

“Harvest Mission Divine Institute”

The name of the organization reflects its purpose: “Harvest” stress the urgency of the command to harvest. The Bible warns, “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18). Jesus Christ challenged His followers with one of the greatest visions of the all times: “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest” (John 4:35) The challenge for laborers for the spiritual harvest fields of the world is greater than ever as we near the return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the natural world, harvesting is the act of process of gathering the ripened crop, to gain or win by effort the product of any labor. In the spiritual world, the analogy of natural principles of harvest is made to the reaping of the souls of men, women and children through proper presentation of the Gospel. Jesus said: “..The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few” (Matthew 9:37) The only way this great spiritual harvest will be reaped is for each born-again believer to become a reproducing Christian – a harvester. It is to this vision Harvest Mission Divine Institute is dedicated raising up laborers for worldwide spiritual harvest.

The Biblical Festivals That Reveal God's Plan of Salvation

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Why do 2 billion Christians remain blinded to God's plan to redeem and save humankind? Remarkably, you can know that plan!**

Starting with the first human couple in the Garden of Eden, humanity has sinned against God—violated His law. Indeed, with the exception of Jesus Christ, who lived a perfect life of obedience, all human beings have sinned and have earned the ultimate penalty of death (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

But God has provided a way for humanity to be delivered from that fate. He has set in motion an awesome plan to restore human beings to a right relationship with Him so that they may dwell with Him in joy forever. That plan is found in the pages of the Bible.

We must understand, however, that the message contained in the Bible is like a *giant jigsaw puzzle*. It is solvable, but not without the framework.

If you have ever put together a big jigsaw puzzle, you first established the framework, made up of the straight edges of the puzzle, so that the rest of the puzzle could be more easily filled in.

God's framework for this prophetic jigsaw puzzle is a succession of important steps outlined in Scripture. These steps are commemorated annually in a series of festivals. Indeed, the biblical festivals reveal and map out the way God intends to save you and the rest of mankind.

God's system of annual feasts

A system is a group of interacting and interdependent elements forming a complex whole. For example, the human body is made up of a number of systems, each a group of functionally related organs. Likewise, the salvation of humankind is accomplished through a systematic plan entailing steps portrayed in seven annual festivals.

There are three harvest seasons in the land of Israel. Each of these seasons is accompanied by special festivals God instituted that outline His plan for “harvesting” human beings for salvation in His family (see Exodus 23:14-17; Deuteronomy 16:16).

With the early spring barley season comes the Passover and the weeklong Feast of Unleavened Bread. With the later spring wheat season comes the Feast of Harvest or Firstfruits, also known as the Day of Pentecost. And with the late summer and fall ingathering season come four festivals—the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles, and the Eighth Day, now referred to as the Last Great Day.

The three harvest seasons of the year show the major framework of the periods in which God intends to save mankind. And contrary to what many believe, today *is not* the only day of salvation.

God's annual festivals or feasts, and the Holy Days of rest and worship among them, are listed in Leviticus 23. In stepwise progression, each builds on preceding ones, making the sum greater than the individual parts. Understand what these feasts portray and you will understand God's master plan of salvation.

Sadly, most who profess to be Christians today do not observe God's festivals, typically calling them “Jewish” feasts and claiming they are obsolete. Yet God said they are *His* feasts (verse 2). And He commands that they *still be observed* —

even in the New Testament (see, for example, 1 Corinthians 5:8). Because people do not observe these festivals as God commands, they do not understand their meaning. Obeying God's commands would give them better understanding (Psalms 111:10).

Passover, the first step

The Passover is the first feast in the cycle. It represents the crucial first step in God's plan to save mankind—without which the other steps would not be possible.

God revealed the Passover festival to the ancient Israelites during the process of freeing them from captivity in Egypt (Exodus 12). In it the Israelites brushed their doorposts with the blood of a sacrificial lamb (verse 7). This sacrifice was symbolic of the later shedding of the blood of Jesus Christ as the “Lamb of God” and “our Passover” to take away sin and its penalty (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7).

Without the fulfillment of the Passover feast, there would be no salvation. Yet Christ's Passover sacrifice itself does not accomplish our salvation, nor does our acceptance of it. Rather, this makes salvation possible.

Remission or forgiveness of sins comes through Jesus' shed blood when one repents (Matthew 26:28; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:22; Acts 2:38). Through acceptance of His blood in faith we are justified, or made right, with God the Father (Romans 5:9). Yet salvation itself is accomplished through Jesus' resurrected life: “For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (verse 10).

