



A Torah Study Guide  
for the Young  
& Young at Heart

PARASHAT V'ZOT  
HABERACHAH

פרשת  
זאת הברכה

by  
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& his kids

Deuteronomy 33-34

Note to the adult teacher: It will be necessary for you to give the scriptural context and background for each of the points listed below.

### Great Discoveries in This Week's Parashah (Torah Portion)

- 33:1 Moses Gives Israel and Each Tribe a Patriarchal Blessing
- 33:25 Moses Gives a Final Blessing to All Israel
- 34:1 The Death of Moses
- 34:10 Moses: a Unique Prophet in Israel Before Elohim

### Exploring This Week's Parashah:

We're going to do something a little different again this week. Since the fall feast days are upon us, we are presenting to you a brief teaching on each of these special biblical holidays. Though this subject does not directly relate to this week's Parashah, it specifically relates to the season of the year in which we find ourselves. Today we will discuss the Feast of Tabernacles (Chag Sukkot) and the Eighth Day (Shemini Atzeret).



#### 1 An Overview of the Feast of Tabernacles/ Sukkot and The Eighth Day/Shemini Atzeret

Sukkot occurs in the early fall of the year after the autumn harvest has been gathered in, and is the sixth of seven yearly biblical holidays YHVH instructs his people to observe. Sukkot points to the fact that many people will be saved or "harvested" into YHVH's kingdom at the end of the age to become his spiritual sons and daughters.

This festival is a time of great rejoicing and merriment and is often referred to simply as "the Feast." YHVH tells his people to celebrate it for seven days (Leviticus 23:34-43). It is a picture of the 1000-year reign of King Yeshua on earth (called the Messianic Age or Millennium) from his headquarters in



Jerusalem. This will be literally a time of paradise on earth!

Shemini Atzeret or the Eighth Day is the seventh and final biblical holiday or appointed time (Hebrew: moed, plural: moedim) of YHVH and occurs the very next day after the final or seventh day of Sukkot.

Eight is the biblical number of new beginnings and this appointed time pictures what will occur after the Messianic Age or Millennium and after man's 7000 years on this earth is complete. It is at this time that eternity in YHVH's spiritual kingdom occurs. This is the time of the New Heaven and the New Earth, and the time when New Jerusalem comes down from heaven. We find this time period described in Revelation 21 and 22. This is the beginning of eternity or forever for the spiritual children of YHVH Elohim.



Scripture does not give many details about eternity, but just enough to whet our appetites and inspire our hopes to press onward to be overcomers in Yeshua so that we will be worthy to be a part of his glorious and everlasting kingdom.

This will literally be a time of heaven on earth and will last forever and ever with YHVH Elohim and his glorified spiritual children living in perfect harmony and love together.

### Meaning of the Word "Sukkot"

The word "sukkot" (plural of "sukkah") is a Hebrew word meaning "tabernacles, booths, or any tent-like temporary dwelling." The tabernacle or mishkan that YHVH commanded Moses to construct in the wilderness was a sukkah—literally, a portable tent or home for YHVH's Presence on earth. In fact, the time period of the Feast of Tabernacles is when Israel began constructing the mishkan or tabernacle. You see, Moses received the second stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments of YHVH on the holiday of Yom Teruah, and it was immediately after this that the Torah records that the Israelites began building the tabernacle. Yom Teruah falls just 15 days before the first day of Sukkot.

## 2 How Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret Fit Into YHVH's Plan of Salvation

Let's do a quick review of YHVH's seven yearly feasts, which are steps in YHVH's plan of salvation that each person must take if they are to receive YHVH's free gift of salvation and to live forever in his kingdom. This quick review will help us to understand how Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret fit into this beautiful plan.

