

## **FIRST FRUIT RESURRECTION**

We have been studying the fulfillment of four important messianic holidays associated with the First Advent of Jesus Christ: **Passover; Unleavened Bread; First Fruits; and Feast of Weeks (Pentecost).**

The fulfillment of all four of these messianic holidays is based on the **crucifixion of Jesus Christ on Passover, Nisan (Abib) 14**. Once the crucifixion is fulfilled, there is a chain reaction to the fulfillment of the other three.

In our previous lessons, we have shown from the Scriptures that Jesus died on Passover of Nisan 14 (Wednesday) and was buried for three days and nights during the festival of Unleavened Bread (Nisan 15, 16, 17) (Matt.12:38-40) Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the weekly Sabbath of Unleavened Bread.

Remember that the **first and last** days of Unleavened Bread were High Sabbaths or Holy Convocations (Lev.23:6-8; John 19:30-31); and that Passover was also called the Day of Preparation for the Exodus (Ex.12). The next day, Nisan 15, was the first of the seven days of Unleavened Bread (Nisan 15-21).

**This lesson will study four aspects of the First Fruits Resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

### **1. Jesus' resurrection occurred on Nisan 18 of Unleavened Bread (30AD) (Sunday).**

The day following the weekly Sabbath of Unleavened Bread was the **First Fruit messianic holiday**. It was always a day, not a date! (Lev.23:9-14).

**John 20:1-25** records the people Jesus appeared to on the day of His resurrection. Paul recorded the post-resurrection appearances in (1 Cor.15:1-8) (note the word "appeared" is used in every verse) (1 Cor.15:5-8).

John's account has Mary Magdalene discovering the empty tomb but thought that someone had taken Jesus' body away; and she reported that back to His disciples (Jn.20:1-2).

Then Peter and John rushed to the tomb and discovered also the body missing (Jn.20:3-10)

(Jn.20:9) "For as yet they did not understand the Scriptures, that He must rise again from the dead."

Then Mary returned and Jesus appeared to her and she reported back to disciples (Jn. 20:11-18)

(Jn.20:18) "I have seen the Lord, and that He had said these things to her."

Evening of day of Jesus' resurrection He appeared to 10 disciples (John 20:19-24) Note that Judas Iscariot is dead, and Thomas is absent.

(Jn.20:20) "And when He has said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw Him."

### **2. Passover and Unleavened Bread historical background.**

Passover celebrated leaving Egyptian bondage for the freedom of Promise Land; and First Fruits celebrated the arriving in the Promised Land and celebrating the bountiful grace blessings of God (Lev.23:9-14/ 2 Cor.9:10-12).

First Fruits also celebrated the beginning of the ingathering of barley harvest as occupants of the Promise Land (Joshua 5:9-12).

(Josh.5:12) “The **manna ceased** on the **day after** they has eaten some of the produce of the land, so that the sons of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate some of the yield of the land of Canaan during the year.” (Ex.16:35; Josh.24:1)

(Lev.23:10) “**When you** enter the land which I am going to give you and reap its harvest **then you** shall bring in the sheaf of the First Fruits of your harvest to the priest.”

### **Shadow Christology of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ!**

3. **The waving of the sheaf along with the burnt offering of First Fruits were to give testimony to the believer’s acceptability to God by faith in gospel of grace salvation in Christ (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Gal.3:8; Eph.2:8-9) [Death, Burial, and Resurrection].**

(Lev.23:11) “He is to wave the sheaf before the Lord so it will be **accepted on your behalf**; the priest is to wave it on the day after the (weekly) Sabbath.” Shadow Christology of the Resurrection of Jesus.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ brings the believer into the bountiful grace blessings of God in Christ (**50 Things FREE** package of salvation) (1 Cor.15:3-4; 2 Cor.5:17).

4. **Paul identified the resurrection of Jesus as fulfillment of First Fruits of Unleavened Bread.**

(1 Cor.15:20) “But Christ has indeed been **raised from the dead, the First Fruits** of those who have fallen asleep.”

(Acts 26:22-23) “So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the prophets and Moses said was going to take place; **that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to His people and to the Gentiles.**”

In (1 Cor.15:12-19), Paul declared that without faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ that no one could be saved!

Note the series of six “**Ifs**” (1<sup>st</sup> Class Condition - a debater’s technique of “let us assume that **it’s true**).

What would be the outcome?”

- (1 Cor.15:13) But **if** there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised.
- (1 Cor.15:14-15) and **if** Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. <sup>15</sup>Moreover we are even found *to be* false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, **if in fact** the dead are not raised.
- (1 Cor.15:16) For **if** the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.
- (1 Cor.15:17-18) and **if** Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
- (1 Cor.15:19) **If** we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis for every believer’s JUSTIFICATION (dikaiosis) [declared acquitted from Adam’s Original Sin and made perfectly Righteous at the moment of Salvation! (Rom.3:21-26; .4:25; 5:1-2, 16).