



PEOPLE WHO AWAITED THE REDEEMER

5

CATECHETICAL TEXTBOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO - MALABAR CHURCH

LESSON 11

THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL





The people of Israel started a happy life in the Land of Canaan.
Canaan , a land full of God's blessings.

All hardships of People of Israel came to an end, at the end of the
miraculous liberation and long journey from the slavery in Egypt.

People of Israel celebrated various feasts, to commemorate God's greatness
in their life and to ask for God's forgiveness for their sins.

The festivals reminded the Israelites the important events in the history of
salvation.

Celebrations : Loud shout of Joy Trumpet calls Offering of sacrifices

THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

Celebrated to thank God. Celebrations started at the beginning of Harvest and lasted for 7 days.

They cooked and eat Unleavened Bread, made of flour from fresh produce. This feast used to start on the first day after the feast Of Passover. As time passed, they started to celebrate These two feasts together (Lev.23 : 5-8).



THE FEAST OF PASSOVER



A festival to commemorate the miraculous liberation of Israelites from the slavery of Egypt.

The people of Israel must celebrate the Passover on a fixed schedule. On the fourteenth day of the month, they must celebrate the Passover according to the rules and regulations.



On the 1st month of the 2nd year
after leaving Egypt
Lord told Moses in Mount Sinai

“The people of Israel
must celebrate the
Passover on a fixed
schedule. On the 14th day
of the month, they must
celebrate the Passover
according to the rules and
regulations.”



Moses passed on
the words spoken by God to the people of Israel.
Thus they celebrated the Passover in the desert.



Israelites used to have their Passover meal every year
in the evening of the fourteenth day of the first month ,
which is month of Nissan.

At sunset of the 14th day the lamb was sacrificed.

The lamb for the meal was chosen 4 days earlier.



The blood of the lamb was sprinkled on door posts.

The cooked meal was eaten with bitter herbs and Unleavened bread. The meal was eaten in a hurry.



THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS

Lord spoke to Moses in
Mount Sinai

“On the 15th day of this 7th
month, and lasting for 7
days ,there shall be
festival of Booths to the
Lord.. For 7 days you
shall live in
booths.”





Reminds the stay of Israelites in tents,
when they were brought out of Egypt.



This feast remind your descendants that when I brought the
Israelites out of Egypt, they lived in tents (Lev 23: 33-43).



The Festival of Booth - a Harvest festival

They celebrated it by weaving leaves of date palms and trees. Foreigners, orphans and widows used to participate in the festival along with family members.

They used to confess their Faith in God who protects them. During Harvest they made tents or booths and staying in them they celebrated the festival of Booths.

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST



Celebrated on the 50th day of the season of harvest.
First fruits of harvest were offered to Lord on this occasion.

The feast also knows as

- Festival of weeks
- Harvest festival
- Festival of first fruits.

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT



The festival of the Day of Atonement, also is called “Yom Kippur” which is a Hebrew word.

The Hebrew word “Yom Kippur”, reminds one, of the holiness of the Lord as well as the sinfulness of Israel.

The festival of the Day of Atonement, an opportunity to reconcile with others and seek God’s forgiveness.

THE FESTIVALS OF THE CHURCH

Church celebrates many festivals ,which are

- Feasts connected with Jesus

- Feats of Mother Mary

- Feast of Saints

Festival days are

- Holy days

- Celebrates with pomp

- Day to offer our thanks to God

Feast help in our spiritual growth

- When we celebrate them reflecting on the meaning

- Reflecting the message of each of them

CHRISTMAS

Birth of Jesus Christ



Christmas is the feast that reminds people of the birth of Jesus. This commemorates the incarnation of Jesus the son of God who came on earth to bring salvation to mankind. Christmas is celebrated, the world over, on 25 December.

EPIPHANY



This commemorates the purification of Jesus. The Church celebrates this feast on 6 January.

