Lesson 17
John 7-10
“I Am the Good Shepherd”

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Opposition Increases (John 7:1)

**John 7:1**  Why did the Savior “not walk in Jewry”?

Instead of this, some MSS., versions, and fathers read, ougar eicen exousian, he had not authority, or liberty to walk, &c. That is, he was no longer tolerated, and could not preach publicly in Judea, but at the risk of his life. He found greater scope for the exercise of his important ministry in Galilee than in Judea, as the chief priests, &c., were continually plotting his death.

Urged to Attend the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:2-9)

**Matt. 18:2**  Do people still aspire to “higher callings” in the Kingdom?

St. John passes from the preceding discourse of our Lord, which he delivered a little before the passover, (John 6:4), to the Feast of Tabernacles, which happened six months after (Deut. 16:16), and thus omits many things mentioned by the other evangelists, which our blessed Lord said and did during that time. He had already gone over Galilee four or five times; and he continued there, because he found that the hatred of the Jews was such that they would kill him if they could meet with him in Judea; and his time to suffer was not yet come.

Jesus Attends the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:10-13)

**Matt. 18:4**  How is greatness in the Kingdom of God measured?

Undoubtedly, the people had heard of the Savior’s miracles performed at each Passover in Jerusalem since the beginning of His ministry. As Jewish law declared that the Feast of Tabernacles was one of the three feasts (Passover, Feast of Weeks, and Feast of Tabernacles) that required each male to come up to Jerusalem to worship, the people anticipated that the Savior would keep the law and be present in Jerusalem. Like today, some believed he was the promised Messiah, some were unsure, and others denounced Him as a fraud.

Regardless of personal beliefs, the Jews were not willing to discuss the man called Jesus at length as they feared the retribution of their leaders (Pharisees and Sadducees) who were obviously against the Savior and plotted His death.
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<th>John 7:15</th>
<th>What did the Savior do while at the Feast of Tabernacles?</th>
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<td>The Savior was again found in the Temple teaching the people. His words caused the multitudes to marvel and question how this unlearned man could be so well versed in the law. It was obviously known that the Savior was not one of the scribes or leaders of the people, yet He taught with power and authority. The people asked, “How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?”</td>
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<th>John 7:16-17</th>
<th>Where did the Savior say true learning comes from?</th>
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<td>ruth in the gospel comes from the Father, the Savior said, “My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.” He then gave the key to knowing for oneself if the teachings He gave were true. He said, “If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.” He was challenging the crowd to put His words to the test and come and see for themselves if the teaching were of God or of another.</td>
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<th>John 7:18-23</th>
<th>Why did the people not know of the plots against His life?</th>
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<td>Those who lived outside of Jerusalem who had gathered for the Feast may not have known of the secret combinations of the Pharisees, but those in Jerusalem were indeed aware (v. 25) of the plots and only pretended not to know. Would these same pilgrims and travelers remember the Savior’s words of the plottings on His life when He returned to Jerusalem in seven months to face scourging and death?</td>
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<th>John 7:21-23</th>
<th>Why did the people refuse to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah?</th>
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<td>The question is just as relevant today. Why do people today refuse to recognize Jesus as the Son of God? Some out of fear of family and friends reject Him, others put their own learning above heavenly revelation and reject Him. Still, others believe (v. 31). Perhaps the most common reason others reject Him is found in the traditions they have grown up with.</td>
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<th>John 7:24 (JST)</th>
<th>Judge not according to your traditions, but judge righteous judgment.</th>
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<td>Why do traditions hold such a powerful grasp on the minds of the people?</td>
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<td>And it came to pass that the children, being brought up in subjection to the law of Moses, gave heed to the traditions of their fathers and believed not the gospel of Christ, wherein they became unholy. - D&amp;C 74:4</td>
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And that wicked one cometh and taketh away light and truth, through disobedience, from the children of men, and because of the tradition of their fathers. - D&C 93:39

“The gospel of Jesus Christ challenges us to change. “Repent” is its most frequent message, and repenting means giving up all of our practices—personal, family, ethnic, and national—that are contrary to the commandments of God. The purpose of the gospel is to transform common creatures into celestial citizens, and that requires change.

John the Baptist preached repentance. His listeners came from different groups, and he declared the changes each must make to “bring forth ... fruits worthy of repentance” (Luke 3:8). Publicans, soldiers, and ordinary people—each had traditions that had to yield to the process of repentance.

The teachings of Jesus also challenged the traditions of different groups. When the scribes and Pharisees complained that His disciples “transgress[ed] the tradition of the elders” by omitting the ritual washings, Jesus replied that the scribes and Pharisees “transgress[ed] the commandment of God by [their] tradition” (Matt. 15:2–3). He described how they had “made the commandment of God of none effect by [their] tradition” (Matt. 15:6). “Hypocrites” is what He called those whose adherence to their traditions kept them from keeping the commandments of God (Matt. 15:7).

Again, in modern revelation the Lord declares that the “wicked one” takes the innocent children of God away from light and truth “through disobedience ... and because of the tradition of their fathers” (D&C 93:39).

The traditions or culture or way of life of a people inevitably include some practices that must be changed by those who wish to qualify for God’s choicest blessings.
The Spirit Testifies of Jesus’ Ministry (John 7:37-53)

John 7:37

What is the “great day” of the feast?

“The Feast of Tabernacles was a seven day long festival. Beginning on the first day:While the morning sacrifice was being prepared, a priest, accompanied by a joyous procession with music, went down to the Pool of Siloam, whence he drew water into a golden pitcher, capable of holding three log (rather more than two pints).

