

Sukkot - Tabernacles

(**Sukkot** - Tabernacles (or Booths) is found in Deuteronomy 16 starting at v13,

De 16:13 Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine:

14 And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, 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.

15 Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto Yahuwah thy Aluhym in the place which Yahuwah shall choose: because Yahuwah thy Aluhym shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.

So, celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days after you have gathered the increase of your labors. Be joyful at Yahuwah's Feast--you, your sons and daughters, your menservants and maidservants, and neighbors, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns. For seven days celebrate the Feast to Yahuwah Aluhym at the place Yahuwah will choose. For Yahuwah Aluhym will bless you in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete.

Also, Leviticus 23 v39-43 says,

Le 23:39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto Yahuwah seven days: on the first day shall be a Sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a Sabbath.

40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before Yahuwah thy Aluhym seven days.

41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto Yahuwah seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

43 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: I am Yahuwah thy Aluhym.

44 And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of Yahuwah.

"So beginning with the fifteenth day of the seventh month, after you have gathered in the increase of your labors (your 2nd tithe), celebrate the festival to Yahuwah for seven days; the first day is a day of rest. This as a festival to Yahuwah for seven days each year. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come; celebrate it in the seventh month. Live in booths (temporary dwelling) for seven days so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of Egypt. I am Yahuwah thy Aluhym.' "

(Strong's 05521 **Sukkot** is the plural form of **Sukkah** - adding "**ot**" in Hebrew is equivalent to adding an "s" in English)

(Sukkot is pronounced as "sue **coat**" - emphasis on the second syllable)

fem of 5520; a hut or lair:--booth, cottage, covert, pavilion, tabernacle, tent, etc.

Sukkot is the seventh of the seven feasts in **Torah** (the five books of Tuwarh) (Remember seven is for completeness) Tabernacles is the only feast with specific instructions to Rejoice.

Then again in Nehemiah 8:14-18

Ne 8:14 And they found written in the law which Yahuwah had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month: Le 23:34,42; De 16:13

15 And that they should publish and proclaim in **all their cities**, and **in Jerusalem**, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written. Le 23:4,40; De 16:16

16 So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of Yahuwah, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim. De 22:8; Ne 12:37,39

17 And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Yahuwshuwa the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.

18 Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the law of Yahuwah. And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day was a solemn assembly, according unto the manner. Le 23:36; Nu 29:35; De 31:10-11

Tabernacles / Booths Looking back

The Hebrews in the Exodus had to live in booths for 40 years because of their unbelief and disobedience. The situation was only temporary and Yahuwah was still in their midst, providing for them.

Sukkah could also be translated as **shed** or **shack**, and the nature of the **sukkah** in which Jews eat their meals at this time is a reminder of the transitory nature of this life and the need for humility before our Aluhym. The shelter could also be a reminder of the shelter which field laborers lived in during harvest time or even the shelters in Jerusalem that accommodated the masses of pilgrims for the feast.



Booths Now and Looking forward

At Tabernacles Jews build booths outside, roofed with branches. They decorate them with fruit and foliage. They live in them or eat their meats in them. The meal includes all sorts of seasonal fruit and vegetables, salads, stuffed vegetables, apple strudel, plum dumplings.

Living and eating in a *Sukkah* is a reminder that our "bricks and mortar" life is only temporary and that we should not cling too tightly to it. Just as the weather gets cooler and we feel satisfied and comfortable after the harvest, Yahuwah tells us to go and live in shacks for a while. Think on this.

08179. rev sha`ar, shah'-ar

from 8176 in its original sense; an opening, i.e. door or gate:--city, door, gate, port (X -er).

De 12:17 Thou mayest not eat within thy gates the tithe of thy corn, or of thy wine, or of thy oil, or the firstlings of thy herds or of thy flock, nor any of thy vows which thou vowest, nor thy freewill offerings, or heave offering of thine hand:

18 But thou must eat them before the Yahuwah thy Aluhym in the place which Yahuwah thy Aluhym shall choose, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite that is within thy gates: and thou shalt rejoice before Yahuwah thy Aluhym in all that thou puttest thine hands unto. De 12:11-12; 14:23

De 12:21 If the place which the Yahuwah thy Aluhym hath chosen to put his name there be too far from thee, then thou shalt kill of thy herd and of thy flock, which Yahuwah hath given thee, as I have commanded thee, and thou shalt eat in thy gates whatsoever thy soul lusteth after.

The place Yahuwah chose was Jerusalem for all of his pilgrimage feasts. Thus if it be too far from you, you are allowed to keep the feast within your own town or somewhere else reachable and affordable. However, you are still to live in a shelter that is temporary to you.

Deu 12:22 Even as the roebuck and the hart is eaten, so thou shalt eat them: the unclean and the clean shall eat of them alike. De 12:15

23 Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and thou mayest not eat the life with the flesh. Ge 9:4; Le 17:11,14; De 12:16

Tabernacles in the Year of Tithing

De 14:24 And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which Yahuwah thy Aluhym shall choose to set his name there, when Yahuwah thy Aluhym hath blessed thee: De 12:5,21

25 Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which Yahuwah thy Aluhym shall choose:

26 And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before Yahuwah thy Aluhym, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household, De 12:7,18; 26:11

27 And the Levite that is within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee. Nu 18:20; De 12:12,18-19; 18:1-2

28 At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates: Nu 18:21-24; De 26:12; Am 4:4

29 And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that Yahuwah thy Aluhym may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest. De 12:12; 14:27; 15:10; 26:12; Pr 3:9-10; Mal 3:10

You are to make sure that every 3rd and 6th year of 7 years that the poor and the ministry have a most joyable feast because the poor never went to Jerusalem and although the head priest (ministry) went to Jerusalem each year, there were those who remained behind to serve the people. So we take our Feast Tithe or 2nd Tithe during these years and enjoy the feast with the poorer people of the assembly. Due 14:8

Booths:

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fem of 5520; a hut or lair:--booth, cottage, covert, pavilion, tabernacle, tent.

Ge 33:17 And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. {Succoth: that is, Booths }

Le 23:42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

Le 23:43 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: I am Yahuwah thy Aluhym.

Ne 8:14 And they found written in the law which Yahuwah had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month: {by: Heb. by the hand of}

Ne 8:15 And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as it is written.

Ne 8:16 So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of Yahuwah, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

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