

GOD'S APPOINTED TIMES AND SEASONS

This artwork was inspired by my sisters, who always asked me to explain to them God's Festivals in picture form. So on the 18th of February 2009 when my one sister Shelagh was 'promoted' to be with the Lord, I took action and did it!!! What books say in so many chapters, my artist impression says in one picture, enabling everyone to see clearly, what I call "The Game Plan of God".

We have been so used to hearing that these are the Jewish Peoples Festivals that when we discover in Leviticus 23 v 1-2 that they are in fact **God's Festivals**, it's quite something to comprehend! Why then are they not treasured by ALL Bible believers, Jew and Christian as God commanded? A question I will deal with in a book I am busy writing called "DIVINE DATES – ARE WE READY" it will be available by the end of 2010. In the meantime, you can still enjoy the artwork with a brief explanation to create a thirst in your hearts for more revelation on the soon return of our Precious Bridegroom. The question remains - **ARE WE READY?**

FIRSTLY, WHY THE MENORAH?

As you see in the artwork, the Menorah is a **seven** branched lamp stand, designed and ordered by God when the temple was being built. It has always been the symbol for the nation Israel. A nation God chose to be His host on planet Earth. You might ask, "Why **seven** branches?" Well, the number **seven** is the number God chose like a code in His creation and dealings with mankind. We are the **seventh** planet from the sun, **seven** divine appointments with God, **seven** Churches and **seven** seals in the book of Revelation, **seven** colors of the rainbow, **seven** days of the week, **seven** being a number coded into the 49 weeks of a human pregnancy until birth and so it goes.

THE SEVEN FESTIVALS:

If you study the many cultures of the earth you will discover that nearly all of them have appointed seasons in the year to celebrate - be it for good or for bad.

But the wonderful part about this need within mankind to **CELEBRATE**, is that it is coded in us by God Himself!

When we humans don't know exactly **WHAT** to celebrate, it turns into dance and trance in a desperate attempt to fulfil this deep inner spiritual need!

So when God's appointed times and seasons are discovered and obeyed, we humans collide with God's time clock and original 'game plan'. Clarifying our identity in Him, and leading our lost souls back home. Now for the one new man in Messiah, Jew and Gentile, we are invited 'out' (so to say) seven times a year by God Himself to celebrate with Him.

The first 'four' dates: (Passover, Unleavened Bread, First fruits and Pentecost) have been faithfully fulfilled by Jesus' first coming and the last three 'dates' (Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles) will be fulfilled at His second coming.

He is coming for a Bride without spot or wrinkle, who's lamp is trimmed and prepared by the Holy

ingathering of the harvest. Also called 'the Festival of the Ingathering' (Exodus 23:16, 34:22) it was partly fulfilled when Yeshua was born and his parents fulfilled the law by taking Him to the Temple and having Him circumcised on the 8th day. God again keeping His promises where God came and tabernacle amongst us - Emmanuel, God with us! and this is when the Prophet Simion saw the babe and said: "Today my eyes have beheld Salvation..." (Luke 2:21,39)

It also commemorates the period of Israel's history when they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years and even though they dwell in flimsy booths, God was their soul provider and protection just as He still is for all of us in today's crazy world. Gratefulness and thanksgiving mark this time therefore also known as 'the season of our rejoicing.'

It is the only festival that the nations are commanded by God to come up each year to celebrate and worship the King in Jerusalem. Once Messiah has come again and those families of the earth that do not obey this command, they will be visited by drought, it says in Zechariah 14v16.

This is why, Bible based Christians are going year after year to Jerusalem, taking a prophetic step in anticipation of when Yeshua, the King of Kings, will rule and reign from Jerusalem. No wonder it is called 'The Festival of the Ingathering!' Because it will be when every knee will bow and every tongue, (the FINAL HARVEST) will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! EMMANUEL - GOD WITH US, forever and ever amen!

What a Master plan, what a loving and romantic God we serve and what wonderful things to look forward too. His return is eminent and our Faith must remain strong and bold because it is those who understand these times and seasons, that will have the EXTRA OIL (Matt 25: 1-13) and insight to endure until the end.

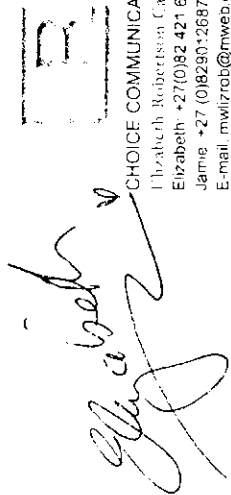
The word says that God's people perish for a lack of knowledge! I tell you the truth, acknowledge and obey God's appointed seasons, the next one being The Feast of Trumpets, the coming of our King (1 Thess 4: 13-18, 1 Thess 5: 1-11). Is this not the extra oil (the knowledge of His appointed times) that the parable speaks about? Times are going to get tougher but our faith must grow stronger as our love for Jesus's return grow deeper. Let the Spirit and the Bride say, "COME LORD JESUS COME!"

Please e-mail me your postal address if you would like a copy of the new book called: "DIVINE DATES – ARE YOU READY?"

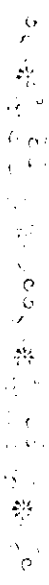
God willing it will be published by the end of 2010 but in the mean time let the Holy Spirit teach you and lead you into all truth. The sheeo know their Shepherd's voice and not one of them that the Father has given to His Son will be lost.

Enjoy learning about Gods annual appointments, our times are in His hands.