At the same time that the procession started for Siloam (see map in Appendix), another went to a place in the Kidron valley, close by, called Motza, whence they brought willow branches, which, amidst the

blasts of the priests’ trumpets, they stuck on either side of the altar of burnt-offering, bending them over towards it, so as to form a kind of leafy canopy. Then the ordinary sacrifice proceeded, the priest who had gone to Siloam so timing it, that he returned just as his brethren carried up the pieces of the sacrifice to lay them on the altar. As he entered by the “Water-gate,” which obtained its name from this ceremony, he was received by a threefold blast from the priests’ trumpets.

Thus the Talmud says distinctly:‘Why is the name of
it called, The drawing out of water? Because of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, according to what is said: “With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.” Hence, also, the feast and the peculiar joyousness of it are alike designated as those of ‘the drawing out of water’; for, according to the same Rabbinical authorities, the Holy Spirit dwells in many only through joy.

A similar symbolism was expressed by another ceremony which took place at the close, not of the daily, but of the festive sacrifices. On every one of the seven days the priests formed in procession, and made the circuit of the altar, singing: ‘O then, now work salvation, Jehovah! O Jehovah, give prosperity!’ (Psa 118:25). But on the seventh, “that great day of the feast,” they made the circuit of the altar seven times, remembering how the walls of Jericho had fallen in similar circumstances, and anticipating how, by the direct interposition of God, the walls of heathenism would fall before Jehovah, and the land lie open for His people to go in and possess it.

We can now in some measure realise the event recorded in John 7:37. The festivities of the Week of Tabernacles were drawing to a close. ‘It was the last day, that great day of the feast.’ It obtained this name, although it was not one of ‘holy convocation,’ partly because it closed the feast, and partly from the circumstances which procured it in Rabbinical writings the designations of ‘Day of the Great Hosanah,’ on account of the sevenfold circuit of the altar with ‘Hosanah’; and ‘Day of Willows,’ and ‘Day of Beating the Branches,’ because all the leaves were shaken off the willow boughs, and the palm branches beaten in pieces by the side of the altar.

It was on that day, after the priest had returned from Siloam with his golden pitcher, and for the last time poured its contents to the base of the altar; after the ‘Hallel’ had been sung to the sound of the flute, the people responding and worshipping as the priests three times drew the threefold blasts from their silver trumpets—when the interest of the people had been raised to its highest pitch, that, from amidst the mass of worshippers, who were waving towards the altar quite a forest of leafy branches as the last words of Psalm 118 were chanted—voice was raised which resounded through the temple, startled the multitude, and carried fear and hatred to the hearts of their leaders. It was Jesus, who ‘stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.’ Then by faith in Him should each one truly become like the Pool of Siloam, and from his inmost being ‘rivers of living waters flow’ (John 7:38). ‘This spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive.’

Thus the significance of the rite, in which they had just taken part, was not only fully explained, but the mode of its fulfilment pointed out. The effect was instantaneous. It could not but be, that in that vast assembly, so suddenly roused by being brought face to face with Him in whom every type and prophecy is fulfilled, there would be many who, ‘when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ.” - Edersheim, The Temple

**John 7:38** What scripture is Christ referring to?

“There is no single Old Testament passage which promises that living waters shall flow from the disciples to others. Jesus is either quoting a prophecy which has not been preserved for us or he is combining such statements as those found in Isa. 44:3; 55:1; and 58:11, in such a way as to give an interpretive rendition of them. - DNTE 1:446

**John 7:39 (JST)** ...for the Holy Ghost was promised unto them who believe, after that Jesus was glorified

**John 7:42** What scripture is Christ referring to?

The footnote refers to the Topical Guide “Jesus Christ, Davidic Descent of” that gives the following scriptures:

1 Sam. 17:12; 2 Sam. 7:13; Ps. 89:4; 132:11; 132:17; Isa. 9:7; 11:1 (2 Ne. 21:1); Jer. 23:5I; Jer. 33:15. Also the scripture specifically stating Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Savior is found in Micah 5:2

**John 7:45** Who did the Pharisees expect would bring the Savior to them at this time?

“Even the Temple-guard, whose duty it would have been in such circumstances to arrest one who had so interrupted the services of the day, and presented himself to the people in such a light, owned the spell of His words, and dared not to lay hands on Him. ‘Never man spake like this man,’ was the only account they could give of their unusual weakness, in answer to the reproaches of the chief priests and Pharisees.” - Edersheim

The Pharisees accused Nicodemus of being one of his disciples by saying, “Art thou also of Galilee?” For “out of Galilee ariseth no prophet” — how quickly they had forgotten that this little country town had produced Jonah, Nahum, Hosea, and Elijah. Truly these “learned” men believed they were wise and hearkened not unto the counsels of God.
John 8:1  Why did Jesus go to the Mount of Olives?

The Savior rose early in the morning, because that is when inspiration is the greatest. (Gen. 22:3)

In ancient Israel, death by stoning was the penalty imposed upon betrothed or married persons found guilty of sex immorality. The official witnesses, two or more, upon whose testimony the conviction rested, were obliged to cast the first stone. (Ex. 20:14; Lev. 20:10; Deut. 13:9-10; 17:2-7; 22:13-21; Ezek. 16:35-43)

By the time of Jesus, however, it was no longer the practice to impose the death penalty for adultery. Indeed, no penalty of death could be imposed without the sanction and approval of the Roman overlords, and in the case of adultery the low of Rome did not prescribe death.

John 8:11 (JST)  Did the woman repent?

"...And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee; go, and sin no more. And the woman glorified God from that hour, and believed on his name."

John 8:12  When did the Lord speak of being the “Light of the World”?

This event probably transpired at the same time as the declaration of Himself as “living water”, though it might have happened on the following night. To understand the context we return to the Temple on that last great day of the Feast.

"At the close of the first day of the feast the worshippers descended to the Court of the Women (see Appendix), where great preparations had been made. Four golden candelabras were there, each with four golden bowls, and against them rested four ladders; and four youths of priestly descent held, each a pitcher of oil, capable of holding one hundred and twenty log, from which they filled each bowl. The old, worn breeches and girdles of the priests served for wicks to these lamps. There was not a court in Jerusalem that was not lit up by the light of “the house of water-pouring.”