Nevertheless, the reconciliation that comes through accepting Jesus' Passover sacrifice clearly provides a foundation for salvation.

In observing this festival today, we do not sacrifice a lamb but partake of the unleavened bread and wine of Passover as symbolic of Christ's sacrificed body and blood as He instructed (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25).

The next festival shows how we should live following the acceptance of the sacrificial death of our Passover, Jesus Christ.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread

The Feast of Unleavened Bread is vitally important to a Christian's salvation; it shows us what God expects of us *beyond* accepting Jesus' shed blood for forgiveness.

Leaven is an agent, such as yeast, that causes bread dough to expand and rise during baking. God commanded that for the seven days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, leaven is to be removed from our homes and not eaten—and we are to instead eat unleavened bread during this period (Leviticus 23:6).

In the New Testament, the apostle Paul applied the symbol of leaven to sin (1 Corinthians 5:6-7). Conversely, he explained that *un* leavened bread represents sincerity and truth—righteousness and holiness (verse 8).

God set aside seven full days, the number seven representing completion and perfection in Scripture, for His followers to remember that *He* is holy, and that *we* should become holy as He is (1 Peter 1:16), striving to put sin out of our lives. Yet we can only do this with the guidance and help of Jesus Christ.

The ancient Israelites departed from Egypt during the Days of Unleavened Bread, following a pillar of cloud and fire. The One the Israelites knew as God was in that cloud (Exodus 13:21). And this divine Being who accompanied them later came to the earth as Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:4).

It is also important to note that when the Israelites later came to the Promised Land, they were to present a special grain offering on the first day of the week during the Feast of Unleavened Bread—a sheaf of the firstfruits of the barley harvest, which was waved before God for His acceptance (Leviticus 23:9-14).

This represented Jesus Christ as the initial firstfruits of salvation (1 Corinthians 15:23)—who was accepted in heaven this day after being resurrected during the festival.

Our ultimate example of living the unleavened life is Christ, and we must follow Him in faith to salvation and eternal life. Yet this is actually possible only through what is pictured in the next festival.

Pentecost, the Feast of Firstfruits

Pentecost is the New Testament term for the Old Testament Feast of Weeks, which was also called the Feast of Harvest or Feast of Firstfruits. The word *Pentecost* means “fiftieth,” as the Israelites were to count 50 days starting with the day of the wave-sheaf offering during the Feast of Unleavened Bread—so that the last day of the count would be the day after seven complete weeks, when a new grain offering was to be brought (Leviticus 23:15-16).

This offering was also to be a firstfruits offering waved before God, taken from the wheat harvest and baked into two loaves of bread (verses 17, 20; Exodus 34:22). Symbolized here are the faithful believers whom God calls the firstfruits

of all His harvests (James 1:18). Romans 8:23 says these have “the firstfruits of the Spirit.”

According to Acts 2, it was on the Day of Pentecost following Jesus' death and resurrection that His followers *received God's Holy Spirit* with a miraculous display of divine power. Thousands more were then converted on this day, also receiving the Spirit upon repentance and baptism.

Modern professing Christians acknowledge the fulfilled promise of the gift of God's Spirit to humankind on this occasion. However, many effectively deny the power of it, not understanding that one must *obey* God to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 5:32). And receiving the Spirit in turn *enables further and sustained obedience* (compare Romans 5:5; 1 John 5:3).

This is part of the great meaning of Pentecost, along with the fact that God's people of this age are counted as the *firstfruits* of salvation—in anticipation of other fruits to follow in the age to come.

Pentecost is the last of the spring festivals —the last of those that portray events relating to the time of Christ's first coming and the present age. The feasts that follow in the autumn in the land of Israel look ahead to His *second* coming.

The Feast of Trumpets

As mentioned earlier, the great ingathering harvest in Israel came in late summer and early fall. It was celebrated with the Feast of Ingathering or Tabernacles (Exodus 23:16; Deuteronomy 16:16), but the festival period actually commenced with the Feast of Trumpets two weeks earlier.

On this day there was a “memorial of blowing of trumpets” (Leviticus 23:24). This represents the time of the coming of the Messiah to take over the rule of the world, as Jesus will do when He returns (Revelation 19:11-21; 12:10; compare Zechariah 14; Isaiah 11:1-10).

