

# Man Hu News

מָן הוּא שְׂמוּעָה

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**And when the dew that lay was gone up,  
Behold, upon the face of the wilderness  
there lay a small round thing, as small as  
the hoar frost on the ground. And when the  
children of Israel saw it; they said one to another,  
It is manna:(Man Hu מָן הוּא). And Moses said unto them,  
This is the bread which the L-rd hath given you to eat.**

**Manna (Man) means “a little piece” and HU means “him.”  
They were actually receiving little pieces of Jesus for He said:  
I am the living bread which came down from heaven. (Jn 6:51)**

## **To Passover or not to Passover, that is the question**

**To Passover or not to Passover, that is the question.** In all reality, for the past seventeen hundred years the church has debated the question, should we celebrated Passover, or do away with its observance. From the resurrection of our savior Yeshua (Jesus), until the Second or Third Century, the Passover celebration was observed by the body of believers called the

Church. Yeshua observed it, all the apostles observed it, Jews Gentiles alike celebrated the festival annually. It is evident that the early Church not only observed Passover, but, other Biblical Feast also. The apostle Paul went to Ephesus and preached in the synagogue, and they desired him to tarry longer with them, but he bade them farewell saying: "I must by all means *keep this feast* that cometh in Jerusalem (Acts 18:19-21) The apostle determined to sail to Ephesus because he would not spend time in Asia: for he was hastened, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost. We also see in Acts 20:6 that Paul celebrated the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is part of the Feast of Passover with the Church at Philippi.

Unleavened Bread is one of the required foods that are to be eaten during the Passover meal (Exodus 12:8). It was called the '*bread of affliction*' because they would have to leave Egypt in haste and their bread would not have time to rise. Therefore G-d told them to eat it with their shoes on their feet and their staff in their hands. In the days preceding the Passover G-d told His people to get rid of all the leaven in their households. That means not only their bread but also their donuts, pop-tarts, cereals, no Wendy's hamburgers, and no pizzas from Pizza Hut!!! Anything that had leaven in it could not be found in your home. The Sages of Israel teach us that the leaven is a picture of sin. It's like pride and pride, just as leaven makes bread puff up, pride in us makes us puff up. The apostle Peter said that G-d resists the proud and gives grace to the humble (1 Peter 5:5). In other words no old leavened bread only fresh unleavened bread could be eaten. That's why the apostle Paul said in his first letter to the Church at Corinth: "*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: **THEREFORE LET US KEEP THE FEAST, not with old leaven neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.***" (1 Cor. 5:7-8)

Clearly the apostle Paul observed the feasts and encouraged the Church to do the same.

Through the First Century and into the Second Century it was not a question whether or not to observe the Passover, it was part of the worship and celebration of the Church, but with the growth of the Church throughout the world came many questions between believers and unbelievers especially between the Roman Empire and the Church. In 70 C.E. and 135 C.E. the Jewish people revolted against Roman occupation of their Land, Israel, both times the revolts were unsuccessful. Because of the Jewish uprisings the Romans viewed the Jews as their enemy, and anyone who was a friend of the Jews was considered an enemy of Rome.

So with the Church observing Passover, and Sabbath along with other thing considered Jewish by the Romans, the Church came under severe

persecution.

There were divisions within the Church. Many of our Church brethren were martyred for the stand they took. Early in the Third Century there arose a Roman Emperor by the name of Flavius Constantine. Constantine believed in the religions that were popular in Rome at that time, especially the worship of the pagan gods Mars, Apollo, and the sun god. According to Church historical records Constantine had a vision of Jesus while he was going out to do battle and was converted to Christianity. He made Christianity the religion of the state. However, there were still divisions within the Church. In 325 C.E. he called a special meeting of the Church to discuss the problems and disagreements they were having within the body. Three hundred and eighteen bishops and leaders of the Church met in a place called '*Nicea*' and became known as the '*Nicene Council*'. Constantine opened the meeting with a speech. When he was finished some of the bishops said that his speech was as the voice of the angel of the lord.

One of the problems dealt with was the so-called problem of Passover. They decided to separate the Church from Biblical G-d given time of Passover and decided to move the Churches Passover observance to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Biblical Passover to separate the Church from the Jewish observance. In future years even the Biblical name Passover became so appalling to the Church that the leaders changed its name to *Easter*, named after the Babylonian fertility goddess *Ishtar*. To discourage the observance of anything that was considered Jewish like the Feasts or the Sabbath, there was a special tax called '*Fiscus Judaicus*' imposed upon the people who observed these things whether they were non-believing Jews or the Church.

So then on the ninth day of Av the year 325 C.E. the Nicene Council started a new trend concerning the way the Church viewed G-d's Feasts. To the Hebrew people the ninth day of Av has a very special meaning. This day is considered a national day of mourning and fasting, because on this same day in the year 586 B.C.E. the House of G-d, the Temple in Jerusalem, was destroyed by the Babylonian armies. This was in the days of Jeremiah the prophet. Also on the ninth day of Av in the year 70 C.E., Titus and the Roman army destroyed the second Temple.

I think both Jews and Gentiles should mourn on the ninth day of Av because of these three accounts in our history. Av is the 11<sup>th</sup> month on the Hebrew calendar. Here in the west the abbreviated way to write this day would be: **11/9**, the month first, followed by the day, the **11<sup>th</sup>** month, and the **9<sup>th</sup>** day. However, in Israel and the Middle East the day is written first and then the month making it appear as: **'9/11**. These numbers should mean something to every American. September the 11<sup>th</sup> was the day the World

Trade Center buildings were hit and brought down by terrorists using airplanes. The first and second Temples in Jerusalem were the symbols of Israel's strength and power because it was the House of G-d and it was G-d that provided for them and protected them. Maybe now we can understand why they mourn on this day as we mourn for our loved ones who perished on **9/11**.