The “Chassidim” and “the men of Deed” danced before the people with flaming torches in their hands, and sang before them hymns and songs of praise; and the Levites, with harps, and lutes, and cymbals, and trumpets, and instruments of music without number, stood upon the fifteen steps which led down from the Court of Israel to that of the Women, according
to the number of the fifteen Songs of Degrees in the
Book of Psalms. They stood with their instruments
of music, and sang hymns. Two priests, with trumpets in
their hands, were at the upper gate (that of Nicanor),
which led from the Court of Israel to that of the Women.
At cock-crowing they drew a threefold blast. As they
reached the tenth step, they drew another threefold blast; as they entered the court itself, they drew yet another threefold blast; and so they blew as they advanced, till they reached the gate which opens upon the east (the Beautiful Gate). As they came to the eastern gate, they turned round towards the west (to face the Holy Place), and said: 'Our fathers who were in this place, they turned their back upon the Sanctuary of Jehovah, and their faces toward the east, and they worshipped towards the rising sun; but as for us, our eyes are towards the Lord.'

It seems clear that this illumination of the Temple
was regarded as forming part of, and having the same
symbolical meaning as, “the pouring out of water.”
The light shining out of the Temple into the darkness
around, and lighting up every court in Jerusalem,
must have been intended as a symbol not only of
the Shechinah which once filled the Temple, but of
that “great light” which “the people that walked in
darkness” were to see, and which was to shine “upon
them that dwell in the land of the shadow of death”
(Isa 9:2). May it not be, that such prophecies as Isaiah 9 and 60 were
connected with this symbolism? At any rate, it seems
most probable that Jesus had referred to this cere-
mony in the words spoken by Him in the Temple at
that very Feast of Tabernacles: “I am the light of the
world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in dark-
ness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).

Heals Blind Man on the Sabbath (John 9)

**John 9:1 Why was the blind man at the Temple?**

The temple and its courts had long been the site for
those who would be objects of pity (Edersheim, p.
597). It makes good “business” sense if you are relying
upon the charity of others to go where you will find a
high concentration of people. The same holds true to-
day when those less fortunate gather outside General
Conference in hopes of the crowds bringing help.

**John 9:2 Why did the Jews ask who had sinned?**

It was a Jewish belief that people born with infirmi-
ties were cursed of God for some sin committed by
themselves or their parents prior to the birth. We
can thus ascertain that the Jews had knowledge of a
pre-existence by the nature of their question. A similar
situation had occurred when Elijah came to heal the
widow’s son and she referred to her past sins as the
reason for her son’s death (1 Kings 17:18).

“Among their righteous forbears it had been taught
plainly as a basic gospel truth. (Moses 3:4-9; 6:51;
Abr. 3:22-28.) Such scriptures as were then available
to them however, contained only passing allusions to
it. (Num. 16:22; Isa. 14:12-20; Jer. 1:5.)”–DNTC 1:479

**John 9:4 What is the “night” wherein no man can work?**

We are not free to sin all the days of our lives, intend-
ing to repent when at last we pass through death to
the hereafter. For in death we cannot repent having
rejected the truth here on earth. Alma taught to his
wayward son, “And now, as I said unto you before, as
ye have had so many witnesses, therefore, I beseech
of you that ye do not procrastinate the day of your
repentance until the end; for after this day of life,
which is given us to prepare for eternity, behold, if
we do not improve our time while in this life, then
cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be
no labor performed.” – Alma 34:33

**John 9:4 (JST)**

“I must work the works of him that sent me, while I am with you; the time cometh when I shall have finished
my work, then I go unto the Father.”

**What works did the Father do?**

Christ came to do the will of the Father in all things. To his disciples he said, “…Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.” - John 5:19
Joseph Smith said, speaking of Christ, “I do the things I saw my Father do before worlds came rolling into existence. I saw my Father work out his kingdom with fear and trembling, and I must do the same. [Then] I shall give my kingdom to the Father so that he obtains kingdom rolling upon kingdom,” so that Jesus...steps into his tracks to inherit what God did before. - Jackson, Joseph Smith’s Commentary on the Bible, p. 131

**John 9:5** What is the significance of the statement “I am the light of the world”?  
Jesus used this moment to reiterate and demonstrate the significance of his statement in the temple courts earlier during the Feast of Tabernacle. He was showing that those who walk in darkness, both physically and spiritually, will find light and sight only in and through Him.

**John 9:7** Why did the Lord choose to heal in this way?  
As the blind man stumbled to Siloam, he may have felt the anticipation of what lie ahead. Not knowing this healer, yet hoping beyond reason, he wondered if his long night was over. As the water fell from his eyes, he might have looked heavenward seeing the blue of the sky and white wisps of the clouds for the first time. He must have seen the birds that, until now, had only been heard. It would have been a natural instinct to want to find this healer and give gratitude for such a gift. Yet, when he arrived back at the temple Jesus was gone.

**John 9:15** Why did the Jewish leaders call the blind man before them?  
The Pharisees call the once blind man before them, looking for evidence for the purpose of convicting Jesus of Sabbath breaking. When questioned what he thinks of this healer, the once blind man replies, “He is a prophet.” In disbelief the Pharisees call for the parents to ascertain the truth of this man’s condition.

**John 9:17** How is the blind man’s statement of Christ’s divinity relevant to us today?  
There are those who would espouse the virtues of Christ’s teachings and claim Him a wise man and a prophet, yet withhold their allegiance to the Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of the World. Honest seekers of truth may start with a testimony of the goodness of the Savior, but eventually with increased exposure and experimentation they will come to say with the blind man, “Lord, I believe.” (v. 38)

**John 9:22** What lesson do we learn from the parents of the blind man?  
Fearing man more than God, the parents of the once blind man refuse to declare the nature of the healer, instead they look to their son to shoulder the burden of this moment.

