

FIRSTFRUITS CELEBRATION

9 FEBRUARY 2025

Introduction

The word '**celebrate**' is used some 83 times in the NIV of the Bible. It seems that God requires it and encourages His people to Celebrate. God commissioned Moses to go to Egypt and address Pharaoh concerning Israel with these words, 'Israel is my Son, my Firstborn Son.' 'Let my Son go that he may hold a festival unto me.' [Exodus 4] They hosted 7 annually feasts and one weekly – all year round. The celebration in these festivals are summed in the story of the lost son who returned home – 'killed the fatted calf, let us eat, drink and make merry!'

I Corinthians 5:6-8, 'Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? ⁷Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸ Therefore let us celebrate the Festival, not with the old bread leavened of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.' [NASB]

In other words our celebration or partying must be different from the past. When you host a party, ensure your **heart is aligned to the Father. It must be a celebration unto the Lord.** I still see Christians who are years in the Church but never grow out of their old ways. It's like yeast that 'puffs up' the dough. A family wanted to do a thanksgiving for their dad that just died. While alive they never cared or honoured him. I said 'align your hearts.' No thanksgiving without honour first – get that right. Otherwise it is show and God is never Glorified!

1. A Celebration of Thanksgiving

Deuteronomy 26:10-11, 'and now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land which you, O Lord, have given me.' "Then you shall set it before the Lord your God, and worship before the Lord your God. ¹¹ So you shall rejoice in every good thing which the Lord your God has given to you and your house, you and the Levite and the stranger who is among you.' [NKJV]

Is there something that you are thankful for? Can you name one of them and express gratitude to God?

The Firstfruits were offered twice by Israel. The first was the barley and second the wheat. The barley offering took place on the 16th Nisan which was the 3rd Day from the 14th Nisan. What happened on the 14th – the Passover Lamb was slain! **Leviticus 23:10-11**, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest. He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted on your behalf; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.'

Who is our Passover Lamb? Christ! What happened on the 3rd Day?

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I Corinthians 15:20-22, 'But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.' [NKJV]

2. A Celebration of Divine Order

Psalms 133

¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell together in oneness!

² It is like the precious oil upon the head,
Running down on the beard,
The beard of Aaron,
Running down on the edge of his garments.

³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
Descending upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the Lord commanded the blessing—
Life forevermore.

- Whenever there is divine order to something there is a **blessings** – I command a blessing. The FLOW is from Head to Body until it touches its lowest parts. Step out of that Body and you outside of the Flow. Adam followed the voice of God in the garden & was blessed. When he refused the voice of God he was driven out of the garden and cursed. His son commits murder, grandson 7 murders...
- Whenever there is divine order to something there is **productivity** – Dew of Hermon will cause the land to flourish. Who is Zion? The People of God or the Sons of God. They will flourish like the Palm Tree even in the desert and the wilderness. They do not live of the economy but of the Father.
- Whenever there is divine order to something there is **strength** – Like the anointing oil that drips on Aaron. Every yoke is destroyed and every burden is removed.

Firsfruits is about divine order – you give to God what belongs to God and you give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar. **All that is First belongs to God**. But why? Because He is FIRST – the Most High that is above all with no one BEFORE him. What is before number 1? Nothing or zero!

3. A Celebration of the Future

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This one is a tough one because of our constant involvement in the present. We think primarily for here and now not for the then and there. It takes a new paradigm – **a shifting in the thinking to view life from the vantage point of the end**. Father always operates from the finish before he starts at the beginning. Man was the first thing on God's mind but he first crafts the environment in which man was to exist and thrive. Made the sun, moon and stars, rain and water, oxygen to breath and plants to recycle carbon dioxide. A recent study shows that man cannot live long periods of time in space – his heart shrinks, his eyesight deteriorates, his brain swells, his muscles loses strength. It does not have the environment like earth – no gravity, no oxygen, etc. The power of the Firstfruits is that it goes ahead and prepares environment for you to step into. Adam and Eve messed our constitution and thinking – they exchanged their future for a present reward. Ate fruit/lost garden!

Firstfruits is a declaration of the 'promise to come.' We talked of the word 'bikkurim.' Like the name Joseph it is a declaration that the Lord will add. When you offer the first lamb you are not sure if that sheep is going to produce another lamb? But you will have to trust that Father never fails – He will never leave you nor forsake you. I will not leave you as orphans but my Father and I will come and make our abode in you through the Holy Spirit. That will be the downpayment or lay-bye for what is to come. If you never develop a futuristic thinking you will never practice Firstfruits.

Do you know when the second Firstfruits offering of thanksgiving takes place? At Pentecost! Do you know what happened at Pentecost? Birthday of the Church - God brought many sons to glory through the one He sacrificed on the cross. When the first is holy the entire crop is holy. Without faith it is impossible to please God – they that come to Him must believe that He is, and He is the rewarder of those that diligently seek him. Our flesh will not allow us to obey God. It will not let us sleep, we make you break out in a sweat, it will tell us of many reasons why we cannot release our Firstfruits...Therefore, the flesh must be placed on the altar until it is burnt to death. That is the incense of worship that rises as a sweet smelling incense to God.

Conclusion

Father, I bring this First Fruit to You, through Jesus, my High Priest. It is my First and my Best, just for You. According to scriptures, if the First Fruit is holy, then everything else that comes to me this year shall be holy. You have said that if we honour You with the Firstfruits of all our increase, You will cause us to live in the overflow. By faith therefore, I believe that because I have honoured You as first in my life, home and work, my year and future is firmly secure in you. In Jesus Name, I pray for Supernatural Enlargement and I receive the Grace for all sufficiency at all times, so I can execute all of your plans this year. I have declared it, it is so, in Jesus Name.

Amen!