



Jewish Holy Days 2023 Resource Guide

Rosh Hashanah Sept. 15-17, 2023 means The Head of the Year (**Ezekiel 40:1**) This will be the year 5784 according to the Jewish calendar!

- **Rosh Hashanah** is also referred to as the **Feast of Trumpets**.
 - **Leviticus 23:23-25** “*Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation’*”, also see **Numbers 29:1-6**.
- **Rosh Hashanah** commemorates the creation of the world (**Genesis 1-2**).
- **Rosh Hashanah** kicks off **10 Days of Awe** for repentance and renewal (refreshing). Throughout the **10 Days of Awe** (Repentance) those practicing Judaism take this time to reflect on personal aspects of the past year, deciding how to improve, seeking forgiveness from God and others, as well as showing compassion and forgiveness to others.
- **How should we pray?**
 - Where do you need to repent and turn back to the Lord in your life? Where do you need to be refreshed in your soul (**Acts. 3:19**)? What old and unhealthy habits is the Lord giving you grace to break? What are the new rhythms, with your family, your spiritual life, your career, your ministry, your friendships, the Lord is asking you to begin to lean into as you enter into this new season?

Yom Kippur September 24-25, 2023 means the Day of Atonement or Forgiveness (**Lev. 23:26-32**)

- Most Jews believe that the first Day of Atonement was when Moses sought forgiveness on behalf of Israel after the people worshiped a golden calf as Moses was receiving the ten commandments (**Exodus 31:18**). In **Exodus 32:30** The next day Moses said to the people, “You have committed a great sin. Now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make **atonement** for your sin.”
- Yom Kippur is the holiest day in Israel. It is the 10th day after Rosh Hashanah.
 - **Leviticus 16:29** “*This shall be a statute forever for you: In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall [a]afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether a native of your own country or a stranger who [b]dwells among you*”
- Later in the Bible we see the High Priest, Aaron instructed with strict details, to continue offering a sacrifice of atonement/forgiveness for himself, his household and for Israel in **Leviticus 16**.
- **How should we pray?**
 - Take this time to continue to identify where you may be being invited to repent, confess your sin, and receive the forgiveness of God. We can have bold confidence to receive forgiveness when we confess (**1 John 1:9**) because of the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. What is God asking you to turn away from, where is God seeking to see renewal, change in your mind and heart (**Romans 12:1-2**), as you turn towards Him and His Kingdom even more? Who do you need to forgive and seek forgiveness from?
 - Take time and thank Jesus, worship and praise Jesus for being our perfect sacrifice, our perfect High Priest, who shed His perfect blood once and for all for sin (**Hebrews 7-10**). No more sacrifice is needed! The veil has been torn and

because of Jesus we have access to the presence of God, confidence in our forgiveness and cleansing, hallelujah!

- Repentance should always bring us into an even greater joy and gratitude for what Jesus has done! We turn away from sin and turn to our Savior! We want more of Him and His Kingdom in our lives. Make that your focus on this Holy Day!
- Finally pray for the eyes and hearts of Israel to be opened to Jesus their Messiah. That they would see that eternal forgiveness and purity comes from Jesus' sacrifice and blood on this Day of Atonement.

Feast of Tabernacles Sept. 29-Oct. 6, 2023

- The Feast of Tabernacles (**Leviticus 23:34**) is called Sukkot in Hebrew, which means booths. The Feast is also called the Feast of Harvest/Ingathering as it takes place after the fall harvest (**Exodus 23:16/Leviticus 23:39**). The feast commemorates God caring for the children of Israel for 40 years in the wilderness as they took shelter in booths/tabernacles (**Leviticus 23:42-43**).
- **Leviticus 23** explains the significance of all three of the major feasts, Feast of Passover, Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) and the Feast of Tabernacles (Ingathering) which verse 21 and 41 say are to be observed forever.
 - *I believe as Gentiles who have been grafted into the covenant made with Israel and are now worshiping Jesus Christ (the Jewish Messiah), honoring these feasts is one of the ways we will provoke Israel to Jealousy and see their eyes opened to the truth that Jesus Christ is their long awaited King.*
- The Feast of tabernacles is the Feast that Zechariah prophesies the nations will come to in order to worship King Jesus, in the age to come, year after year!
 - **Zechariah 14:16** Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles.
- **How should we pray?**
 - Jesus is the Lord of the harvest (**Matthew 9:37-39**), where is He inviting you to partner with Him to see souls brought into the Kingdom of God? Where have you planted seeds (relationships, business, school, career, ministry) and in this season the Spirit of God is inviting you to expect fruit? It is believed that Jesus is going to return during the Feast of Tabernacles as He died during the Feast of Passover and sent the Holy Spirit during the Feast of Pentecost. Spend time asking Jesus to return in agreement with the Spirit, ask for the Maranatha cry to increase in your heart (**Revelation 22:17**)!
 - Spend time responding to Jesus' promise that He made on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles in **John 7**. He promised that if we thirst we can come to Him and drink, speaking of the Holy Spirit (**John 7:37-39**). Let Jesus refresh, replenish and revive you with a fresh encounter through the Holy Spirit.