

# Chosen by God

## The Jewish Roots of Christianity

### Feast of Firstfruits

### Resurrection

Where the Feast of Unleavened Bread taught us about cleaning out the leaven and separating ourselves from the evil of the world, the Feast of Firstfruits goes a step further in giving us a picture of the consecration and transformation that we participate in with the resurrected Christ..

How does Romans 12:1,2 describe both of these aspects? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Paul say about the importance of Christ's resurrection to our faith in 1 Cor. 15:17? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is described as the firstfruits in 1 Cor. 15:20-23? \_\_\_\_\_

On the exact day, and time that the firstfruits were being offered at the temple, Jesus rose from the dead to present Himself as the firstfruits of the resurrection harvest, in preparation for the ingathering described in 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

How does Paul describe what will happen to those who have already died in Christ in 1 Thess. 4:13-17? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Job express his faith in this thousands of years before its fruition? (Job 19:25-26) \_\_\_\_\_

The Feast of the Firstfruits gives us a picture of the resurrected life both today, and in the future. It

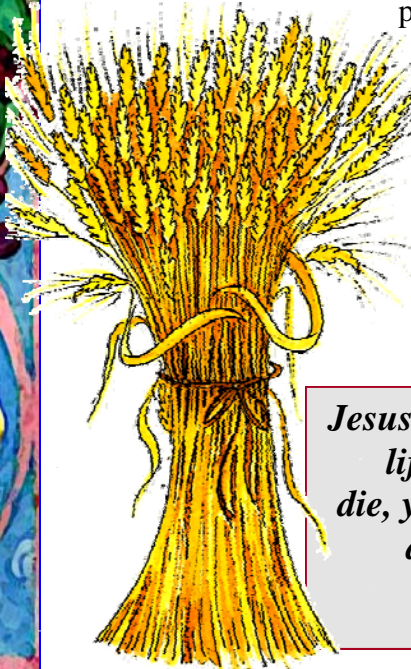
is fulfilled in both spirit, and eventually in body. It is representative of the entire harvest that will follow and be celebrated at the Feast of Ingathering in days to come.

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***Jesus said...."I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."***

***John 11:25-26***



## Firstfruits

What is another name for the Feast of Firstfruits based on Ex. 23:16? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the difference between the Feast of Firstfruits, and the Feast of Ingathering? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Ex. 34:26 instruct was to be done with the firstfruits? \_\_\_\_\_

What was not to be done with this offering according to Lev. 2:12? \_\_\_\_\_

When was the observation of the Firstfruits offering to begin according to Lev. 23:10? \_\_\_\_\_

On what day of the week did it occur according to Lev. 23:11? \_\_\_\_\_

The Israelite people were to bring the first of the sheaves (omer) of the barley harvest and wave them before the Lord. By New Testament days, a small plot of ground was set apart in the Kidron Valley to grow the firstfruits offering. The sheaves were cut in the evening after the Sabbath ended. The new crop could not be eaten or even touched until the omer was brought to the temple and offered to the Lord. The firstfruits represented the entire harvest and the acknowledgement that it all belonged to God on whom man is totally dependent.

What was to be done on the day of firstfruits? (Num. 28:26) \_\_\_\_\_

According to Deut. 26:10, what was to accompany the firstfruits offering? \_\_\_\_\_

What New Testament story does the account of the firstfruit "offering" in 2 Kings 4:42-44 remind you of? \_\_\_\_\_

Of what firstfruits did the Israelites offer in abundance in 2 Chron. 31:5? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some of the firstfruits offered in Neh. 10:37? \_\_\_\_\_

What instruction is given in Prov. 3:9? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the nation of Israel referred to as in Jer. 2:3? \_\_\_\_\_