Jesus' second coming will be heralded *by supernatural trumpet blasts*. During a period known as “the day of the Lord” and “the great day of His wrath” (Revelation 6:17), God will bring judgment on the rebellious nations of the earth. Revelation 8-9 presents the cataclysmic circumstances that will follow the blowing of six successive trumpets.

Revelation 11:15 then describes the blowing of the seventh trumpet, when this world's governments are transferred over to the rule of the returning Christ. It is also *the time of the rewarding of God's saints*— His faithful servants of this age (verse 18). They will, *at this last trumpet*, be *resurrected from the dead* (1

Corinthians 15:52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)—at last receiving ultimate salvation from death through transformation into immortal spirit beings.

The seventh trumpet also heralds further judgment on those who remain defiant, who persist in destroying the earth and its inhabitants (Revelation 11:18).

Jesus Christ, through the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, directs His attention to saving His people as well as the rest of humankind (Revelation 19:11-21), breaking the power of the world's leaders and humbling the nations to the point that they will accept His intervention and rule.

But the major obstacle to mankind learning God's ways will still have to be removed, and that is pictured in the next occasion God instructs us to observe.

The Day of Atonement

The next of God's appointed times is a solemn day of drawing near to Him through fasting (Leviticus 23:26-32). On this day, the Israelites were to sacrifice a goat to represent the Lord, the high priest was to take its blood into the Most Holy Place of the Tabernacle (the only time he went in during the year) and he was to confess the people's sins over a live goat, which was then driven off into the wilderness (Leviticus 16).

The sacrifice of the first goat, representing the Lord, along with the high priest taking its blood into the Most Holy Place signified the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and His intercessory work as High Priest. This was to bring *atonement*—a word meaning “at-one-ment” with God. Yet further atonement was required through the driving away of the second goat. What does this symbolize?

If the world knew that vast numbers of demons—powerful evil spirits led by the rebellious archangel now known as Satan the devil—truly existed, that they hold sway over the earth and that their avowed purpose is to debase and destroy humankind, people might well turn to God to save them.

The reason they don't is obvious when you understand it. Satan, as the god of this age (2 Corinthians 4:4), has blinded them from this fact. He has deceived the whole world, palming himself off as an angel of light, which he once was. He is now our adversary, who walks the earth like a roaring and devouring lion (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 11:14; 1 Peter 5:8).

Humanity has willingly turned from God and has come under Satan's dominion. Jesus said, “Their eyes they have closed” (Matthew 13:15). Although Satan is ultimately responsible and accountable for mankind's blindness, we still have a responsibility in this great deception. We can repent and change.

The Day of Atonement is the appointed time *for celebrating the removal of Satan and the demons from the world scene* (Revelation 20:1-3; Isaiah 14:16-17). With Satan's expulsion, human beings can truly experience "at-one-ment" with God, as God intends (John 17:20-21). Indeed, God will remove all forces that have set themselves to destroy His plan, which is to expand His family through the salvation of billions of human beings.

The Day of Atonement is also a reminder of Jesus Christ's atoning sacrifice. Following Jesus' return, His sacrifice will begin to be applied to the world at large, as all are led to accept it in repentance, being no longer under the influence of the devil.

For the first time in the history of mankind, we will fully experience peace on earth, with God's will for people no longer being resisted by Satan.

The Feast of Tabernacles

Finally, what God had promised through the ages, to bring peace on earth (Luke 2:14), will arrive. Isaiah 9:6-7 foretold both the first and second comings of the Messiah in stating: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder ... Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

As pictured in the Feast of Trumpets, Jesus will take over the rule of this world (Revelation 11:15). Satan will be deposed and incarcerated, as shown in the Day of Atonement (Revelation 20:1-3). Then *Jesus and His resurrected and transformed saints will reign on the earth over all nations for 1,000 years, a millennium* (Revelation 5:10; 20:4, 6).

During this 1,000 year messianic reign over physical nations of the earth, Christ will live with humankind. This is celebrated in the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles or Booths, referring to tents or temporary dwellings (Leviticus 23:33-43).

For the duration of this festival, God's people live in temporary dwellings, recalling in part the time when God "made the children of Israel dwell in booths" following the Exodus (verse 43). In fact, God Himself also dwelt in a tabernacle in journeying with the Israelites through the desert.

Yet this Feast also looks forward to the wonderful, though temporary, conditions of the millennial age—which anticipates a permanent new heaven and new earth to follow (Revelation 21-22).