**John 9:27 (JST)** How did the blind man respond to the questions of the Jewish leaders?  
“I have told you already, and ye did not believe; wherefore would you believe if I should tell you again? And would you be his disciples?” The Pharisees reject both the testimony of the blind man and man of whom he testifies, “Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses’ disciples.”

**John 9:32 (JST)** “Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind, except he be of God.”

**John 9:35** What does it mean to be “cast out” and what is the significance of this?  
Being cast out was the equivalent of excommunication from the Jewish faith. While excommunication from a religious sect today may have little long-term impact upon a person whose social acquaintances may not be from the same religion, in Jewry this was worse than a death sentence.
Cast out from among his friends and family, the blind man may have wandered back to the same spot where he had spent the majority of his days— the temple. Now comes the reward of his newfound faith. Christ seeks him out yet again and with the power that was His alone He now declares, “Dost thou believe on the Son of God?” He answered and said, “Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?” And Jesus said unto him, “Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.” And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshipped him.

**John 9:39-41** How did Christ respond to the Pharisees?

Christ says he has come to give sight to those that are blind, and to make those which think they see...blind. The Pharisees, grasping his insult ask, “Are we blind also?” To which the Lord so eloquently replies, “If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, ‘We see’; therefore your sin remaineth.”

**Parable: Good Shepherd (John 10:1-21; 3 Ne. 15:17-24)**

John 10:3 The pastoral profession was highly regarded in ancient Israel, the great King David had been a shepherd. As such many preachers drew on the parallels of the shepherd watching over his flock, and the Lord watching over his saints. Shepherds did not drive flocks as ranchers do today. Rather, they led them with gentleness and kindness. All of the shepherds from an area would lead their flocks into the sheepfold (or corral) for the night where a single shepherd would watch over them while the others slept. In the morning, each shepherd would come and call to his flock. They knew his voice and followed him. No branding was required, for his kindness had branded their hearts and they were his.

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John 10:3 “All that ever came before me who testified not of me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them.”

**Feast of Dedication (John 10:22-39)**

BD “Feasts” Feast of Dedication:

Instituted in the days of Judas Maccabeus to commemorate the rededication of the temple in 165 B.C. This feast was a week long celebration like the Feast of Tabernacles with the bearing of palm leaves and a general illumination (thus the name Feast of Lights).

John 10:27 Why do some persons believe in Christ and his saving truths while others do not?

Why is it easier for some to believe all of the gospel truths than for others? There is only one rational explanation why selected sheep hearken more readily to the Master’s voice; it is the fact that men developed different talents in preexistence. Spirits sent to inhabit some mortal bodies developed talents for spirituality, for recognizing the truth, for believing spiritual realities while yet in pre-existence; others did not. Many of the offspring of Deity, having excelled in spiritual attainments in pre-existence, are born as members of the house of Israel in this life. (Deut. 32:7-9.) - DNTC 1:490

John 10:34 Is there more than one God?

Though “there is none other God but one” for men on this earth to worship, yet “there be gods many, and lords many” throughout the infinite expanse of eternity. (Cor. 8:4-7.) That is, there are many exalted, perfected, glorified personages who reign as gods over their own dominions. John saw 144,000 of them standing with Christ upon Mount Zion, all “having his Father’s name written in their foreheads” (Rev. 14:1), which is to say that they were gods and were so identified by wearing crowns so stating. Indeed, to each person who overcomes and gains exaltation, Christ has promised: “I will write upon him the name of my God,” and he shall “sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in
Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ransomed; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and bit shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin’s gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king’s winesperes. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of the family of Egypt go not up, neither shall any soul in all the lands come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of all the beasts, and of the chariots, and of the wagon, and of the horseman; and there shall be a very great valley of blood in the midst of Egypt: and every horse, and every one that is in Egypt shall be瞎, and all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance. And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

Conclusion

“Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and bit shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin’s gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king’s winesperes. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will...
Chapter 14: The Feast of Tabernacles

The most joyous of all festive seasons in Israel was that of the “Feast of Tabernacles.” It fell on a time of year when the hearts of the people would naturally be full of thankfulness, gladness, and expectancy. All the crops had been long stored; and now all fruits were also gathered, the vintage past, and the land only awaited the softening and refreshment of the “latter rain,” to prepare it for a new crop. It was appropriate that, when the commencement of the harvest had been consecrated by offering the first ripe sheaf of barley, and the full ingathering of the corn by the two wave-loaves, there should now be a harvest feast of thankfulness and of gladness unto the Lord.

But that was not all. As they looked around on the goodly land, the fruits of which had just enriched them, they must have remembered that by miraculous interposition the Lord their God had brought them to this land and given it them, and that He ever claimed it as peculiarly His own. For the land was strictly connected with the history of the people; and both the land and the history were linked with the mission of Israel. If the beginning of the harvest had pointed back to the birth of Israel in their Exodus from Egypt, and forward to the true Passover sacrifice in the future; if the corn-harvest was connected with the giving of the law on Mount Sinai in the past, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost; the harvest-thanksgiving of the Feast of Tabernacles reminded Israel, on the one hand, of their dwelling in booths in the wilderness, while, on the other hand, it pointed to the final harvest when Israel’s mission should be completed, and all nations gathered unto the Lord.

Thus the first of the three great annual feasts spoke, in the presentation of the first sheaf, of the founding of the Church; the second of its harvesting, when the Church in its present state should be presented as two leavened wave-loaves; while the third pointed forward to the full harvest in the end, when “in this mountain shall the Lord of Hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things...And He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people (Israel) shall He take away from all the earth” (Isa 25:6-8; comp. Rev 21:4, etc.)