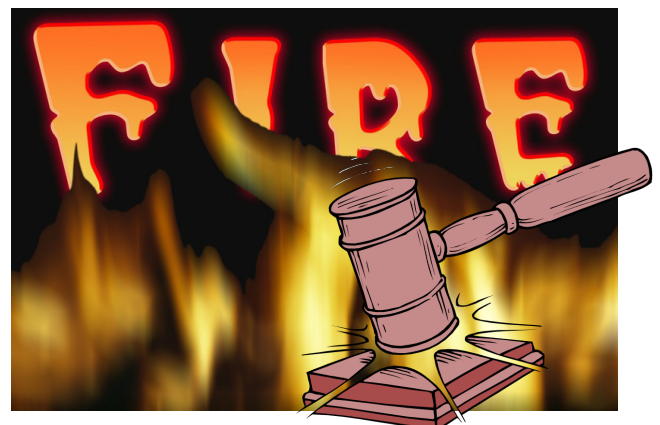
1. Passover occurs in the spring of the year when the leaves are sprouting on the trees, hibernating animals are waking up, the flowers are beginning to bloom and the birds are building their nests. The earth is coming back to life after a long, cold and gray winter. Passover is when YHVH delivered the children of Israel from slavery to Egypt by the blood of the lamb they put on the door posts of their homes. Spiritually, Passover pictures YHVH saving us from slavery to this world by the death of Yeshua, the Lamb of Elohim, on the cross.
2. The seven-day-long Feast of Unleavened Bread occurs immediately after Passover. On the first day of this feast, the Israelites left Egypt and ate unleavened bread. They also crossed through the Red Sea on day seven of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Spiritually, this feast pictures the redeemed believer in Yeshua leaving the world (spiritual Egypt) to follow Yeshua. After coming out of Egypt, the believer must be baptized, which pic-

tures the washing away of their sins, and they must put leaven out of their homes and eat unleavened bread for seven days. In the Bible, leaven is a picture of sin, and putting leaven out of our homes is a picture of putting sin out of our lives.

3. Next, 50 days later is the Feast of Weeks, Pentecost (Greek: Count 50) or Shavuot (Hebrew: Weeks). It was on this day that YHVH gave the Israelites the Torah (his laws or instructions in righteousness) at Mount Sinai. In the Book of Acts, the early followers of Yeshua received the Spirit of Elohim on this day and the Torah was written on their hearts. For us, this pictures the fact that after we get saved, we need YHVH's Torah instructions to show us how to walk righteously, and we need the gift of YHVH's Spirit to write his laws on our hearts and to help us to obey his Torah-word.
4. After the summer months pass come YHVH fall moedim or appointed times. The Day of Shofar Blowing or Yom Teruah is the first of these biblical moedim and occurs in September. This day pictures the regathering of Israel and the resurrection of the righteous dead just prior to the second coming of Yeshua the Messiah. The day also marks the beginning of the time period called the "wrath of Elohim" when YHVH will begin to judge the earth for its wickedness.
5. The fifth moed of YHVH is called the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur. This is a day of "afflicting our souls" or fasting (not eating) any food. This is a day to seek YHVH, to repent of our sins, and to worship him. This pictures when the saints as the spiritual bride of King Yeshua the Messiah are preparing to marry him spiritually and are getting ready for this awesome occasion. On this day, Yeshua, accompanied by his bride, will return from heaven to this earth to destroy his enemies, and to establish his kingdom on this earth.
6. The sixth moed is the Feast of Tabernacles or Sukkot. After Yeshua has returned to this earth, he will establish his kingdom here. The saints will rule with him as kings and priests teaching the physical people on this earth the ways of YHVH for 1000 years.
7. After the millennium will be the final judgment of YHVH. The righteous will be given a forever place in the New Jerusalem in the New Heaven and the New Earth, while the wicked will be cast into the lake of fire to be destroyed. This time is represented by the final moed, which is called "The Eighth Day" or "Shemini Atzeret." This appointed time literally foreshadows the time when the redeemed believer will live forever in YHVH spiritual kingdom.

These are YHVH's seven biblical holidays or appointed times, which represent the seven steps in YHVH plan of salvation or redemption. Learn about them and live them out, for understanding them is the key to deeply understanding the mysteries of the Bible.

## Feast of Tabernacles



The wicked will be cast into the Lake of Fire.


### 3 The Weekly Seventh Day Sabbath: A Picture of the Millennium

The seventh day Sabbath that YHVH's people keep each week is a mini-picture of the Millennium. How is that? The Bible prophetically implies, and the Jewish sages understand that as men do their own work for six days and then rest on the seventh day Sabbath to focus their attention on YHVH, so men will be on this earth for six thousand years doing his own thing, but during the seventh thousand-year period (the one-thousand-year-long Millennium) men will be learning to worship and serve YHVH.



The Sabbath pictures the Millennium.

