

Wave Sheaf Offering

Leviticus 23:9-10 [New King James] *“And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: “When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.””*”

The first sheaf of corn harvested in the early first harvest of the year.

What or Who did this foreshadow?

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 [New King James] *“But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 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.”*

Jesus Christ is the firstfruits the first of many to come.

Romans 8:28-30 [New King James] *“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.”*

All whom God is calling at this time, [**John 6:44**] will cause all things that happen in our lives to work towards conforming to the very character of His Son Jesus Christ.

Thus becoming among the many firstborn of His Kingdom, the family of created children of God.

Romans 8:23 [New King James] *“Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.”*

Such people also have the firstfruits of the Holy Spirit [**Galatians 5:22-25**] and long for all people to receive the same blessing.

James 1:16-18 [New King James] *“Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”*

Such people are also brought out of the darkness of Satan’s deception, [**2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 John 5:19**].

Colossians 1:13 [New King James] *“He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,”*

This is what happens to a person who is among the firstfruits.

Now with the above in mind let us study what is portrayed by the wave sheaf offering.

Leviticus 23:11 [New King James] *“He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted on your behalf; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.”*

The first sheaf of the spring harvest was “waved” by the priest before God up and then down.

Up, towards God, then down back to the priest and people.

This was done on day after the Sabbath, within the Days of Unleavened Bread, [verses 4-7].

Offered on the Sunday, the first day of the week.

With this wavesheaf offering was the sacrifice of a male lamb of the first year without blemish, [verse 12].

This points us towards the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God, [John 1:29, 35-36].

Jesus Christ was resurrected on the Sabbath, [please download and study article 'Three Days And Three Nights' listed under 'Religion'] a weekly Sabbath.

John 20:17 [New King James] *“Jesus said to her, ‘Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, “I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.””*”

On this Sunday [verse 1] Jesus Christ had **not** yet ascended to His Father’s throne to offer the blood of His sacrifice as the Lamb of God, **not** to touch Him.

Matthew 28:9 [New King James] *“And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, ‘Rejoice!’ So they came and held Him by the feet and worshipped Him.”*

Allowed them touch His feet as they worshipped Him.

Sometime between these two incidents Jesus Christ had fulfilled the waving of the firstfruits sheaf of corn.

Leviticus 23:13 [New King James] *“Its grain offering shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the LORD, for a sweet aroma; and its drink offering shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin.”*

The cake made from the firstfruits sheaf of grain with oil [depicting the Holy Spirit] and wine but no leaven was also offered, these were symbols of the Passover meal, Old Testament and New Testament Covenant.

Leviticus 23:14 [New King James] *“You shall eat neither bread nor parched grain nor fresh grain until the same day that you have brought an offering to your God; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.”*

No further harvesting could take place until after the wave sheaf offering had taken place, God accepting the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ.

Leviticus 23:15 [New King James] *“And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed.”*

It was in the very midst of the Days of Unleavened Bread that we are to count fifty days or seven weeks to Pentecost, [Greek “pentēkostos” meaning fiftieth day], that the coming of the Holy Spirit, with power, that would enable the disciples of Jesus Christ to continue the work of spreading the Good News of what He has done for all humanity, [Matthew 28:18-20].

Acts 2:1-4 [New King James] *“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

The beginning of the New Testament Church.

This is more than an “academic exercise” but yet another example of the perfection of God’s plan for all humanity.

God’s purpose for humanity was not just a chance idea but a perfectly worked out plan before the first human being was created and given life.

Please study and meditate on the following scriptures in God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

Genesis 1:26-27 [New King James] *“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*

The original two-part plan for humanity.

2 Timothy 1:8-10 [New King James] *“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,”*

Jesus Christ was crucified to save all humanity before the creation of the universe and the creation of time! [**Titus 1:2; 1 Peter 1:18-21; Revelation 13:8**].

This wave sheaf offering is another yearly reminder of God’s plan for us and our part in that plan.

To understand what is written in the Old Testament for our education, [**1 Corinthians 10:1-10**] we need to see its application in the New Testament.

2 Timothy 3:16 [New King James] *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,”*

All scripture, include that describing the wave sheaf offering, is for our instruction in righteousness, that is being in a right relationship with our Creator God, [2 Timothy 3:15; John 17:17].