The Names of the Feast

That these are not ideal comparisons, but the very design of the Feast of Tabernacles, appears not only from the language of the prophets and the peculiar services of the feast, but also from its position in the Calendar, and even from the names by which it is designated in Scripture. Thus in its reference to the harvest it is called “the feast of ingathering” (Ex. 23:16; 34:22); in that to the history of Israel in the past, “the Feast of Tabernacles” (Lev 23:34, 43; Deut 16:13,16; 31:10; 2 Chr. 8:13; Ezra 3:4); while its symbolical bearing on the future is brought out in its designation as emphatically “the feast” (1 Kings 8:2; 2 Chr. 5:3; 7:8,9); and “the Feast of Jehovah” (Lev 23:39). In this sense also Josephus, Philo, and the Rabbis (in many passages of the Mishnah) single it out from all the other feasts. And quite decisive on the point is the description of the “latter-day” glory at the close of the prophecies of Zechariah, where the conversion of all nations is distinctly connected with the ‘Feast of Tabernacles’ (Zech 14:16-21). That this reference is by no means isolated will appear in the sequel.

The Time of the Feast

The Feast of Tabernacles was the third of the great annual festivals, at which every male in Israel was to appear before the Lord in the place which He should choose. It fell on the 15th of the seventh month, or Tishri (corresponding to September or the beginning of October), as the Passover had fallen on the 15th of the first month. The significance of these numbers in themselves and relatively will not escape attention, the more so that this feast closed the original festive calendar; for Purim and ‘the Feast of Jehovah’ (Lev 23:39). The history were linked with the mission of Israel.

Thus the first of the three great annual feasts spoke, in the presentation of the first sheaf, of the founding of the Church; the second of its harvesting, when the Church in its present state should be presented as two leavened wave-loaves; while the third pointed forward to the full harvest in the end, when “in this mountain shall the Lord of Hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things...And He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people (Israel) shall He take away from all the earth” (Isa 25:6-8; comp. Rev 21:4, etc.)

It Followed Close Upon the Day of Atonement

There is yet another important point to be noticed. The “Feast of Tabernacles” followed closely on the Day of Atonement. Both took place in the seventh month; the one on the 10th, the other on the 15th of Tishri. What the seventh day, or Sabbath, was in reference to the week, the seventh month seems to have been in reference to the year. It closed not only the sacred cycle, but also the agricultural or working year. It also marked the change of seasons, the approach of rain and of the winter equinox, and determined alike the commencement and the close of a sabbatical year (Deut 31:10). Coming on the 15th of this seventh month— is, at full moon, when the ‘sacred’ month had, so to speak, attained its full strength— Feast of Tabernacles appropriately followed five days after the Day of Atonement, in which the sin of Israel had been removed, and its covenant relation to God restored. Thus a sanctified nation could keep a holy feast of harvest joy unto the Lord, just as in the truest sense it will be “in that day” (Zech 14:20) when the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles shall be really fulfilled.1

1 Quite another picture is drawn in Hosea 9, which seems also to refer to the Feast of Tabernacles (see specially verse 5). Indeed, it is remarkable how many allusions to this feast occur in the writings of the prophets, as if its types were the goal of all their desires.
The Three Chief Features of the Feast

Three things specially marked the Feast of Tabernacles: its joyous festivities, the dwelling in 'booths;' and the peculiar sacrifices and rites of the week. The first of these was simply characteristic of a "feast of ingathering": "Because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice— and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates." Nor were any in Israel to 'appear before the Lord empty: every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee' (Deut 16:13-17).

Votive, freewill, and peace-offerings would mark their gratitude to God, and at the meal which ensued the poor, the stranger, the Levite, and the homeless would be welcome guests, for the Lord's sake. Moreover, when the people saw the treasury chests opened and emptied at this feast for the last time in the year, they would remember their brethren at a distance, in whose name, as well as their own, the daily and festive sacrifices were offered. Thus their liberality would not only be stimulated, but all Israel, however widely dispersed, would feel itself anew one before the Lord their God and in the courts of His House. There was, besides, something about this feast which would peculiarly remind them, if not of their dispersion, yet of their being "strangers and pilgrims in the earth." For its second characteristic was, that during the seven days of its continuance "all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths; that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt" (Lev 23:42,43).

The Booths

As usual, we are met at the outset by a controversy between the Pharisees and the Sadducees. The law had it (Lev 23:40): "Ye shall take you on the first day the fruit (so correctly in the margin) of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook," which the Sadducees understood (as do the modern Karaite Jews) to refer to the materials whence the booths were to be constructed, while the Pharisees applied it to what the worshippers were to carry in their hands. The latter interpretation is, in all likelihood, the correct one; it seems borne out by the account of the festival at the time of Nehemiah (Neh 8:15,18), when the booths were constructed of branches of other trees than those mentioned in Leviticus 23; and it was universally adopted in practice at the time of Christ.

The Mishnah gives most minute details as to the height and construction of these "booths," the main object being to prevent any invasion of the law. Thus it must be a real booth, and constructed of boughs of living trees, and solely for the purposes of this festival. Hence it must be high enough, yet not too high—least ten handbreadths, but not more than thirty feet; three of its walls must be of boughs; it must be fairly covered with boughs, yet not so shaded as to admit sunshine, nor yet so open as to have not sufficient shade, the object in each case being neither sunshine nor shade, but that it should be a real booth of boughs of trees. It is needless to enter into further details, except to say that these booths, and not their houses, were to be the regular dwelling of all in Israel during the week, and that, except in very heavy rain, they were to eat, sleep, pray, study—short, entirely to live in them.

The only exceptions were in favour of those absent on some pious duty, the sick, and their attendants, women, slaves, and infants who were still depending on their mothers. Finally, the rule was that, ‘whatever might contract Levitical defilement (such as boards, cloth, etc.), or whatever did not grow out of the earth, might not be used’ in constructing the ‘booths.’

