

February 20-26

<u>February 20</u> Leviticus 23-24
<u>February 21</u> Leviticus 25-26
<u>February 22</u> Leviticus 27; Numbers 1
<u>February 23</u> Numbers 2-3
<u>February 24</u> Numbers 4
<u>February 25</u> Numbers 5-6
<u>February 26</u> Numbers 7-8

This week's reading starts with the Feasts of the Lord in Leviticus 23. These seven feasts symbolically cover the entire plan of redemption for lost sinners. Besides giving detailed information about what is involved in our salvation, they also testify clearly that God had planned the entire matter in minute detail before the foundation of the world.

These symbols didn't begin to be fulfilled until about 1,500 years later, and some have yet to be fulfilled. Because of the precision of God in fulfilling those that have already been accomplished, we may be sure that those to come will have the same kind of exact fulfillment—perhaps in our own day!

The Feast of the Passover (verses 4–5) shows the death of the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). All of salvation begins with the work on Calvary, as our sin debt is paid.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread (verses 6–8) shows the renewed fellowship with God that is possible because Jesus paid it all. The eating of bread shows communion; it's being unleavened emphasizes

that fellowship is conditioned on our walk in obedience (I John 1:7).

The Feast of Firstfruits (verses 9–14) pictures the resurrection of Christ as the First Begotten from the dead. Of course, calling Him the "firstfruits" presupposes that others will follow, and that will be those who receive Him as Savior (I Corinthians 15:20–23).

The Feast of Pentecost (verses 15–22) foreshadows the coming of the Holy Spirit to call out a holy people to be the church and the bride of Christ. It was fifty days after the resurrection (firstfruits) that the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4).

The Feast of Trumpets (verses 23–25) shows the return of Christ in the rapture of the church. Trumpets were used in Israel to gather the people, and at the "last trump" (I Corinthians 15:51–52), the church will be changed and gathered to Him.

The Feast of the Day of Atonement (verses 26–32) shows the regathering and the repentance of Israel to enter the Kingdom of the Messiah. It came shortly after the Feast of Trumpets, just as Israel will go through a brief Tribulation before receiving Christ the Messiah.

The Feast of Tabernacles (verses 33–36) shows Israel's rest in the Kingdom. As they dwelt in tabernacles in the wilderness, so they will abide in Christ when they have received Him.