

THE THREE HARVEST FEASTS

of

Exodus 23:14-19; Lev. 23

The Feasts, No. 2

September 22, 1959

Subject: PENTECOST and the WAVE-LOAF ceremony

Aim to show: The 144,000 are the antitypical WAVE-LOAVES.

They are to be waved at the END of the first fruit harvest on the day of the antitypical PENTECOST.

The sealing is over when the winds are let loose. The harvest (judgment) for the 144,000 is after the sealing (2SR 220) and after the wave-sheaf is offered.

They are, therefore, the "first increment" of the harvest, (WHR 33) the first to be "added" to the wave-sheaf (PP 539:4).

Likewise, they are the first contingent of commandos for Christ THE BRANCH (WHR 61) in the great harvest - Loud Cry of the Third Angel's Message.

Gem thought: "As the wave-sheaf and the WAVE-LOAVES are typical, then also the Feast of Tabernacles must be typical." 3Tr 81:2.

"...the PENTECOST after the resurrection was for the ingathering of those who were to die, there must, correspondingly, be a PENTECOST for the ingathering of those who are to be translated. And by the same token of logic, the WAVE-SHEAF and the WAVE-LOAVES must have a double application, each to the dead and to the LIVING, together comprising the total fruits of the antitypical harvest.

"The apostolic Pentecost in providing the power for the ingathering of second fruits up to the beginning of the judgment of those who are now dead, FORE-TOKENED the FINAL PENTECOST, which is YET FUTURE, and which is to bring the power for the ingathering of the second fruits of the LIVING, those who shall never die." 3Tr. 82-3.

"By prayer and confession of sin we MUST CLEAR the King's highway. As we DO this, the POWER of the SPIRIT will come to us. We need the PENTECOSTAL energy. THIS will come; for the Lord has promised to send HIS SPIRIT as the all-conquering power." 8T 297-8.

Introduction:

Many today are clamoring for this great gift of the Spirit without meeting the conditions. One marvels at the presumption of these so-called pious ones who think God will fill their souls with His SPIRIT without their first clearing the King's highway by crucifying self, putting away sin, and in deep humiliation accepting Christ's Righteousness (Branch message) instead of their own private theories - self-righteousness (Isa. 4:1).

"The angel (Rev. 18:1) who unites in the proclamation of the third angel's message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-side extent and unwonted power is here foretold...

"The work will be similar to that of the Day of PENTECOST." G.C. 611

"...A spirit of intercession was seen, even as was manifested before the great day of PENTECOST..." 9T 126.

Inspiration declares:

1. The Spirit will come when the way is cleared by putting away sin.
2. The angel of Rev. 18:1 unites with the third angel's message to lighten the earth with his glory.
3. The believers have a spirit of intercession similar to the one before the Day of Apostolic Pentecost.

Notice: "Both the wave-sheaf and the WAVE-LOAVES were thank offerings for the FIRST fruits. One was dedicated at the BEGINNING of the harvest; the other at the COMPLETION of it. In contrast to the wave-sheaf of cut stalks of grain, prefiguring fruits to be gathered after the sheaf was offered, the WAVE-LOAVES, being a finished product, signified fruits previously gathered." 3Tr 78:1.

"This system of worship, therefore, is truly the Righteousness by faith that brings the righteousness of Christ in the people of God..." 1TG 37:24.

"Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city." Isa. 52:1.

"When THIS GOSPEL shall be presented in its fullness to the Jews, many will accept Christ as the Messiah." G.W. 398.

"History, commandments, prophecy, statutes...store it in your mind, and study it at your leisure. Yes, be convinced of the TRUTH which I have tried to present to you, for IT is your LIFE, your PROSPERITY, your HEALTH and HAPPINESS, your ETERNITY." 2tg 37:25.

"The principles taught in the schools of the prophets were the same that molded David's character and shaped his life. The word of God was his instructor. 'Through Thy PRECEPTS,'

he said, 'I get understanding...I have inclined mine heart to perform Thy STATUTES.' It was this that caused the Lord to pronounce David, when in his youth He called him to the throne, 'a man after Mine own heart.'" Ed. 48.

"In the records of sacred HISTORY were traced the footsteps of Jehovah. The great truths set forth by the TYPES in the service of the sanctuary were brought to view, and faith grasped the central object of all that system, -the Lamb of God, that was to take away the sin of the world." Ed 47.

History, commandments, and prophecy, plus the statutes and judgments are the addition to the third message and will join it as it swells to the Loud Cry. This is the loud cry message - the Righteousness of Christ. (E.W. 277).

Therefore, "Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord God." ex. 23:1.

1. "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's Passover." Lev. 23:5.
2. "Ye shall bring out of your habitations two WAVE-LOAVES of TWO tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the FIRST FRUITS unto the Lord." Lev. 23:17.
3. "...The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the Lord." Lev. 23:34.

"Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety." Lev. 25:18.

Besides the yearly feasts which are in reality statutes forever throughout the generations of Israel, there is a yearly fast - Atonement. The Lord says that in the Kingdom He will put His Spirit within His people and cause them to walk in His statutes and judgments and do them (Eze. 36:27). Since the statutes are so important in the Kingdom, it is likewise important that we keep them now.

Feast of Pentecost and WAVE-LOAF Ceremony

1. The Pentecost:

"And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks, unto the Lord thy God with a tribute of a free-will offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto the Lord thy God, according as the Lord thy God hath blessed thee...in the place which the Lord thy God hath chosen to place his name there. And thou remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt; and thou shalt observe and do these statutes." Deut. 16:10-13.

"...Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the word of God. Hearts were convicted by the power of the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest..."

"Yet some refused to be converted. They were not willing to walk in God's way, and when, in order that the work of God might be advanced, calls were made for free-will offerings, some clung selfishly to their earthly possessions. These covetous ones became separated from the company of believers." 9T 126.

"The first half of the prayer Jesus has taught us, is in regard to the NAME and KINGDOM and WILL of God, - that HIS (new) NAME may be honored, HIS KINGDOM established, His WILL performed." M.B. 162.

"The people were surrounded by fierce, warlike tribes, that were eager to sieze upon their lands; yet three times a year all the able-bodied men, and all the people who could make the journey, were directed to leave their homes, and repair to the place of assembly, near the center of the land. What was to hinder their enemies from sweeping down upon those unprotected households, to lay them waste with fire and sword? What was to prevent an invasion of the land, that would bring Israel into captivity to some foreign foe? - God had promised to be the protector of His people 'The angel of Jehovah encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.' While the Israelites went up to worship, divine power would place a restraint upon their enemies. God's promise was, 'I will cast out the nations before thee, and enlarge thy borders; neither shall any man desire thy land, when thou shalt go up to appear before the Lord thy God thrice in the year'." P.P. 537.

'Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land in safety.'" Lev 25:18.

"This Scripture (Joel 2:23, 28, 29) shows, moreover, that the manifestation of that Spirit in the second Pentecost, is to be much greater than the former, that in comparison the former was but a sample." 2TG 19:10 (G.C. 611).

SUMMARY: In the statements above Inspiration points out:

1. Israel was commanded to keep the feast of weeks (Pentecost) with a tribute of free-will offering, according as the Lord had blessed.
2. They were to observe it in the place where God had chosen to place His name.
3. His name is to be placed - Hallowed, in the Kingdom. Matt. 6:9, 10.
4. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families as doors were thrown open.

Hearts were converted by the power of the Holy Spirit.

5. Some refused to be converted and walk in God's ways. They held onto their earthly possessions and their selfishness separated them from God.
6. God's restraining power protected Israel on their feast days against aggression of the heathen nations round about them.

7. Through their keeping the feasts, God's people were promised safety. (Lev. 25:18)
8. In the second Pentecost the Spirit's power is to be much greater. The first Pentecost is only a sample.

II. The WAVE-LOAF Ceremony (Lev. 23:16, 17).

"Here we are commanded the observance of THREE harvest rites: (1) the ceremony of the WAVE-SHEAF, at the beginning of the first harvest; (2) the ceremony of the WAVE-LOAVES, at the CLOSE of the first fruit harvest; and (3) the feast of tabernacles, at the close of the second harvest. Being TYPICAL, these two grain harvests (judgments, 2TG 42:31) with their three LITERAL sacraments, accordingly foreshadow two soul harvests (2TG 44:33) with three spiritual rites, the first of which is the FIRST FRUITS with WAVE-SHEAF and WAVE-LOAVES." 3Tr 76.

"...In contrast to the WAVE-SHEAF of cut stalks of grain, prefiguring fruits to be fathered AFTER the SHEAF was offered, the WAVE-LOAVES, being a finished product, signified fruits previously gathered." 3Tr 78.

"Here you see that the announcement of this long-expected event is to be made by SOMEONE'S publications. Moreover, he publishes peace and thus announces the RESTORATION of the KINGDOM. This is ONLY peace that the world can have. There is to be NO other. Those who keep God's solemn 'FEASTS' and PERFORM their VOWS shall have this peace. None OTHERS shall." 2TG 42:41.

"...The CEREMONIES of the FIRST and SECOND fruits of the grain MUST accordingly UNFOLD the TRUTH concerning the FIRST and SECOND fruits of humanity." 3Tr 75:2.