PASCHAL FEAST



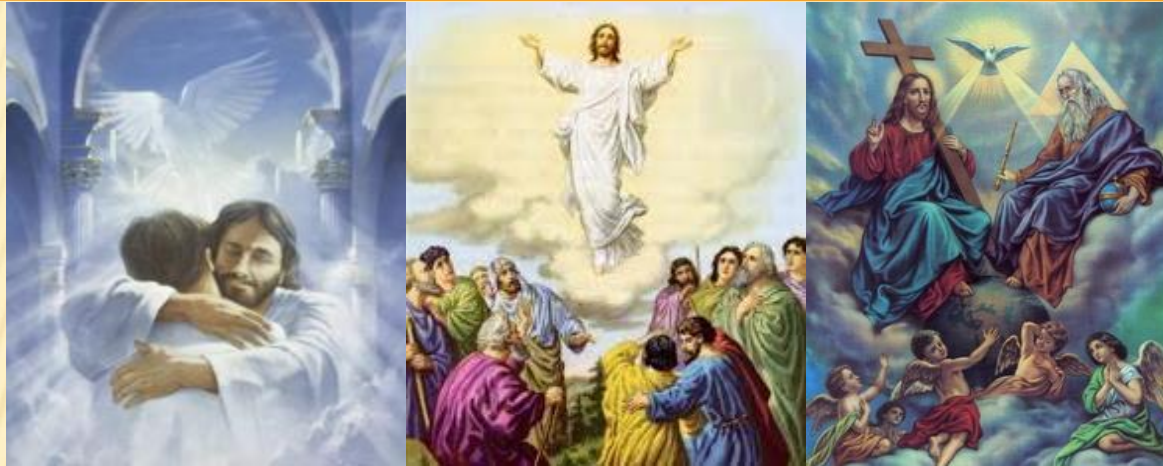
This is a very important feast in the Church. The last Supper, which Jesus had eaten with his disciples in the hall of Zion, was the Paschal meal or Passover Meal. The memory of Jesus instituting the Holy Eucharist at the meal is what we celebrate today as the Paschal feast.

EASTER

Easter or the feast of Resurrection is the commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus three days after he was buried following his passion (torture) and crucifixion. This is referred to as the feast. Fifty days of fasting is observed in preparation for Easter is very important as the feast signifies the consummation of God's plan of salvation.



ASCENSION



Jesus ascended into Heaven 40 days after His resurrection.

Jesus was lifted up into Heaven, while the disciples were watching.

After accomplishing the task, Salvation of humanity.

Jesus went back to Heaven.

Jesus is seated at the right side of His Father.

Feast of ascension reminds us of Jesus who is preparing a place for us in Heaven.

PENTECOST



50 days after the resurrection of Jesus

(or 10 days after the ascension of Jesus into Heaven)

Holy Spirit came down, upon the disciples, in the form of tongues of fire.

Pentecost means 50th day.

Church has started functioning as an institution on that day.

Church commemorates its institution on that day.

Feast of Pentecost reminds us of the Holy Spirit being sent to live in
and lead the Church.

This feast helps Church and her children to be filled with the divine
grace of the Holy Spirit.



Church celebrates many festivals connected with Jesus, Mother Mary and Saints.

These feasts are Holy days.

We offer thanks to God by celebrating them with pomp. Celebration of the feasts by reflecting on the meaning and message of each feast help in our Spiritual Growth.

LET US PRAY

O Lord! teach us to thank for all the blessing you shower upon us, just as the Israelites recalled your blessings and thanked you.

READ AND RECOUNT

Narrate the celebration of the Pass-over feast among the Israelites.
[Exodus 12:21-28].

WORD OF GOD FOR GUIDANCE



Sing to the Lord a new song for hr has done
marvellous things [psalm:98:1].

MY DECISION

I would participate with piety in the feast and
celebrations of the church

LET US DO

Pair the following

LET US FIND OUT THE ANSWER

1. What did the Israelites commemorate through the feast of Passover?
2. What is the meaning of the word 'Pentecost'?
3. What for the feast of the reparation of sins was celebrated?
4. Why is Easter known as the feast of feasts?
5. What is the basis of the celebration of the feast of Pentecost in the new testament period?
6. How do the celebrations of feast help us in our spiritual nourishment?



THANK YOU