Constantine died May 22<sup>nd</sup> 337 C.E. on the Feast of Shavuot (Pentecost). The same day that G-d gave the Commandments including the Feasts to Moshe (Moses) on Mount Sinai. As we can see by history, from the time of Yeshua (Jesus) was resurrected until the Third Century the Church observed the Biblical Passover just the way G-d instructed them to do. So the observance of Passover was not a question. Beginning in the Third Century until present day, the Church has not observed the Biblical Passover. The Church laws discourage its observance; Passover for the most part was not a question anymore. That's where we come in.

We at *Man Hu Ministries* are dedicated to the restoration of the Biblical principles and practices of our faith that have been lost for seventeen hundred years. Millions of Christians around the world are being restored to the Hebraic Roots of their faith by the power and revelation of the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) of the G-d of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

So, what exactly are these Feasts? In Leviticus 23:2 G-d says: ***“These are the Feasts of the L-RD, Holy Convocations, These are MY Feasts.*** The first thing we need to see is that these are not Jewish Feasts, but, twice in this verse G-d makes it very clear that these are His Feasts!!! The second thing we need to learn is that He calls them ***Holy Convocations***, which means that they are Holy gatherings of His people. What makes these gatherings Holy is that G-d Himself comes and meets with His people in a very special way.

The Hebrew word for convocation is ***‘Mikrah’***. The word Mikrah means ***‘Rehearsal’***. So the Feasts are really Holy Rehearsals. So, what are they rehearsing for? Let's see. The first annual Feast is Passover (Lev. 23:5). Passover is a true story of redemption. It tells of a time when G-d's people were in bondage to the most powerful ruler on earth. Their taskmasters were very cruel and corrupt. The children of G-d were beaten and made to work long hard hours without much rest. So the children of G-d cried out. G-d heard their cries and sent them a deliverer. This deliverer's name was ***‘Moshe’*** and G-d sent this deliverer to the ruler and said: ***“Let My people go!”*** However, this evil ruler said: ***“I do not this G-d of yours and neither will I let your people go!”*** So G-d sent a great plague upon the ruler and his land.

Nine times this happened and nine times the evil ruler would not let the people go free. One final time G-d sent Moshe to the ruler to tell him to let His people go free and if he would not the greatest plague of all would come and then he would let the people go. The ruler hardened his heart and would not let the people go, so G-d sent the tenth plague, which would require the lives of the first born in all the land of Egypt.

Once again G-d showed His Grace to anyone who had Faith in what G-d told the people to do. G-d said if you want to *Save* your first born you must take a *Lamb* in which there were no spot or blemishes and on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the First month (Nisan) in the evening, kill it and take it's *Blood* and put it on the door post and the lintel of your house, and when the death angel would come to your house and see the *Blood of the Lamb* he will *Passover* you. Every home that did this had their first born *Saved*. That night was the first *Passover* when the death angel passed over their houses. While they were in their houses G-d told them that they were to eat the roasted Lamb with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. This is the basis of the Passover meal that we eat today.

Remember we learned earlier that the Passover Feast was a Holy rehearsal. So, what was it rehearsing for? First of all the removal of the leaven from the homes was a picture of the Holy Spirit searching our hearts and revealing the sin in our lives and convicting us to repent of those sins. The focus of the whole Passover was the unspotted Lamb that would give its life for the people. These people would take G-d at His word and apply the Lamb's Blood to the doors of their houses. This picture or '*Shadow*' is easy for us to see.

Fourteen hundred years after the first Passover in Egypt, a man was sent by G-d and stood on the banks of the Jordan River asking people to repent of their sins and be immersed in water for the remission of sin. When one day he saw Yeshua (Jesus) coming toward him and said: "*Behold the Lamb of G-d, which taketh away the sins of the world,*" which He did when He spilled His Blood on the cross at Calvary. Salvation was paid for by the '*Blood of the Lamb of G-d.*' All who takes G-d at His word and then by faith apply Yeshua's Blood to the door of their hearts are born again. The Blood of the Lamb set the children of Israel free from bondage of sin and another ruler hasatan, may his name be blotted out forever.

In the Passover meal called the Seder, which is the Hebrew word for 'order', there are fourteen different parts of the celebration all of which are *Shadows* of Yeshua and the telling of the redemption story called the '*Haggadah*' (*the telling*). The Hebrew word '*Tzelem*' means '*Shadow or Image*'. It first appears in scripture in Genesis 1:26 where G-d says: "*Let us*

*make man in our own IMAGE'(Tzelem).* A 'Shadow' is very important because it shows us an image of the real object that makes or 'creates' the Shadow. In this case the Shadow is us and the object that creates us is G-d Himself, AMEN.

So, how important are the *Shadows (US)* to G-d? We are important enough that He sent His Son, *The Lamb*, to die for us and save us from our sins. The apostle Paul knew how important Shadows were when he said to the Church at Colossae concerning the Holy Days (Feasts): "***Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a Holy Day (Feast) or of a New Moon, or of the Sabbath Days: which are Shadows of things to come (rehearsals), but the body is of Christ (Colossians 2:16-17).*** Remember that *Shadows* are important to G-d.

***SHALOM,***