As previously noted, this festival was also called the Feast of Ingathering (Exodus 23:16), celebrating the great harvest of late summer and fall in the Promised Land.

This harvest depicted *the ultimate spiritual harvest of humanity* to come—the *laterfruits* following the *firstfruits* of this age. The future harvest begins with those who live through the terrible events at the end of this age and into the millennial period. It then continues with their progeny throughout the 1,000 years, generation after generation.

Under the righteous rule of God, humanity will live in unprecedented peace and unparalleled health and prosperity (Zechariah 14:8-11; Isaiah 2:1-4; 11; 35; Micah 4:1-8; Amos 9:13-15). Ezekiel 36:35 says the environment will be like the Garden of Eden: “So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the *garden of Eden*; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.’”

At that time, God will extend His New Covenant relationship to all mankind, beginning with Israel:

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' *for all shall know Me*, from the least of them to the greatest of them” (Hebrews 8:10-11).

These conditions will continue into the period pictured in the next festival, which comes at the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, though distinct and separate from it.

The Eighth Day

On the day following the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles—the eighth day—the Israelites were to observe a final Holy Day in the annual cycle God gave (Leviticus 23:36, 39).

Though a separate festival, the Eighth Day is connected to the Feast of Tabernacles or Ingathering because it further celebrates the future spiritual harvest of mankind, portraying events that will immediately follow the millennial reign of Christ and His resurrected and transformed saints.

The 1,000-year period of peace and prosperity for the entire global human family serves as a stepping stone to a vast increase in the late harvest of human lives. Revelation 20:5 says that “*the rest of the dead*” will live again when the

1,000 years are finished. This includes all people who lived but were not converted to God's way from Adam to Christ's second coming—which could number in the scores of billions.

They will be *raised to physical life and at last given the opportunity for salvation* during a period of judgment (compare Ezekiel 37:1-14; Matthew 11:20-24; 12:41-42; 1 Peter 2:12; Revelation 20:11-12). This is sometimes called the Great White Throne Judgment, as Revelation 20:11-12 describes the risen dead standing before such a throne.

The White Throne Judgment is not an instant sentencing but a period of evaluation and corrective measures spanning the new lifetime of those resurrected—paralleling the lifetime judgment of God's saints today, whom He wants to save, not lose (see 1 Peter 4:17; 1 Corinthians 11:31-32).

Sadly, not everyone will choose salvation. Those who ultimately refuse to repent will be destroyed in a lake of fire (Revelation 20:14-15; 21:8). But the vast majority of mankind will be saved—transformed into immortal spirit like those in the first resurrection.

Indeed, the whole creation will be transformed. The great beauty, peace and prosperity on earth during Christ's millennial reign will continue through the White Throne Judgment period. And after this, the present earth and sky will give way to, as mentioned earlier, a new heaven and new earth—at which time God the Father as well as Jesus Christ will dwell with glorified humanity forever (Revelation 21-22).

The Harvest Festivals in the Old and New Testaments

How many "feasts of the Lord" are listed in the Old Testament, and how do they relate to the harvest seasons?

Leviticus 23:4-6, 16, 24, 27, 34-36

"These are the feasts of the Lord, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

"On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover.

"And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; seven days you must eat unleavened bread...

"Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord...

"Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation...

"Also the tenth day of this seventh month shall be the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the Lord...

"Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the Lord.

"On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it.

"For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it."

The seven festivals occur during three harvest seasons in the Holy Land. Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread occur at the beginning of the barley harvest in the spring. The Feast of Weeks, or Pentecost, occurs at the end of the barley and wheat harvests. The last four festivals are all in the late summer and autumn harvest season. These are known as the Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and Eighth Day (which we often refer to as the Last Great Day).

While these harvest festivals were given to the nation of Israel at that time, note that God calls them "feasts of the Lord" and "My feasts" (Leviticus 23:2).

Did Jesus Christ, the apostles and New Testament Church also celebrate these festivals?

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Acts 2:1

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

John 7:37

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

These are just a few of the many references to God's festivals in the New Testament. We will cover more of them in future lessons.

Will all nations celebrate these festivals after Jesus Christ returns to set up the Kingdom of God?

Zechariah 14:16

And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

When Jesus ascended from the Mount of Olives, the angels told His disciples He would return in the same way (Acts 1:9-11). Zechariah 14:4 mentions that "His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives," and this will mark the beginning of the rule of the Kingdom of God on earth. One of the commanded celebrations of the Kingdom of

God will be the Feast of Tabernacles, an integral component of the progression of God's festivals.