### 4 What Will Life on Earth Be Like During the Millennium?


 (a) Explore the following scriptures and make a list what it says the Millennium will be like:

- Isaiah 2:2-4; 4:2-6; 9:5-7; 11:1-16; 25:8; 35:5-10; 40:5; 60:1-22; 51:3; 65:17-25
- Jeremiah 31:31-33; 50:20
- Ezekiel 36:29-30; 37:215-28; 47:1
- Hosea 2:18-19
- Amos 9:11-15
- Micah 4:1-2
- Zephaniah 3:9
- Zechariah 2:1-4; 9:10; 14:4-9, 16-19
- Malachi 4:3
- Revelation 20:6; 5:10





### 5 All Will Keep the Feast of Tabernacles

During the Millennium, all men will keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

 (b) The biblical prophets of old speak about this time in Ezekiel 45:25 and 46:9,11. According to Zechariah 14:16-19, who will keep the Feast, and what will happen to those who refuse to go to Jerusalem?

### 6 Sukkot Is a Rehearsal of the Millennium

When we leave our homes and take time off from work, and school and go the place where YHVH has chosen to place his name to celebrate Sukkot (Deuteronomy 12:18,21; 14:23), we are walking out a prophetic shadow-picture of the Millennium. During Sukkot, we leave the world for seven days and focus our attention on YHVH.

-  (c) According to YHVH's Word, how are we to prepare for the Feast? (Read Deuteronomy 12:17-21; 14:23-26.) After we prepare, how are we to enjoy the Feast? This is a small picture of what the Millennium will be like and is a time of rejoicing.
-  (d) What strange custom does YHVH command his people to do at the Feast? (See Leviticus 23:40.)

## 7 The Sukkah Is at the Center of the Sukkot Celebration

In Leviticus 23:33-43, YHVH gave instructions to the Israelites concerning celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles. A main thing to do at this Feast was to build a sukkah or tabernacle, temporary dwellings to live in.

You shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths/sukkot: that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths/sukkot, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am YHVH your Elohim. (Leviticus 23:42-43)

The Hebrew word "sukkah" (Strong's H5521) means "tabernacle, booth, pavilion, cottage, tent, a rude or temporary shelter." Typically the temporary booth was constructed of tree limbs as noted in Leviticus 23:40,

And you shall take you on the first day [of the Feast of Tabernacles] the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before YHVH your Elohim seven days.

The sukkah, a flimsy, tent-like dwelling, is a poetic picture of the frailty of man's physical life, for the physical body of man is nothing more than a "temporary dwelling" in which mortal man lives (see 2 Corinthians 5:1-6) until physical death occurs followed by the resurrection of the saints into eternal life.



## 8 Sukkot Is a Picture of YHVH Tabernacled With His People

YHVH desires to live among his people because he loves them. He wants to be a Father to them, and he wants his children to love him. This is why he had the children of Israel build him a tent or tabernacle for his Presence to live in (read Exodus 25:8). This was the Tabernacle of Moses.

In fact, Yeshua's first coming was YHVH sukkah-ing with his people, for we see that Yeshua is none other than YHVH of old in flesh-form who led the Children of Israel in the wilderness (see 1 Corinthians 10:1-4) while sukkah-ing with them.

 (e) What does John 1:14 say about this?

The word "dwelt" (Strong's G4637) in John 1:14 literally means "to tent or tabernacle, i.e., to sukkah." Yeshua was Emmanuel, or El (Elohim) with us, (Matthew 1:23), that is, El tabernacling with us. To emphasize this point, Scripture tells us that Yeshua was given a human body (Philippians 2:7), or sukkah, and was literally born in a sukkah (or "manger") during the Feast of Sukkot. Then, to top off this wonderful spiritual picture, in the future, the set-apart city of New Jerusalem will descend to this earth (like a sukkah over the people of YHVH) after the conclusion of the Millennium. Revelation 21:3 says, "Behold, the tabernacle/sukkah [Strong's G4633, literally "sukkah"] of Elohim is with men and he shall dwell/sukkah [Strong's G4637] with them and they shall be his people, and Elohim himself shall be with them, and be their Elohim" (see also Revelation 7:15). The word "dwell" in verse three is the



same word used in John 1:14 to describe Yeshua's coming to this earth in flesh form to live or dwell among men.

### A Summary of Tabernacles or Sukkot Mentioned in the Bible

- ☞ Yeshua tabernacled (sukkah-ed) among his people (John 1:14) and he was the true (spiritual) tabernacle (Hebrews 9:11).
- ☞ Scripture likens our physical bodies to a physical sukkah (2 Corinthians 5:1-5; 2 Peter 1:13-14).
- ☞ The tabernacle of Moses in the wilderness is called the "Tent of Habitation" (Acts 7:44; Hebrews 9:2-8).
- ☞ The Patriarchs lived in tents (tabernacles, Hebrews 11:8-9).
- ☞ Scripture speaks of a heavenly tabernacle (Hebrews 8:1-2; Revelation 13:6; 15:5). This tabernacle will come down to earth (Revelation 21:1-3).
- ☞ When the children of Israel left Egypt they lived in tents or sukkahs (plural: sukkot) on their way to the Promised Land. This was to emphasize the fact that while the saints of the Most High live on this earth they are pilgrims and sojourners, and though they are **in** the world they are **not** to be **of** the world (John 17:11 and 14). They are merely passing through this world on their way to a heavenly kingdom.



