

## **Shavuot**

### **Moving from *birth - to growth - to maturity.***

When Shavu'ot was originally given, it was an agricultural festival designed for use in the land of Israel.

So much of its outward meaning, then, has little relevance for us today when we're *not yet* gathered into the Holy Land for which it was designed!

Yes; it'll be celebrated again with many of the outward forms when Yahusha returns. But it's principal usage inside and outside the Promised Land today is in its New Covenant context, *therefore inward* - non external!

***1 Tim 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an ensample to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity.***

***As we celebrate Shavuot I want to show us the cycle of growth that YHWH' desires for us, so that many of you can get unstuck, and break out of your rut!***

The only difference between a well worn rut and a grave is a grave has end caps on it which hinders all escape; with a rut you at least have an opportunity to escape in this life!

***1 Co 3:2 I have fed you with **milk**, and not with **meat**: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.***

***Heb 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of **milk**, and not of strong **meat**.***

Yahusha went from:

1. death
2. resurrection
3. ascension - the three fold progression of spiritual growth!

1. Engagement
2. Betrothal
3. Full marriage.

1. BoC at Sinai - engagement
2. Baptism of the the Ruach at Shavuot - betrothal.
3. Marriage supper of the lamb.

Look at the three fold progression of growth, even with the covenant signs:

1. Water immersion
2. Dedication
3. Masters supper - the heavenly meal.

Even with the prophetic unravelling of revelation there is natural progression and growth, never a standing still, never a rut to rot in!

- The Law written on stone > the Law of יהוה written on our hearts.
- 3,000 slain > 3,000 receive Yahusha.
- The letter of the Law > the Ruach of the Law.

Look at the prophetic significance of the symbology of Shavuot and what it represents - *movement and growth*.

Movement and growth should always be something to be embraced, we should be ready to push the boundaries, set our sights on something with even greater possibilities, despite the odds.....despite what we know....

- A grain of Wheat > ***Jn. 12:23 The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a cornel of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.***
- Two loaves with leaven are to be presented: Judah and Ephraim coming together in the mixing bowl of the nations.
- Wheat is beaten and refined into flour > Yahusha likewise sifted, beaten and crushed; enabling others to be sifted, tested, often times beaten down, seemingly crushed, but ultimately fit and ready to be presented to the king!
- Harvest > growth into the end times spiritual harvest; where the harvest is great but the laborers few.

- Finally the rain needed to produce a crop; Father let us experience the Latter Rain - the outpouring of the Ruach Ha Kodesh!

### **The three stages in our maturation in Messiah**

- 1.** At First-fruits, the first of the barley harvest, each us is to complete the threefold activity of the one-to-one relationship between believer and Messiah;

One: with our mouth we confess our salvation and...

Two: we're covered by the blood of atonement at Passover, and...

Three: with our heart we invite Yahusha in to rule as King over our life as we work to overcome by getting the leaven of sin out of our life represented by The Feast of Unleavened Bread.

And then at First-fruits we're to immerse ourselves fully into Messiah, in the midst of Unleavened Bread, entering into a one-to-one covenant to follow Messiah all the days of our life.

This is the BARLEY relationship, the egocentricity of the infant. It's all about us and Yahusha! But don't get stuck in a rut - it'll turn into a grave!

- 2.** At Shavu'ot the relationship is broadened to include the whole community with whom we're supposed to become linked as a metaphorical plural betrothed bride, joining the collective heart of the nation.

*Did you get that????* The collective heart of the nation, or in our case the collective heart of the ministry, which is bigger than just us here locally -which wold be the egocentric view.

Shavuot is supposed to be the Wheat relationship and the coming-of-age, the individual's Bar (or Bat) Mitzvah, the initiation into adulthood ,a transition stage between egocentricity - it's all about me; into spiritual adulthood - it's more about the bigger whole together!

This is my ministry perspective. And I know that's been very difficult and offensive for some of you to even capture that vision.

- 3.** Sukkot, via Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur and the repentance period or Season of Repentance, our betrothed marriage is consummated. This is the grape or

wine relationship, or full maturity, the crucified self with Messiah Yahusha fully reigning and ruling within us - The three stages in our maturation in Messiah!

Satan has been breaking up this community because his goal is to keep people as stunted children.

**1 This 4:16 For the Master himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of Elohim: and the dead in Messiah shall rise first: 1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Master in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Master. 1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**

Yahusha isn't coming for us one-by-one but together so if we're not found together we will be in trouble!

We all meet Him in the air when he comes - TOGETHER, there aren't thousands of different mid-air appointments!

Shavuot - the first of the communal covenants: we move away from the single; or one-to-one covenants and relationships between יהוה and individuals like Jacob, represented in Passover, Unleavened Bread and the Feast of First-fruits, and into the first of the communal covenants.

Shavuot is designed to work out the leaven, to bring us together with יהוה and with each other as the two barley loaves. This is the time to be filled with the Ruach ha Kodesh and to have our giftings for communal service activated, renewed or deepened.

#### **Matt.9:37**

**"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Master of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest"**

Shavu'ot is supposed to equip us for - harvesting

#### **Deut.14:2**

**"For you are a people holy to Yahweh your Elohim. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, Yahweh has chosen you to be his treasured possession"**

The Hebrew 'segullah' means 'special', 'different' or 'of great wealth'. The Greek equivalent, 'periousios', means 'beyond the usual', 'peculiar'.

The Hebrew root means 'shut up' or 'locked away', as one would costly jewels, bringing them out for display only on special occasions as on weddings.

In other words, the glory of one who is holy or set-apart is hidden away, and only revealed on very special occasions. One of these - Shavuot another - the most important one - would be Sukkot.

Barley = once. Wheat = continuous.

No one buys a car, fills it up once, and then stops using it when the tank runs dry. They fill it again and again and again.

That's why we have Shavu'ot every year because יהוה wants us to come expecting to be refilled.

They were each individually and collectively where יהוה wanted them to be and they were one or echad. Not where they wanted to be!

***Exo 23:2 You shall not follow after a majority to do mischief; neither shall you speak in a cause to side with the majority to stretch justice.***

Shavu'ot is supposed to equip us for - harvesting. Are you ready? I am! ***but the laborers are few.***