"Just as Christ arose on the very day the SHEAF was to be offered, likewise the Holy Spirit fell upon the 120 disciples on the very day the WAVE-LOAVES were to be presented before the Lord. The apostolic Pentecost was accordingly the prototype of the ceremonial Pentecost (the day the WAVE-LOAVES were offered). And since the WAVE-SHEAF was a figure of Christ and of those who arose with Him as the first of the first fruits of the dead, hence the WAVE-LOAVES were a figure of the 120 Spirit-filled disciples who were the full complement of first fruits of the dead and who were gathered in after the resurrection." 4Tr 80.

"...as ones raised from the dead, they are the first fruits of the dead, whereas as ones ever living before the Father, they are (a type of: 3Tr 79:2; 81:1; 83:0; Lev. of DSDA 3:2) the living wave-sheaf of the first fruits of the living, the 144,000 servants of God, who sequentially precede The Second Fruits and the Feast of Tabernacles." 3Tr 80.

"...those who arose with Christ...became a living TYPE..." 3Tr 79:2.

"...the wave-sheaf and WAVE-LOAVES are TYPICAL..." 3Tr 81.

"...the wave-sheaf and the WAVE-LOAVES must have a DOUBLE application, each to the dead and to the living." 3Tr 83.

"...it (DSDA Association) purports itself to be the FIRST of the first fruits (WAVE-SHEAF) of the living." The Leviticus of DSDA 3:2 (Ex. 23:19).

"Being of cut stalks of grain the wave-sheaf signifies fruits to be harvested. And as the SHEAF was to be offered before the sickles was put to the grain and gathered into sheaves, it obviously pointed forward to a spiritual harvest of first fruits to be gathered." 3Tr 76:2.

"...Not until this ceremony had been performed was the harvest to be gathered." PP 539:4.

"It is evident by this Scripture that this glorious church is to be established at the close of this world's history when the earthly kingdoms shall come to their end. While interpreting Zechariah's vision, the angel spoke of Zerubbabel, saying: 'The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands also shall finish it.' (Zech. 4:9). That is, the founders of the anti-type which were typified by Zerubbabel, laid the foundation in 1844. Zerubbabel being 'a signet' to the anti-type (by laying the foundation and finishing the house), denotes that the finishing of the spiritual house (the completeness of the church of God - numbering of the saints) is to be accomplished in one generation (in life of a man, commencing in 1844)." 2SR 280, all parenthesis theirs.

SUMMARY: The plain facts are:

1. There are THREE Harvest Rites:
 - a. The WAVE-SHEAF at the BEGINNING of the first harvest (judgment).
 - b. The WAVE-LOAVES at the CLOSE of the first fruit harvest (judgment).
 - c. The Feast of Tabernacles, at the close of the SECOND fruit harvest (judgment).
2. Wave-sheaf, cut stalks of grain, prefigure fruits to be gathered AFTER the sheaf is offered.
3. The three harvest rites of the ceremonial system with their two grain harvests unfolds the truth concerning the First (Rev. 14:1) and Second fruits of humanity. (Rev. 7:9; Isa. 60:3, 14).
4. The Spirit fell on the 120 disciples on the very day the WAVE-LOAVES were to be offered, therefore, the Spirit-filled 120 were the full complement of the first fruits of the dead, who were gathered in after the resurrection.
5. The 144,000 are called FIRST FRUITS (Rev. 14:4), therefore, they are the antitypical WAVE-LOAVES of the living. And as the Spirit fell on the 120 first fruits on the Day of Pentecost at the end of the first harvest for the dead, the Spirit will likewise fall on the 144,000 first fruits of the living on the future Pentecost at the end of the first fruit harvest (judgment) for the living.

6. "...the founders of the antitype which were typified by Zerubbabel, laid the foundation in 1844 (Ellen Harmon's first vision - the 144,000). Zerubbabel being a signet... denotes ...(the completeness of the church of God - numbering of the saints) – parenthesis theirs- is to be accomplished in one generation in the life of a man, (Gen. 6:3 - commencing in 1844). -parenthesis theirs-." 2SR 280.
7. The WAVE-LOAVES signifies fruits previously gathered. Clearly, then, after the resurrection of the two witnesses, (Rev. 11) there will be an antitypical Pentecost.

III. Who will be the WAVE-LOAVES of the living in our day?

"...the WAVE-LOAVES were a figure of the 120 Spirit-filled...first fruits of the dead.

"...the spiritual conditions of the 120 before the apostolic Pentecost is clearly seen to TYPIFY the spiritual condition of the 144,000 before the future Pentecost.

"The first fruits of the dead (120) being a numbered company, and the second fruits of the dead (the multitude gathered after Pentecost) being an unnumbered company, so correspondingly must it be with the first and second fruits of the LIVING. Hence the sealing of the 144,000 first fruits; and hence 'after this,' says John, 'I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number...' Rev. 7:9." 3Tr 80:1; 86:0, 3, all parenthesis theirs.

