

## Emor “Say”

Torah Reading: Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23

Haftarah Reading: Ezekiel 44:15-31

### Study Notes

Leviticus 23 is possibly one of the most important chapters to understand in the Torah for followers of Christ. We'll discuss the other chapters a little but will concentrate on chapter 23 for the most part.

#### The Kohanim - The Highest Level of Holiness

- Chapters 21 and 22 focus around teaches directed toward the kohanim.
- “The principles of holiness develop in three major stages: from the broad base of the nation, up to the level of the Levites, and then to the highest level, the kohanim, with the kohen gadol at the very summit of human holiness.” (21:16-21)
- God expects a high standard of holiness from everyone. “Be holy because I am holy...”
- For those of us in Yeshua, how does this look today?
- For the men, who are the priests in their homes, how does this look? Is your standard higher or just different?

#### Mo'admin Cycle - A Calendar of Holiness

- Many times these are called “the Lord’s appointed festivals”. Translators have inserted the word “festivals”. The correct terminology would be “the Lord’s meetings” or “appointments”.
- We can approach God at any time but these are special times in which the Holy One has appointed to meet with His people in a special way.
- There are many levels to understanding the mo’admin. We will not be able to cover them all this week but will give a basic overview. If you are interested in learning to celebrating these days I recommend “A Family Guide to the Biblical Holidays” by Robin Sampson.

#### How many days are there?

- Depending on how we count there are eight special times of convocation, worship, or celebration taught in chapter 23: Shabbat (verse 3), Pesach (verses 4-5), Feast of Matzot (verses 6-8), Waving of the Omer of the First-fruit (verses 9-14), Shavuot (verses 16-22), Yom Teruah “Rosh Hashanah, verses 23-25), Yom Kippur (verses 26-32, and Sukkot (verses 33-36, 39-43).
- The number eight is an important number to the Jews because it signifies the *Olam Haba*, the “World to Come.”
- The seventh-day, Shabbat, stands at the front of this list. This is an indication of it’s importance. Moreover, each of the other special days contains at least one Shabbat, or day of rest.

## Pesach

- Redemption - This is the doctrine which emphasizes releasing from slavery.
- Salvation - delivery or rescuing. Being rescued from sin.
- Holiness - not eating yeast reminds us to be free from sin.
- Resurrection - The offering of the first-fruit corresponds exactly with the day Yeshua, the Passover Lamb, rose from the dead!

## Shavuot

- This is the second of the two first-fruit days. The first presents the barley harvest and the second the first of the wheat harvest.
- The Torah was given to Moses on Shavuot.
- As believers Shavuot carries another great "giving". The empowering by the Spirit of God as recorded in Acts 2. (Jeremiah 31).
- Shavuot is a time reminds the believer of his equipping by God. The fruit for God is produced by the proper application of the Word of God combined with the empowering by the Spirit of God.

## Yom Terah

- This day is characterized by blowing a shofar. They are to be a reminder but the text does not say of what.
- The shofar has always been used as an announcing. It was blown when the Torah was given.
- The Bible also says that the shofar will be sounded announcing Messiah's return.
- Combine I Cor. 15 and I Thes. 4 with the sequence described in Zechariah 12-14 and we see a pattern which fits the essential message of all three fall mo'adim: Yom Tera, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot.

## Prophetic

- You may have gathered from above that the mo'adim are considered to be prophetic by most commentators.
- I strongly believe that they are a type for the first and second coming of Yeshua.
- Compare the spring feasts with His first coming and the fall feasts with His second.
- Look into what the New Testament says about Shabbat and how it is a type for Him.