

JEWISH FEASTS & HOLIDAYS

by Tara Kieschnick, Zealous Magazine Managing Editor

"These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times...and these feasts will be a statute to you forever..." Leviticus 23:4, 41

When the children of Israel were delivered out of Egyptian slavery, God instituted special feasts, or "appointed times" throughout the agricultural year to celebrate, remember, repent, and give thanks. The Jewish calendar is based on these feasts which are set on a lunar cycle. It was well established by the time of the Babylonian captivity, and predates by centuries the universally-accepted solar-based Gregorian (or civil) calendar finalized in the 1500s. Because the Jewish calendar is "shorter" in days than the Gregorian, the feast dates change from year to year on commonly used western calendars.

There are seven "appointed feasts" mentioned in the Torah. The first are in the autumn, referred to as the High Holidays, and include the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh HaShana), Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and Feast of Booths (Sukkot). The spring begins with Passover (including the Feast of Unleavened Bread and First Fruits) and ends with the Feast of Weeks (or Pentecost). The Lord also set aside the seventh day, or Sabbath, of each week as a holy, designated day of rest. Over the years, other minor religious holidays were added to commemorate important events in the Jewish calendar such as Purim in early spring, Tisha B'Av in the summer, Simchat Torah in the fall, and Hanukkah in the winter.

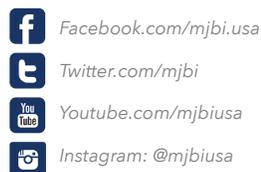
In addition, since the 1948 rebirth of the modern State of Israel, several secular commemorations have been added to the Israeli calendar. These include Memorial Day, Holocaust Remembrance Day, Jerusalem Day, and Independence Day.

The Jewish feasts are ripe with prophetic meaning and fulfillment by Yeshua. Further study and/or observance of these "forever statutes" can bring great dimension and abundant life to a "grafted in" believer. Feel free to cut this page out for future reference, and for more information on the scriptural basis, traditions, and recipes pertaining to the Jewish Feasts, please go to our website: mjbi.org/info and select "Jewish Holidays."

CHAG SAMEACH—HAPPY HOLIDAYS—FROM THE STAFF OF MJBI!



MJBI.ORG
usaoffice@mjbi.org
(817) 864-9300



HOLIDAY	DATES	DESCRIPTION
Rosh HaShana	October 3, 2016 TISHRI 1	"Head of the Year" or "Feast of Trumpets" –Jewish New Year.
Yom Kippur	October 12, 2016 TISHRI 10	"Day of Atonement"—holiest day in Jewish calendar—fasting day of self-searching, repentance, and restitution.
Sukkot	October 17-23, 2016 TISHRI 15-21	"Feast of Tabernacles" (or "Booths")—harvest festival commemorating the period of wandering in the wilderness.
Simchat Torah	October 25, 2016 TISHRI 23	"Rejoicing in the Law"—celebrates the completion and beginning of the yearly Torah reading cycle.
Hanukkah	Dec. 25-Jan. 1, 2017 KISLAV 25-TEVET 3	"Festival of Lights" or "Dedication"—celebrates the miracle of the oil during the Maccabees' victory over Greek defilement of the Temple.
Purim	March 12, 2017 ADAR 14	"Lots"—celebration and remembrance of God's deliverance of His people through Queen Esther and Mordechai over the evil Haman during the Babylonian captivity.
Pesach	April 11-18, 2017 NISAN 14-21	"Passover"—celebration of exodus from Egypt and Yeshua's sacrifice and resurrection; also known as "Feast of Unleavened Bread" and "First Fruits."
Days of the Omer	April 11-May 30, 2017	Begins 7 weeks from the second night of Pesach to the night before Shavuot.
Shavuot	May 31, 2017 SIVAN 6	"Feast of Weeks" (Pentecost)—commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai as well as the giving of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2.
Tish'a B'Av	August 1, 2017 AV 9	"The Ninth of Av" fast day—commemorates the destruction of the two Temples in Jerusalem.

Visit MJBI.org for more info!