"The virgins were called to meet Him, and thus by faith go in with Him to appear before the Father...The seal is the PERMIT; it places their names in the Lamb's book of Life, and thus it grants to them the right to appear before the Father in the judgment; not in person, but in figure; thus having their sins blotted out." 2SR 184:4.

"The confederacy (Isa. 8)...commences BEFORE the Loud Cry and BEFORE the slaughter of Ezekiel 9. It is not the Image of the Beast, for this association precedes the Image of the Beast, and the confederacy is formed when the nations are girding themselves for war. Put another way, the confederacy will commence AFTER the sealing and perhaps just BEFORE the slaughter of Ezekiel 9." 13 S. Code 3&4:10.

"This prophecy (Isa. 8:15) declares that the confederacy will be a snare--a trap--and that many will fall and be taken in it. It will be a fearful trap and will separate God's people. Thus is the Lord going to test all His people and let them reveal just how much faith each of them has." 13 S. Code 3&4:9.

Those who escape this trap evidently will be "These 144,000 'servants of God,' being the first increment of the harvest (judgment), are called FIRST FRUITS." WHR 33.

"...the remnant,' the 'escaped of Israel' (Isa. 4:2), -parenthesis theirs- the first contingent of commandos for Christ." WHR 61.

SUMMARY: Important facts:

1. The 120 were the WAVE-LOAVES of the dead; they TYPIFY the 144,000 who are to be the WAVE-LOAVES of the living.
2. The seal is the permit that grants them the right to appear in the judgment.
3. When the confederacy of Isa. 8 commences, the sealing is over. It commences before the Loud Cry and before the slaughter of Eze. 9. This is not the Image of the Beast. The confederacy begins when the nations are girding for war. This is a fearful trap AND WILL SEPARATE GOD'S PEOPLE. Many are taken in the trap.

Special Note:

4. The escaped ones are the "first increment" of the harvest. The Branch is beautiful and glorious to the escaped of Israel in that day.
 - a. INCREMENT - that which is added; -Webster's Dictionary- an added amount. ADDED to what?
ANSWER: They, 144,000, first fruits, are added to the Branch, wave-sheaf - first of the first fruits. (Ex. 23:19) (The Leviticus of D.S.D.A., PREFACE, and page #3:2).

"The 144,000...are the first fruits (WAVE-LOAVES), the FIRST to be GATHERED unto J U D A H." 1TGr 15-10:1.

"...In that battle (Zech. 14:2) the nations will defeat the rulers of the Promised Land. Then it is that the house of Judah commences to be set up.

"...but since all are not cut off from the city, it must be that the WICKED are taken away and the righteous LEFT to join the house of Judah.

"At the time Jerusalem, that now is, falls, the Lord's feet shall stand upon Mount of Olives and...remove the obstacles and hindrances, and thus prepare the land for the returning of His people.

"...(1) Note that the Lord's feet stand on the mount in the day of the war in which Jerusalem is taken by the wicked nations.

"...surprisingly confuses the wicked that they begin to act like mad men. At the time the Lord brings this to pass, he protects the house of Judah.

"When the Lord smites the armies of the nations (with blindness, Zech. 12:4), He also makes the rulers of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood. Thus shall they with the 'everlasting gospel' devour all the heathens round about, and thus shall Jerusalem be inhabited safely by God's faithful people." 1TGr 19:3-4.

Note Carefully : "Here the prophet predicts that Assyria's capital city will be emptied, and her palace dissolved. Clearly, then, the KINGDOM of JUDAH is set up in TIME of WAR..." 1TGr 24:13.

Those who have known this message for years and who do not have enough faith to go to Israel now in time of peace, while the way is open for them, may not be able to go in time of war, and therefore, be too late to take part in removing the obstacles and hindrances and setting up the Kingdom. Those who are called to be the vanguard, first of the first fruits - wave-sheaf (Ex. 23:19) and do not now move forward in faith while the Lord is making the call, may find the way forever closed, later. The command is go forward in faith. COME UP TO THE ATONEMENT (Lev. 23:27) AND RECEIVE THE SEAL, PERMIT TO APPEAR BEFORE THE GREAT JUDGE! Holy Convocations - Oct. 2, at even. Oct. 11 at even, a day of fasting and affliction of soul! (G.C. 490).

CONCLUSION: The WAVE-LOAVES, 144,000 first fruits, are the "first increment", "the first to be added to the FIRST of the first fruits - Branch, WAVE-SHEAF - Tents of Judah.

PART #3 TO FOLLOW.

Yours to clear the King's highway,

Benjamin Roden

Note: Emphases & Parentheses in quotations ours unless otherwise indicated.