God's Spiritual Harvests

The Bible uses the analogy of spiritual harvests as a description of God's wonderful plan of salvation. Let's look at several examples that correlate with the three harvest seasons.

Was Jesus Christ the first of the firstfruits?

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

The firstfruits of the physical harvest were the first grains and fruits to ripen. They were offered to God (Exodus 23:19). By analogy Jesus Christ is the perfect spiritual firstfruits and the first to be resurrected to eternal life.

Was the Church (founded on the Feast of Pentecost) also compared to a harvest?

Acts 2:1, 41, 46-47

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place...

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them...

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Matthew 9:37-38

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

1 Corinthians 3:6-9

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.

James 1:18

Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

Pentecost is the Greek name for the festival referred to by several names in the Old Testament, such as "the Feast of Harvest, the firstfruits of your labors" (Exodus 23:16) and "the day of the firstfruits, when you bring a new grain offering to the Lord at your Feast of Weeks" (Numbers 28:26). It signaled the end of the spring harvest and thus can represent the spiritual harvest of the Church during this time.

What about everyone else? Does the Bible show a sequence for these spiritual harvests?

1 Corinthians 15:22-23

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

Revelation 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

This quick overview has probably raised many questions in your mind. Each of these future harvests and the related festivals will be covered in more detail in future lessons. We hope this lesson has introduced the biblical analogy of harvests as it relates to the unfolding plan of salvation for humanity. God truly has a plan for each and every man, woman and child who has ever lived, and understanding and observing the festivals of God can help us unlock some of the wonderful depths of meaning that we might otherwise easily miss.

Apply Now

Jesus Christ taught His disciples with many agricultural analogies. One of His most famous parables is the **parable of the sower** in Matthew 13:3-9. Read this parable now, and then read the explanation Jesus gave in Matthew 13:18-23.

This parable shows that we have an individual responsibility for how we respond to the "word of the kingdom," the **gospel** message. Take a few minutes to think about and write down some of the dangers Jesus outlined and how you plan to combat these human tendencies and pitfalls. Pray and seek God's help to become the good soil needed for His seed to grow.

The parable also gave the disciples an overview of how the gospel would be received by different individuals during the firstfruits harvest of the Church. Sadly, it seems many won't respond in this age. But as we will see in future lessons, this is not the end of God's plan to offer salvation to all humanity. God reveals much more through His festival plan.

Harvest

[Matthew 9:37](#) ESV / 93 helpful votes

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;

[Luke 10:2](#) ESV / 74 helpful votes

And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

[John 4:35](#) ESV / 44 helpful votes

Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.

[Proverbs 10:5](#) ESV / 39 helpful votes

He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.

[Revelation 14:15](#) ESV / 33 helpful votes

And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe."

[Matthew 13:23](#) ESV / 32 helpful votes

As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

[Leviticus 19:9-10](#) ESV / 32 helpful votes

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of

your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God.

[Exodus 34:22](#) ESV / 29 helpful votes

You shall observe the Feast of Weeks, the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end.

[John 15:1-11](#) ESV / 26 helpful votes

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ...

[Genesis 8:22](#) ESV / 26 helpful votes

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

[Joel 3:13](#) ESV / 23 helpful votes

Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their evil is great.

[1 John 4:19-5:4](#) ESV / 20 helpful votes

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

...

[Galatians 6:9](#) ESV / 19 helpful votes

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

[Romans 14:1-23](#) ESV / 19 helpful votes

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ...

[Exodus 34:21](#) ESV / 17 helpful votes

“Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest. In plowing time and in harvest you shall rest.

[Isaiah 9:3](#) ESV / 16 helpful votes

You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

[Deuteronomy 16:14-15](#) ESV / 16 helpful votes

You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. For seven days you shall keep the feast to the Lord your God at the place that the Lord will choose, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful.

[John 4:36](#) ESV / 14 helpful votes

Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

[Luke 24:1-53](#) ESV / 13 helpful votes

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" ...

[Proverbs 19:17](#) ESV / 13 helpful votes

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

[Revelation 14:1-20](#) ESV / 12 helpful votes

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless. ...

[John 7:1-53](#) ESV / 12 helpful votes

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand. So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." For not even his brothers believed in him. ...

[Matthew 13:37](#) ESV / 12 helpful votes

He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.

