying them *who claim to be apostles of Christ but are not.* (See 2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15.) That teaching, as Paul said, comes from Satan, who transforms himself into *an angel of light.* (Gal. 1:8-9.)

You also talk about importance of the "baptism for the dead" for the salvation of the dead and also for your own salvation. That is not biblical – not even close. Mormons quote 1 Cor. 15:29 where Paul asked a question *WHY some ("they") were doing baptisms for the dead while they don't even believe in resurrection* (the gospel he taught, 15:1-4)! Paul didn't do baptisms for the dead, nor did any other apostle or teacher of the Gospel of God baptize for the dead! Paul had already taught that baptism is not part of the salvation message, though we are to be baptized. He said, "Christ sent me NOT to baptize but to preach the gospel; not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the Cross is to them who perish foolishness, but unto us which are the saved it is the power of God." (1 Cor. 1:18-18.) The message of salvation is for the living – there is no second chance after death! "As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." (Hebr. 9:27.) "Today is the day of salvation", is the message of the Bible for the living. After death comes judgment. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast". (Eph. 2:8-9.)

If you have further questions or want to talk more about this, just let me know and I'll be glad to continue.

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We are happy that our Calvary Chapel has their worship Services *live on line* so that even if we have not lately been able to go often, we can still be part of our church-home. We also meet weekly with *our believing friends*, having a fellowship in person with them, in addition to our ministry work with those whom we hope will soon also join the family of God.

We want to thank you, our dear friends, for your faithful support and prayers in our behalf. We can “feel” the prayers in that we both have been pretty well, and my cancer-surgery is healing as expected. I still go regularly to see my surgeon and he too has been pleased of my healing. Other than going to see my doctor, I have stayed pretty much at home by my computer, answering emails and phone-calls and writing. We both love our ministry work.

Our finances are not great, but still good enough. We are not “in red”, even though our medical expenses have been higher than normal. We thank the Lord who has blessed Dennis with much work, and his heart-health has been good. He went to see our Primary Care Doctor a few days ago about his heart medicine prescriptions since he has not had a cardiologist since July. Our PC doctor said that they have a good cardiologist at the same Medical Clinic by the St. Mark’s Hospital, and he does not need to look for another. That was a relief for him to have both doctors at the same place.

We are asking that you’d pray with us for our old friends needing comfort that comes from knowing that we all are praying for them. They too say that they can “feel” the prayers, and that there is a spiritual well-being when they know that there are so many asking the Lord to bless them. Especially those friends who have lost their spouses during the last 2-3 years, say that they feel comforted knowing that we care. They say that our prayers make them feel more deeply the presence of the Lord, though they know that they are in-dwelled by the Holy Spirit. We ask that you pray for Judy, Aira, Patty, Suzi, Don, Max, Jamie, Marlene, Merridy, Kathy, Tom, Dave, David, Al, Sandy, Cynthia, Scott, Andrea, Zak, Hunter, Bruce and Heber.



We received this bouquet of “nonfading” flowers and angels from our dear former-Mormon friend who is in Prison. He made them for us to thank us for what we have done for him, and sent to him when he was having a hard time coming out of Mormonism into the true faith in Jesus Christ of the Bible. He says that regardless of where he is now, he is blessed by the Lord, and that he knows that there is a purpose in his life. He is witnessing there to many, including Mormons, JW’s and Muslims.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, till we meet again.

In His service,

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**Please pray for our country and President that he and his Cabinet will be blessed with God’s wisdom to guide them.**

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