

Help! I'm New to Torah, and I Don't Know What to Do!

Lesson 2: The Feasts and Festivals of the LORD—The Feast of Weeks (Shavuot or Pentecost)

*Why do we do the Mo'edim? Psalm 40:7, Jeremiah 8:7, & 1 Thessalonians 5:1-4*

**1. What is “The Feast of Weeks”?**

<b>Leviticus 23:15-22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shavuot is one of the seven mo'edim, or appointed times of the LORD.</li> <li>• The Feast of Weeks is called Shavuot in Hebrew (plural of sh'vuah H7620, or week).</li> <li>• V.15 &amp; 16—“The day after” is “the morrow of” (<i>macherat</i> H4283)</li> <li>• Shavuot is not a fixed date on the calendar. However, it is always on a Sunday because it comes on the day after the 7<sup>th</sup> Sabbath (Jewish literature says count 7 weeks). V.16—“Seventh” is <i>shevi'i</i> H7637, which means Shavuot will ALWAYS come after the seventh Sabbath from the feast of Firstfruits.</li> </ul>
<b>Exodus 23:16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read v. 14-17</li> <li>• One name for Shavuot is “Feast of Harvest”, or <i>Chag Ha'katsir</i> (H7105)</li> <li>• V.17—Shavuot is a time when all Israel is to appear in Jerusalem. These are called the <i>shalosh regalim</i> (v.14), or the “three feet”. These are also referred to as the “three pilgrim festivals”.</li> <li>• Notice it is the firstfruits, but the firstfruits of what?</li> </ul>
<b>Exodus 34:22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read v. 22-23</li> <li>• Another name for Shavuot is the “Feast of Weeks”, or <i>Chag Shavuot</i>.</li> <li>• Notice it is the firstfruits of the wheat harvest.</li> </ul>
<b>Based on Exodus 19 and 20</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• זמן מתן תורתנו</li> <li>• Another traditional name for Shavuot is <i>z'man matan torateinu</i>, or “the season of the giving of our Torah”. This is based on the events of Exodus 19 and 20.</li> </ul>
<b>Acts 2:1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another name for Shavuot is “Pentecost”.</li> <li>• <i>Pentekoste</i> (G4005) means “the fiftieth day”. It is the fiftieth day after the feast of firstfruits. It is also the day after the seventh Sabbath from the beginning of the counting of the omer.</li> </ul>

**2. How was Shavuot celebrated?**

<b>Numbers 28:26-31</b>	Though these seem to be different offerings, notice they are in addition to the ones in Leviticus 23.
<b>Deuteronomy 16:9-12</b>	Notice who is to celebrate Shavuot. Why is this significant? <b>Deuteronomy 29:29-30:10</b>
<b>2 Chronicles 8:12-13</b>	Shavuot was celebrated in the time of Solomon.
<b>Acts 20:5-16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take note that this is right after the days of Unleavened Bread. What happens after that time? Seven Sabbaths are counted.</li> <li>• V.6—“First day of the week” is <i>mia ton Sabbaton</i>, or “one of the Sabbaths”. Which Sabbaths? The Sabbaths between Firstfruits and Shavuot.</li> <li>• V.16—Paul was hurrying to get back in time for Pentecost. <b>Exodus 23:17 and 34:23</b></li> </ul>
<b>1 Corinthians 16:1-8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• V.2—<i>Mia ton Sabbaton</i> is used again. <b>1 Corinthians 5:6-8</b>—This book was written during the season of Passover.</li> <li>• Again, Paul wanted to go to Jerusalem and keep Shavuot. Paul wanted to spend time with the Corinthians, so he didn't put himself in a time crunch.</li> </ul>

### 3. What Does Shavuot Teach Prophetically?

<b>Exodus 19:1-25</b>	<p>God betrothing a bride; Traditionally, the date for the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai is Sivan 6, 2448 on the biblical calendar. If this is the case, then the Feast of Firstfruits would have been on Nisan 16, which has become the fixed date in the Jewish community for Firstfruits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• V.6—<b>1 Peter 2:9-10</b></li> <li>• V.13—“Trumpet” is <i>hayovel</i> H3104. This is Hebrew for “Jubilee”.</li> <li>• V.16—“voices” is <i>kolot</i> H6963, or voices.</li> </ul>
<b>Acts 2:1-39</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Torah reading for Shavuot includes Exodus 19:1-20:33</li> <li>• If the Law was nailed to the cross, why did the Holy Spirit come at Shavuot? Couldn't God have sent the Holy Spirit anytime He wanted? He could have, but it would have broken the prophetic picture. “Fully come”—<i>symplēroō</i> (soom-play-ro'-oh) G4845—<b>Luke 9:51</b>. This word means when something is being completed on God's timetable.</li> <li>• V.4 and 14—“Utterance” and “said” is <i>apophthengomai</i> (<i>ap-of-theng'-om-ahēe</i>) G669. This is “not a word of everyday speech but one ‘belonging to dignified and elevated discourse’”.</li> <li>• V.21—“Shall be saved” is future tense—<b>1 Peter 1:8-9</b></li> <li>• V.21—“The name of the LORD”—<b>Exodus 3:14; 33:19; 34:5-7; Acts 4:12</b></li> </ul>
<b>Book of Ruth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is customary to read the entire book of Ruth on Shavuot. It teaches about the grafting in of the wild branch into the cultivated olive tree (Romans 11:17-18).</li> <li>• <i>Elimelech</i>—My God is King; <i>Naomi</i>—My delight/pleasantness; <i>Mahlon</i>—Sickly; <i>Chilion</i>—Wasting away; <i>Orpah</i>—Stiff necked; <i>Ruth</i>—Friend; <i>Boaz</i>—Quickness</li> </ul>