[Proverbs 22:9](#) ESV / 12 helpful votes

Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

[Luke 16:1-10](#) ESV / 11 helpful votes

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ...

[Matthew 13:39](#) ESV / 11 helpful votes

And the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels.

[Isaiah 1:1-31](#) ESV / 11 helpful votes

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken: "Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand." Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged. Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. ...

[Jeremiah 8:20](#) ESV / 10 helpful votes

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."

[Psalm 107:1](#) ESV / 10 helpful votes

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

[2 Kings 7:1-15](#) ESV / 10 helpful votes

But Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord: thus says the Lord, Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria." Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, "If the Lord himself should make windows in heaven, could this thing be?" But he said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat of it." Now there were four men who were lepers at the entrance to the gate. And they said to one another, "Why are we sitting here until we die? If we say, 'Let us enter the city,' the famine is in the city, and we shall die there. And if we sit here, we die also. So now come, let us go over to the camp of the Syrians. If they spare our lives we shall live, and if they kill us we shall but die." So they arose at twilight to go to the camp of the Syrians. But when they came to the edge of the camp of the Syrians, behold, there was no one there. ...

[Judges 9:27](#) ESV / 10 helpful votes

And they went out into the field and gathered the grapes from their vineyards and trod them and held a festival; and they went into the house of their god and ate and drank and reviled Abimelech.

[Leviticus 26:5](#) ESV / 10 helpful votes

Your threshing shall last to the time of the grape harvest, and the grape harvest shall last to the time for sowing. And you shall eat your bread to the full and dwell in your land securely.

[Philippians 4:8-9](#) ESV / 9 helpful votes

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

[Ephesians 4:28](#) ESV / 9 helpful votes

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

[Hosea 4:6](#) ESV / 9 helpful votes

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

[Isaiah 16:10](#) ESV / 9 helpful votes

And joy and gladness are taken away from the fruitful field, and in the vineyards no songs are sung, no cheers are raised; no treader treads out wine in the presses; I have put an end to the shouting.

[Mark 4:3](#) ESV / 8 helpful votes

“Listen! A sower went out to sow.

[Amos 9:13](#) ESV / 8 helpful votes

“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when the plowman shall overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it.

[Joel 2:24](#) ESV / 8 helpful votes

“The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

[Proverbs 22:9-10](#) ESV / 8 helpful votes

Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor. Drive out a scoffer, and strife will go out, and quarreling and abuse will cease.

[Leviticus 23:15-17](#) ESV / 8 helpful votes

“You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering

of new grain to the Lord. You shall bring from your dwelling places two loaves of bread to be waved, made of two tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour, and they shall be baked with leaven, as firstfruits to the Lord.

[John 4:1-54](#) ESV / 7 helpful votes

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. And he had to pass through Samaria. So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ...

[Matthew 21:41](#) ESV / 7 helpful votes

They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

[Matthew 6:33](#) ESV / 7 helpful votes

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

[2 Peter 1:11](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

[Galatians 3:7](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

[John 6:47](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.

[John 3:17](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

[Luke 14:23](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.

[Matthew 7:7](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

[Psalm 91:1-16](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ...

[Job 24:6](#) ESV / 6 helpful votes

They gather their fodder in the field, and they glean the vineyard of the wicked man.

[Proverbs 31:8-9](#) ESV / 5 helpful votes

Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

[Jeremiah 5:24](#) ESV / 4 helpful votes

They do not say in their hearts, 'Let us fear the Lord our God, who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain, and keeps for us the weeks appointed for the harvest.'

[Proverbs 14:4](#) ESV / 4 helpful votes

Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox.

[Psalm 107:37](#) ESV / 4 helpful votes

They sow fields and plant vineyards and get a fruitful yield.

[Genesis 41:47-50](#) ESV / 4 helpful votes **Helpful Not Helpful**

During the seven plentiful years the earth produced abundantly, and he gathered up all the food of these seven years, which occurred in the land of Egypt, and put the food in the cities. He put in every city the food from the fields around it. And Joseph stored up grain in great abundance, like the sand of the sea, until he ceased to measure it, for it could not be measured. Before the year of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph. Asenath, the daughter of Potiphara priest of On, bore them to him.

[John 3:16](#) ESV / 2 helpful votes

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

[Exodus 9:32](#) ESV / 2 helpful votes

But the wheat and the emmer were not struck down, for they are late in coming up.)