The Fruit and Palm Branches

It has already been noticed that, according to the view universally prevalent at the time of Christ, the direction on the first day of the feast to “take the fruit of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook,” was applied to what the worshippers were to carry in their hands. The Rabbis ruled, that “the fruit of the goodly trees” meant the aethrog, or citron, and “the boughs of thick trees” the myrtle, provided it had “not more berries than leaves.” The aethrogs must be without blemish or deficiency of any kind; the palm branches at least three handbreadths high, and fit to be shaken; and each branch fresh, entire, unpolluted, and not taken from any idolatrous grove.

Every worshipper carried the aethrog in his left hand, and in his right the lulav, or palm, with myrtle and willow branch on either side of it, tied together on the outside with its own kind, though in the inside it might be fastened even with gold thread. There can be no doubt that the lulav was intended to remind Israel of the different stages of their wilderness journey, as represented by the different vegetation—palm branches recalling the valleys and plains, the ‘boughs of thick trees,’ the bushes on the mountain heights, and the willows those brooks from which God had given His people drink; while the aethrog was to remind them of the fruits of the good land which the Lord had given them. The lulav was used in the Temple on each of the seven festive days, even children, if they were able to shake it, being bound to carry one. If the first day of the feast fell on a Sabbath, the people brought their lulavs on the previous day into the synagogue on the Temple Mount, and fetched them in the morning, so as not needlessly to break the Sabbath rest.

The Offerings

The third characteristic of the Feast of Tabernacles was its offerings. These were altogether peculiar. The sinoffering for each of the seven days was ‘one kid of the goats.’ The burnt-offerings consisted of bullocks, rams, and lambs, with their appropriate meat- and drink-offerings. But, whereas the number of the rams and lambs remained the same on each day of the festival, that of the bullocks decreased every day by one—thirteen on the first to seven bullocks on the last day, ‘that great day of the feast.’ As no special injunctions are given about the drink-offering, we infer that it was, as usually (Num 15:1-10), 1/4 of a hin of wine.
for each lamb, 1/3 for each ram, and 1/2 for each bullock (the hin = 1 gallon 2 pints). The ‘meatoffering’ is expressly fixed (Num 19:12, etc.) at 1/10 of an ephah of flour, mixed with 1/4 of a hin of oil, for each lamb; 2/10 of an ephah with 1/3 hin of oil, for each ram; and 3/10 of an ephah, with 1/2 hin of oil, for each bullock.

Three things are remarkable about these burnt-offerings. First, they are evidently the characteristic sacrifice of the Feast of Tabernacles. As compared with the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the number of the rams and lambs is double, while that of the bullocks is fivefold (14 during the Passover week, 5 x 14 during that of Tabernacles). Secondly, the number of the burnt-sacrifices, whether taking each kind by itself or all of them together, is always divisible by the sacred number seven. We have for the week 70 bullocks, 14 rams, and 98 lambs, or altogether 182 sacrifices (26 x 7), to which must be added 336 (48 x 7) tenths of ephahs of flour for the meat-offering. We will not pursue the tempting subject of this symbolism of numbers further than to point out that, whereas the sacred number 7 appeared at the Feast of Unleavened Bread only in the number of its days, and at Pentecost in the period of its observance (7 x 7 days after Passover), the Feast of Tabernacles lasted seven days, took place when the seventh month was at its full height, and had the number 7 impressed on its characteristic sacrifices.

It is not so easy to account for the third peculiarity of these sacrifices— of the daily diminution in the number of bullocks offered. The common explanation, that it was intended to indicate the decreasing sanctity of each successive day of the feast, while the sacred number 7 was still to be reserved for the last day, is not more satisfactory than the view propounded in the Talmud, that these sacrificial services were offered, not for Israel, but for the nations of the world: ‘There were seventy bullocks, to correspond to the number of the seventy nations in the world.’ But did the Rabbis understand the prophetic character of this feast? An attentive consideration of its peculiar ceremonial will convince that it must have been exceedingly difficult to ignore it entirely.

On the day before the Feast of Tabernacles— 14th Tishri— festive pilgrims had all arrived in Jerusalem. The ‘booths’ on the roofs, in the courtyards, in streets and squares, as well as roads and gardens, within a Sabbath day’s journey, must have given the city and neighbourhood an unusually picturesque appearance. The preparation of all that was needed for the festival— , the care of the offerings that each would bring, and friendly communications between those who were to be invited to the sacrificial meal— doubt sufficiently occupied their time. When the early autumn evening set in, the blasts of the priests’ trumpets on the Temple Mount announced to Israel the advent of the feast.

**Special Service at the Temple**

As at the Passover and at Pentecost, the altar of burnt-offering was cleansed during the first night-watch, and the gates of the Temple were thrown open immediately after midnight. The time till the beginning of the ordinary morning sacrifice was occupied in examining the various sacrifices and offerings that were to be brought during the day. While the morning sacrifice was being prepared, a priest, accompanied by a joyous procession with music, went down to the Pool of Siloam, whence he drew water into a golden pitcher, capable of holding three log (rather more than two pints). But on the Sabbaths they fetched the water from a golden vessel in the Temple itself, into which it had been carried from Siloam on the preceding day.

At the same time that the procession started for Siloam, another went to a place in the Kidron valley, close by, called Motza, whence they brought willow branches, which, amidst the blasts of the priests’ trumpets, they stuck on either side of the altar of burnt-offering, bending them over towards it, so as to form a kind of leafy canopy. Then the ordinary sacrifice proceeded, the priest who had gone to Siloam so timing it, that he returned just as his brethren carried up the pieces of the sacrifice to lay them on the altar. As he entered by the “Water-gate,” which obtained its name from this ceremony, he was received by a threefold blast from the priests’ trumpets.