## 9 The Fall Harvest Season and a Spiritual Harvest

The time period between the fall holidays or appointed times (moedim) of Yom Teruah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot occurs at the time of the fall harvest in the land of Israel. The Feast of Sukkot is also called the Feast of Ingathering (Exodus 23:16) and is literally a harvest festival where the celebrants are rejoicing over a successful and fruitful fall harvest. It marks the final ingathering or harvesting of the year's produce.

In the prophetic sense, this harvest pictures the spiritual harvest to occur at the end of this age—a harvest of people into the kingdom of Elohim, just before the second coming of Yeshua the Messiah. The Book of Revelation in several places speaks of this great harvest. There we read about the 144,000 people from all the tribes of Israel as well as a great and innumerable multitude who have been saved out of the great tribulation period just prior to the return of the Messiah (Revelation 14:1-5; 7:4, 9-17). Furthermore, during the Messianic Age or Millennium, physical humans will inhabit the earth and will be having children. Many will be brought into the family of YHVH through Yeshua at this time. This is part of the great end-times spiritual harvest!



## 10 Shemini Atzeret: The Eighth Day

As already noted above, Shemini Atzeret is a one-day moed or set-apart day occurring directly after Sukkot (the Feast of Tabernacles) on the twenty-second day of the seventh month of the

biblical calendar. It is a solemn assembly when YHVH expects his people to gather together for religious instruction. It is also a high Sabbath day when no work is allowed.

The Eighth Day is the seventh of YHVH's seven yearly set-apart appointed times, yet it falls on the eighth day after the beginning of Sukkot, hence, its name. In the Bible, seven is the number of perfection or completion, while eight is the number of new beginnings or eternity. Therefore, the Eighth Day is a prophetic shadow picture of the period of time that marks the conclusion of the one-thousand-year-long Millennium and of man's seven thousand years on this earth (of which the seven-day week and the seven days of creation in Genesis 1 are a pattern).



The Millennium:  
the earth celebrates Yeshua!

Shemini Atzeret is a prophetic picture of YHVH's eternal kingdom that lasts forever. Scripture teaches that only those who have accepted Yeshua as their Master and Savior, have died physically and have been resurrected with glorified spiritual bodies will be in this spiritual kingdom. We find this time period described in Revelation chapters 21 and 22 where Scripture gives us a description of the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven to a new and recreated earth.

Shemini Atzeret marks the beginning of eternity or forever. What will life in YHVH's forever kingdom be like?

 (e) the following Scriptures and make a list of what that time will be like.

- Revelation 21:1
- Revelation 21:2
- Isaiah 60:19-20; Revelation 21:23
- Revelation 21:16
- Revelation 22:1
- Revelation 22:2
- Revelation 21:22
- Revelation 21:21
- Revelation 21:12



After the Millennium:  
the New Jerusalem in the new heaven  
on new earth forever and ever!.

Please note that the city walls of the New Jerusalem contain twelve gates named after the twelve tribes of Israel. (There is no Gentile gate!) Only redeemed Israelites will be allowed to enter into the New Jerusalem.

All men and women, boys and girls who have repented of their sins, put their trusting faith in Yeshua the Messiah, and have been redeemed or saved by Yeshua's blood shed at the cross, and who continue to love and obey him are Israelites (Ephesians 2:11-19; Galatians 3:8-9, 28-29) and will live forever in the New Jerusalem.



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Biblical Holidays  
 Blessing  
 Calendar  
 Chag Sukkot  
 Dwell  
 Eighth Day  
 Eternal Kingdom  
 Eternity

Everlasting Covenant  
 First Resurrection  
 Free Will Offerings  
 Harvest  
 Heaven  
 House of Israel  
 House of Judah  
 Living Waters

Millennium  
 Moed  
 New Earth  
 New Jerusalem  
 New Wine  
 Palm Branches  
 Promised Land  
 Pure Gold Streets

Rejoice  
 Seven Days  
 Shemini Atzeret  
 Tabernacles  
 Thousand Years  
 Twelve Gates  
 Yom Kippur  
 Yom Teruah