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Spirit for Her Bridegroom. This is our identity in Him, our ownership of Him and our inheritance from Him. Come now and discover the mysteries of Gods 'game plan' for the worlds redemption and understand the times and seasons we are living in.

1. PESACH – PASSOVER

Also known as the Festival of Unleavened bread. It is the first Festival that starts the year off and is celebrated around the end of March beginning of April for seven days. Its all about the miraculous deliverance of the Jewish people out of Egypt – BONDAGE.

For them to receive their deliverance, every Jewish family was to slaughter a perfect lamb and apply the blood on the door posts of their home for the angel of death to PASSOVER them so that their first born would not be killed by the angel of death.

God kept his date with mankind and sent his son, Yeshua at this crucial time and became our PASSOVER LAMB, who's blood we apply by faith to the door posts of our hearts for the forgiveness of sin, delivering all of humanity from 'Egypt', our bondage of sin and death, IF we will only believe and enter into our promised land.

Remembering that all that happens to the Jewish folk physically happens to us spiritually.

2. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

In Leviticus 23:6-8 God commands this second festival a day after Passover to commemorate seven days of eating bread without leaven in, called MATZA. Leaven (chometz) being symbolic of our sin.

We know that Jesus was in the Grave on this night and because of His sinless, **unleavened life**, death could not hold Him down. (Read Matthew 27:63-65) Remember before his death. He had that last Passover meal with His disciples and commanded them to eat of His flesh (the Matza) and to drink of his blood (the wine) to be partakers of His sinless life. He said do this as often as we eat it, in remembrance of Him: We can now partake of His sinless life if we remain in repentance and forgiveness.

3. FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS

An appointed time of God to celebrate the FIRST FRUIT of the barley harvest, three days after Passover! The Jewish folk would take a tenth of their crop to the temple as a sacrifice unto the Lord. Here Jesus, THE FIRST FRUIT of those who have fallen a sleep, rose to LIFE!

(1 Corinthians 15:20). God kept His appointment again and showed His Power and Love for His Son, raising Him from the dead, a first ever event in the human race. Jesus's obedience unto death, paved a way for all humanity to have Eternal life.

One man died that all may LIVE! (John 18v14)

4. PENTECOST – FEAST OF WEEKS – SHAVUOT

Seven weeks after Passover (round May) and like a balloon has a string attached to it so is this festival attached to Passover. Stretching across seven weeks x seven days, we come to 50 days after the deliverance of the people out of Egypt.

Moses now has a date or an appointment with the Living God and receives the 10 commandments on Mt Sinai. God gives the Jewish people His Torah - His instructions, setting them apart to be the custodians of His Word. The Torah.

After Jesus had ascended, all His disciples were gathered in Jerusalem for this festival of Shavuot, when suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from Heaven and filled the whole

house where they were sitting. Tongues of fire rested on each of them and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

This beloved is the fulfillment of the scriptures where God said He will make a NEW COVENANT with the House of Israel and with the house of Judah... I will put My Law in their minds and write it on their hearts... no longer will it be on the tablets of stone. (Jeremiah 31v31)

Yet again our God keeping His appointed time where He poured out His HOLY SPIRIT upon all flesh, so that now both Jew and Gentiles can be His son's and daughters.

5. THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS – ROSH HASHANA - NEW YEAR

This Festival has a couple of names due to a number of factors. Firstly its the celebration of the world's creation and God's sovereignty over His universe. This being a dominant theme of the prayers on this day. Then its a solemn call to repentance before the Day of Judgment in 10 days time. Also called, 'Days of Awe' where the Shofar is frequently blown stirring ones heart to repent, also called the 'Day of Sounding the Shofar'.

We as Spirit filled believers know in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 is says: "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with THE TRUMPET OF GOD, and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

In Chapter 5 v 4 it says: "But you, brothers are not in the dark, so that **this day** would overtake you like a thief."

God has clearly pointed out to us **that this day** (the Feast of Trumpets) is the next 'date' we have with God! As you see on the art work, NOW is the time to REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. Make peace wherever possible and forgive all and be filled with God's Holy Spirit. Or be one of those who are caught sleeping or unprepared like the five virgins with no oil in their lamps!

Just like a thief in the night, when the world around you will be saying: "Peace and security," but then sudden destruction! ARE WE READY?

6. DAY OF ATONEMENT – YOM KIPPUR

This is a day of fasting where no food or water is consumed for 24 hours and the most solemn of all Gods appointments. A day were all of Israel would await their fate when the High Priest, in the days when the Temple was still standing in Jerusalem, would go into the Holy of Holies with the blood of animals (that had to be perfect) for the atonement of the peoples sin.

It is also the deadline date for reconciliation between you and your fellow man. Because if you could not forgive others, God would not forgive you!

It is a time when the two books will be opened, the Lambs book of life, the book of the wicked! This being the reason why Jewish people bless each other with this saying: "I hope it goes well for you over the fast and that your name is written in The Book of LIFE!" (Revelation 21v27)

As believers in the atoning blood of our Messiah, we can come boldly into the throne room of God. Having the blessed assurance that our names are written in the Lambs Book of Life because of what our High Priest, Jesus has done for us. His very own perfect blood atoning for the world's sins. For those in Messiah, there is no more dread of this day but an anticipation of receiving our rewards for those who have lived by the power of the Holy Spirit. But for those who do not believe, Eternal judgment and damnation!

7. FEAST OF TABERNACLES – FEAST OF BOOTHS – SUCCOT

This is the last of God's seven appointments and celebrated 4 days after Yom Kippur. A festival highlighted by the most dancing and singing because it is celebrated at the time of the final