The priest then went up the rise of the altar and turned to the left, where there were two silver basins with narrow holes— eastern a little wider for the wine, and the western somewhat narrower for the water. Into these the wine of the drink-offering was poured, and at the same time the water from Siloam, the people shouting to the priest, “Raise thy hand,” to show that he really poured the water into the basin which led to the base of the altar. For, sharing the objections of the Sadducees, Alexander Jannaeus, the Maccabean king-priest (about 95 BC), had shown his contempt for the Pharisees by pouring the water at this feast upon the ground, on which the people pelted him with their aethrogs, and would have murdered him, if his foreign body-guard had not interfered, on which occasion no less than six thousand Jews were killed in the Temple.

**The Music of the Feast**

As soon as the wine and the water were being poured out, the Temple music began, and the “Hallel” (Psa 113-118) was sung in the manner previously prescribed, and to the accompaniment of flutes, except on the Sabbath and on the first day of the feast, when flute-playing was not allowed, on account of the sanctity of the days. When the choir came to these words (Psa 118:1), “O give thanks to the Lord,” and again when they sang (Psa 118:25), “O work then now salvation, Jehovah”; and once more at the close (Psa 118:29), “O give thanks unto the Lord,” all the worshippers shook their luluvs towards the altar.

When, therefore, the multitudes from Jerusalem, on meeting Jesus, “cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way, and...cried, saying, O then, work now salvation to the Son of David” (Matt 21:8,9; John 12:12,13) they applied, in reference to Christ, what was regarded as one of the chief ceremonies of the Feast of Tabernacles, praying that God would now from “the highest” heavens manifest and send that salvation in connection with the Son of David, which was symbolised by the pouring out of water. For though that ceremony was considered by the Rabbis as bearing a subordinate reference to the dispensation of the rain, the annual fall of which they imagined was determined by God at that feast, its main and real application was to the future outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as predicted— in allusion to this very rite— Isaiah the prophet (Isa 12:3). 2
Thus the Talmud says distinctly: “Why is the name of it called, The drawing out of water? Because of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, according to what is said: ‘With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.’” Hence, also, the feast and the peculiar joyousness of it are alike designated as those of ‘the drawing out of water’; for, according to the same Rabbinical authorities, the Holy Spirit dwells in many only through joy.

**The Daily Circuit of the Altar**

A similar symbolism was expressed by another ceremony which took place at the close, not of the daily, but of the festive sacrifices. On every one of the seven days the priests formed in procession, and made the circuit of the altar, singing: “O then, now work salvation, Jehovah! O Jehovah, give prosperity” (Psa 118:25). But on the seventh, “that great day of the feast,” they made the circuit of the altar seven times, remembering how the walls of Jericho had fallen in similar circumstances, and anticipating how, by the direct interposition of God, the walls of heathenism would fall before Jehovah, and the land lie open for His people to go in and possess it.

**The References in John 7:37**

We can now in some measure realise the event recorded in John 7:37. The festivities of the Week of Tabernacles were drawing to a close. “It was the last day, that great day of the feast.” It obtained this name, although it was not one of “holy convocation,” partly because it closed the feast, and partly from the circumstances which procured it in Rabbinical writings the designations of “Day of the Great Hosannah,” on account of the sevenfold circuit of the altar with “Hosannah”; and “Day of Willows,” and “Day of Beating the Branches,” because all the leaves were shaken off the willow boughs, and the palm branches beaten in pieces by the side of the altar. It was on that day, after the priest had returned from Siloam with his golden pitcher, and for the last time poured its contents to the base of the altar; after the “Hallel” had been sung to the sound of the flute, the people responding and worshipping as the priests three times drew the threefold blasts from their silver trumpets— when the interest of the people had been raised to its highest pitch, that, from amidst the mass of worshippers, who were waving towards the altar quite a forest of leafy branches as the last words of Psalm 118 were chanted— voice was raised which resounded through the temple, startled the multitude, and carried fear and hatred to the hearts of their leaders. It was Jesus, who “stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink.” Then by faith in Him should each one truly become like the Pool of Siloam, and from his inmost being "rivers of living waters flow" (John 7:38). “This spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive.”

Thus the significance of the rite, in which they had just taken part, was not only fully explained, but the mode of its fulfilment pointed out. The effect was instantaneous. It could not but be, that in that vast assembly, so suddenly roused by being brought face to face with Him in whom every type and prophecy is fulfilled, there would be many who, “when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ.” Even the Temple-guard, whose duty it would have been in such circumstances to arrest one who had so interrupted the services of the day, and presented himself to the people in such a light, owned the spell of His words, and dared not to lay hands on Him. “Never man spake like this man,” was the only account they could give of their unusual weakness, in answer to the reproaches of the chief priests and Pharisees.

The rebuke of the Jewish authorities, which followed, is too characteristic to require comment. One only of their number had been deeply moved by the scene just witnessed in the Temple. Yet, timid as usually, Nicodemus only laid hold of this one point, that the Pharisees had traced the popular confession of Jesus to their ignorance of the law, to which he replied, in the genuine Rabbinical manner of arguing, without meeting one’s opponent face to face: “Doth our law judge any man before it hear him, and know what he doeth?”

**The Man Born Blind**

But matters were not to end with the wrangling of priests and Pharisees. The proof which Nicodemus had invited them to seek from the teaching and the miracles of Christ was about to be displayed both before the people and their rulers in the healing of the blind man. Here also it was in allusion to the ceremonial of the Feast of Tabernacles that Jesus, when He saw the “man blind from his birth,” said (John 9:5): “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world”; having “anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,” just as He told him, “Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam (which is, by interpretation, Sent).” For the words, “I am the light of the world,” are the same which He had just spoken in the Temple (John 8:12), and they had in all probability been intended to point to another very peculiar ceremony which took place at the Feast of Tabernacles.

