

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

LEVITICUS 23

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Leviticus twenty-three is a critical chapter in the Bible because it contains the listing of what in western culture and English is called the "Feast or Festival" days of Israel. While some of these special days are days of feasting and festivities, not all are. It is much better to understand these days within the context of the true meaning of the word that is used to describe them. The Hebrew word is **Mo'ed** which means, *appoint, appointment, appointed time, appointed day. Mo'ed is an appointment time* that God almighty has set aside on His divine calendar to meet with His people. Sometimes it is for a day, a week or more. God is the one who sets the calendar for His people and when He chooses to meet and manifest Himself. He knows best, not any person or group of persons. After all, He made time. He made us. He knows what time of each day and what time of each month and season of the year when we do best to meet Him.

God knows also that we need routine and ritual to establish a relationship with Him. If left to our own ways and devices, man would completely leave God out of his

days, months, and years. Eight special appointments are given in this chapter, the first of which is Shabbat, which is a weekly appointment with God. He expects us to show up and be present. The purpose of this day is to remember who He is and who we are in relation to Him. He is the creator, and we are the creatures of His creation. The other seven appointed times are Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, Weeks (NT, Pentecost), Yom Teruah (Modern, Rosh Hashanah), Day of Atonement and Tabernacles. The seven feasts of Israel correspond with the beginnings of seasons and special times when God wants His people to stop what they are doing and follow His instructions for that period.

Prayer and Action Steps

God wants to me with you each day. God wants you to understand the ancient ritual and routines of Israel, because this is how He related to His people to develop rituals and routines of Godliness. Rituals are still profitable.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