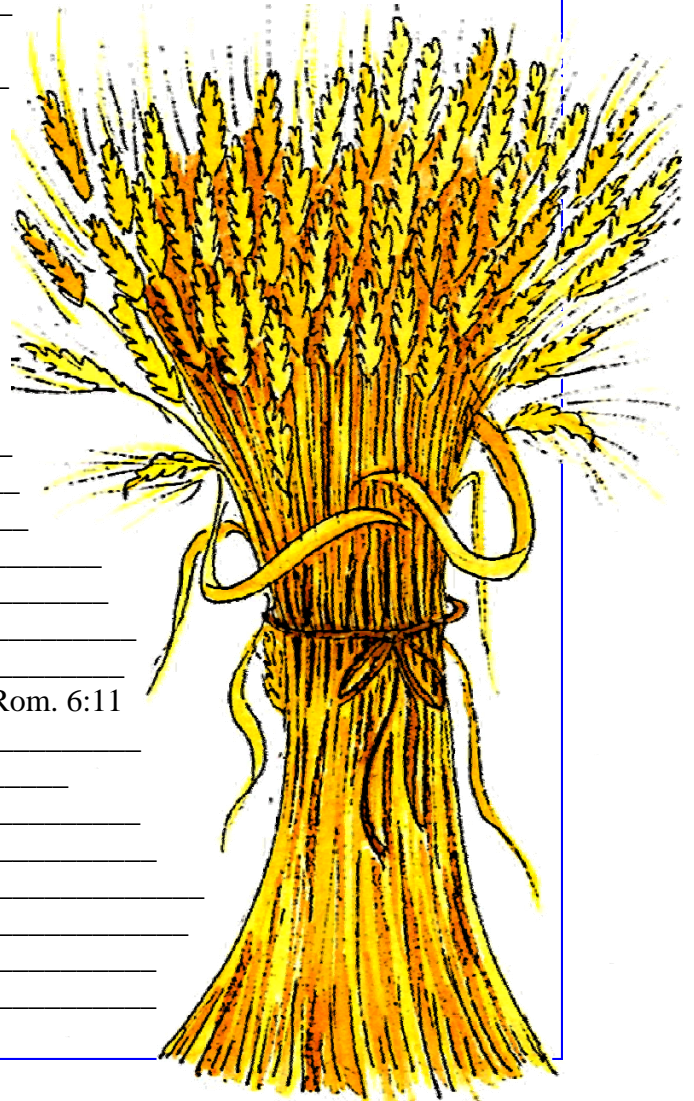
Who are the firstfruits described in James 1:18? \_\_\_\_\_

What have we died to and been resurrected to according to Rom. 6:11-14? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the fruit according to Gal. 5:22-23? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how Jesus fulfilled the Feast of Firstfruits: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Appearances of the Risen Christ

Scripture	Who He appeared to	What He did	date
John 20:11-18 Mark 15:40,47 and 16:1 Matt. 28:1-10			Nisan 17?
Luke 24:13-32			
Luke 24:33-53 John 20:19-25			“Late in the day the 1st of the weeks” The 1st day in counting the 50 days to Pente-
John 20:26-29 Matt 28:18-20 Mark 16:14-17			
John 21:1-14			
Acts 1:1-11		Ascended to heaven	
1 Cor. 15:14	Peter		
1 Cor. 15:14	The 500		
1 Cor. 15:14	James		

Christ also made some post ascension appearances. Who did He appear to in Acts 9: 3-9? \_\_\_\_\_

What was His appearance like? \_\_\_\_\_

Who saw the resurrected Christ in Revelation 1:12-20? \_\_\_\_\_

What was His appearance like? \_\_\_\_\_



## Resurrection vs. Revivification

Revivification is when someone who dies comes back to life, only to die again. There are many examples of this throughout Scripture. Resurrection differs in that it describes the death and return to physical life for eternity, never to die again. (Driscoll and Breshears 280)

What does Daniel 12:2 teach that believers and unbelievers have in common? \_\_\_\_\_

Why was Paul able to say “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain? (Phil. 1:21) \_\_\_\_\_

According to research done by N.T. Wright, Christian belief in resurrection was novel to the ancient world, definitely counter-cultural. Even among the Jews, the doctrine of resurrection was debated. The Sadducees did not believe in it at all, and the general Jewish teaching was of the resurrection of the Jewish nation alone when the history of mankind was completed. Nevertheless, it is Jewish Scripture that holds the multiple prophecies about the resurrection of Christ. The prophecies of Isaiah in 53:8-12 were given some 700 years beforehand. Jesus also predicted His own resurrection. It might be within human power to make some of the other prophecies come true (like riding a colt into Jerusalem) but to rise from the dead definitely requires divine action!



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***“Our Savior’s resurrection...is truly of great importance in Christianity; so great that His being or not being the Messiah stands or falls with it; so that these two important articles are inseparable and in effect make one. For since that time, believe one and you believe both; deny one of them, and you can believe neither.”***

***John Locke***



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