In the words of the Mishnah (Succah v. 2, 3, 4), the order of the services for the feast was as follows: “They went first to offer the daily sacrifice in the morning, then the additional sacrifices; after that the votive and freewillofferings; from thence to the festive meal; from thence to the study of the law; and after that to offer the evening sacrifice; and from thence they went to the joy of the pouring out of the water.” It is this “joy of the pouring out of the water” which we are about to describe.

**The Ceremonies in the Court of the Women**

At the close of the first day of the feast the worshippers descended to the Court of the Women, where great preparations had
been made. Four golden candelabras were there, each with four golden bowls, and against them rested four ladders; and four youths of priestly descent held, each a pitcher of oil, capable of holding one hundred and twenty log, from which they filled each bowl. The old, worn breeches and girdles of the priests served for wicks to these lamps. There was not a court in Jerusalem that was not lit up by the light of “the house of water-pouring.”

The “Chassidim” and “the men of Deed” danced before the people with flaming torches in their hands, and sang before them hymns and songs of praise; and the Levites, with harps, and lutes, and cymbals, and trumpets, and instruments of music without number, stood upon the fifteen steps which led down from the Court of Israel to that of the Women, according to the number of the fifteen Songs of Degrees in the Book of Psalms. They stood with their instruments of music, and sang hymns. Two priests, with trumpets in their hands, were at the upper gate (that of Nicanor), which led from the Court of Israel to that of the Women. At cock-crowing they drew a threefold blast. As they reached the tenth step, they drew another threefold blast; as they entered the court itself, they drew yet another threefold blast; and so they blew as they advanced, till they reached the gate which opens upon the east (the Beautiful Gate). As they came to the eastern gate, they turned round towards the west (to face the Holy Place), and said: “Our fathers who were in this place, they turned their back upon the Sanctuary of Jehovah, and their faces toward the east, and they worshipped towards the rising sun; but as for us, our eyes are towards the Lord.”

A fragment of one of the hymns sung that night has been preserved. It was sung by the “Chassidim” and “men of Deed,” and by those who did penance in their old age for the sins of their youth:

The Chassidim and Men of Deed.
“Oh joy, that our youth, devoted, sage,
Doth bring no shame upon our old age!”

The Penitents.
“Oh joy, we can in our old age
Repair the sins of youth not sage!”

Both in unison.
“Yes, happy he on whom no early guilt doth rest,
And he who, having sinned, is now with pardon blest.”

Significance of the Illumination
It seems clear that this illumination of the Temple was regarded as forming part of, and having the same symbolical meaning as, “the pouring out of water.” The light shining out of the Temple into the darkness around, and lighting up every court in Jerusalem, must have been intended as a symbol not only of the Shechinah which once filled the Temple, but of that “great light” which “the people that walked in darkness” were to see, and which was to shine “upon them that dwell in the land of the shadow of death” (Isa 9:2). May it not be, that such prophecies as Isaiah 9 and 60 were connected with this symbolism? At any rate, it seems most probable that Jesus had referred to this ceremony in the words spoken by Him in the Temple at that very Feast of Tabernacles: “I am the light of the world; he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).

The Six Minor Days
Only the first of the seven days of this feast was “a holy convocation”; the other six were “minor festivals.” On each day, besides the ordinary morning and evening sacrifices, the festive offerings prescribed in Numbers 29:12-38 were brought. The Psalms sung at the drink-offering after the festive sacrifices (or Musaph, as they are called), were, for the first day of the feast, Psalm 105; for the second, Psalm 29; for the third, Psalm 50, from verse 16; for the fourth, Psalm 94, from verse 16; for the fifth, Psalm 94, from verse 8; for the sixth, Psalm 81, from verse 6; for the last day of the feast, Psalm 82, from verse 5. As the people retired from the altar at the close of each day’s service, they exclaimed, “How beautiful art thou, O altar!”—, according to a later version, “We give thanks to Jehovah and to thee, O altar!” All the four-and-twenty orders of the priesthood were engaged in the festive offerings, which were apportioned among them according to definite rules, which also fixed how the priestly dues were to be divided among them. Lastly, in every sabbatical year the Law was to be publicly read on the first day of the feast (Deut 31:10-13).

On the afternoon of the seventh day of the feast the people began to remove from the “booths.” For at the Octave, on the 22nd of Tishri, they lived no longer in booths, nor did they use the lulav. But it was observed as “a holy convocation”; and the festive sacrifices prescribed in Numbers 29:36-38 were offered, although no more by all the twenty-four courses of priests, and finally the “Hallel” sung at the drink-offering.

The Pouring and Lighting Post-Mosaic
It will have been observed that the two most important ceremonies of the Feast of Tabernacles—pouring out of water and the illumination of the Temple—of post-Mosaic origin. According to Jewish tradition, the pillar of cloud

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3 In later times only certain portions were read, the law as a whole being sufficiently known from the weekly prelections in the synagogues.
by day and of fire by night had first appeared to Israel on the 15th of Tishri, the first day of the feast. On that day also Moses was said to have come down from the Mount, and accounted to the people that the Tabernacle of God was to be reared among them. We know that the dedication of Solomon's Temple and the descent of the Shechinah took place at this feast (1 Kings 8; 2 Chr. 7). Nor can we greatly err in finding an allusion to it in this description of heavenly things: “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God, which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb” (Rev 7:9,10).

Whether or not our suggestions be adopted as to the typical meaning of the two great ceremonies of the “pouring out of the water” and the Temple illumination, the fact remains, that the Feast of Tabernacles is the one only type in the Old Testament which has not yet been fulfilled.
Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet by Howard Lyon  https://www.havenlight.com/though-your-sins-be-as-scarlet
Whereas I was Blind by Tyson Snow  https://www.havenlight.com/whereas-i-was-blind