

Legislation vs. Revelation

Celebrations: **Passover / Firstfruits / Weeks / Trumpets / Atonement / Tabernacles**

Why?

Human hearts are hardwired to celebrate!

In these celebrations, God is giving rest.

Leviticus 23:1-3

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses: ² “Speak to the Israelites and tell them: These are my appointed times, the times of the LORD that you will proclaim as sacred assemblies. ³ Work may be done for six days, but on the seventh day there is to be a Sabbath of complete rest, a sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; it is a Sabbath to the LORD wherever you live.”

“Sabbath” – *shabbat* – “stop”

NB: Egypt

“Anyone who cannot obey God’s command to observe the Sabbath is a slave, even a self-imposed one. Your own heart, or our materialistic culture, or an exploitative organization, or all of the above, will be abusing you if you don’t have the ability to be disciplined in your practice of Sabbath. Sabbath is therefore a declaration of our freedom. It means you are not a slave – not to your culture’s expectations,

your family’s hopes, your medical school’s demands, not even to your own insecurities.” – Timothy Keller

In these celebrations, God is giving joy.

“Joy dashes in with the agility of a hummingbird claiming its nectar from the flower, and then zips away. It pricks, then vanishes, leaving a wake of mystery and longing behind it.” – C.S. Lewis

Firstfruits: **Leviticus 23:11 (NIV)**

¹¹ He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD.

Trumpets: **Leviticus 23:24**

²⁴ “In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you are to have a day of complete rest, commemoration, and trumpet blasts.”

“trumpet blasts” – *teruah* – “blaring”

ILL: Hope and Hayden’s Volume

In these celebrations, God is giving a center.

Leviticus 23:5, 34

⁵ The Passover to the LORD...

³⁴ The Festival of Tabernacles to the LORD...

NB: “Lord” mentioned 36 times

ILL: Beach Trip

Passover: **Matthew 26:26**

²⁶ “This is My body...”

Firstfruits: **1 Corinthians 15:20**

²⁰ Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

ILL: Center of Gravity