

# The Last Great Day of the Feast

## John 7:37-39 Meaning of the 7<sup>th</sup> day, “the Last Day of the Feast”

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*All scriptures used are NKJV unless otherwise noted.*

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**Summary:** Our Messiah, Jesus the Christ (or Yeshua, as I prefer), cried out at the end of the Water Libation ceremony on the last day of the Feast. Which day was always called “the Great Day”- and still is? In context, what was the meaning of His words? Who was it pointing to? Why were 70 bulls sacrificed? Why were the priests led by a flutist called “the Pierced One”? Learn how their Salvation (Yeshua) was “hiding in plain sight”. John 7:37-39 is explained in context. Hear what is usually missed about this day and message.  
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Hello brothers and sisters in the Messiah. This is Philip Shields with another message from the light of God’s word.

For most of my life, keeping the Feast of Tabernacles (or Feast of Booths, Sukkot) has been a very exciting time for me when all our family to get together and worship the king together at His feast.

I remember in the 1960’s all of us piling into our grandpa’s station wagon and making the trek up to keep the Feast in Squaw Valley, California – beside beautiful Lake Tahoe. We’d hear sermons, have a wonderful family time together, and eat and feast to the Eternal God. It was so much fun – and we’d come back refreshed, rejuvenated and ready to tackle another year. It was what it was supposed to be: a time of rejoicing with the whole family together as one.

**Jews called Sukkot – this Feast of Booths-- “the time of our joy”. King David taught Israel the profound joy** of really knowing their Creator and having that intimate relationship with Him, especially through his “Tabernacle of David”. I will record an updated message of this thrilling truth. I do have two sermons already on the website given 2-3 years ago that go into this.

Today’s message will *hi-lite what Yeshua said on “the last day of the Feast” of tabernacles* – the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the feast and its awesome meaning though I’ll intersperse other concepts from the Feast in general as well. Give me a chance to explain why I teach it had to be the 7<sup>th</sup> day, the true last day of the Feast, and not the single 8<sup>th</sup> day festival after the Feast.

The Festivals of Yahweh centered around the harvest seasons of the Promised Land. They picture the plan of salvation of Yahweh to bring all mankind eventually into His Household, His family, His kingdom. All who have ever lived will be given one true opportunity to have their minds opened to God’s truths and then to choose which way they will go. Almost all will take that opportunity to come back into the kingdom of God – except a few hardnosed, diehard sinners who refuse to repent.

For many years now – at least since 2005 or 2006 - - I have taught and believed that Jesus the Christ (Yeshua the Messiah) indeed preached John 7:37-39 exactly as scripture says: “on the last day, the Great Day of the Feast”. I’m not the only one believing this. More and more COG pastors

are teaching it, Jews always have, and most Messianics believe it was said on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the Feast.

Many believe John 7:37-39 was preached *after* the Feast of Tabernacles – not on “the last day of the Feast”, as scripture says – but on a separate *one-day feast* – the 8<sup>th</sup> day. ***Don’t get me wrong: the 8<sup>th</sup> day is also an incredibly important day. I’m only making the point, that we can’t historically or Biblically say that John 7:37-39 was said on the 8<sup>th</sup> day, the holyday.*** Every indication historically and Biblically was that it was day 7, the last day. When we understand the context of that day, His message becomes profound!

I want to go into some detail on what happened on this very great day in temple days. What was going on around Him when Yeshua spoke those words? What does it mean for us today? Jews often did the rituals but did not understand what the rituals pointed to. They therefore missed their Messiah who was hiding in plain sight on this last day of the Feast, the Great Day. Someday they will “see” Him! Father, hasten that day! Bring salvation -- bring Yeshua – to the people of Yehudah (Judah), whose name means “Praise”, that they may praise your holy name Yahweh.

We’ll also cover why 70 bulls were offered during the Feast of Tabernacles. Why they dwelt in booths. And why Yah commanded they dwell in booths for SEVEN days -- and not eight, though many of us seem to dwell in temporary dwellings for eight or more. And most of all, I hope you rejoice in seeing Yeshua revealed in this day, in the pool of Siloam, in the water ceremony, and all that was going on around Him. For many of you some of this will be the first time you’ve heard this exciting true meaning of the last day of the Feast.

And let me say again: none of this should take away from the true meaning of the 8<sup>th</sup> day either – the day of newness, the new of resurrection, the day of new heavens and new earth.

Most COG groups and some others teach that Jesus’ words were said on the 8<sup>th</sup> day feast, which is an entirely separate and unique festival from the Feast of Tabernacles. **See my blog in Oct. 2011** about “The Last Great Day” for the clear reasons I hold to this view, as more and more are coming to do as well.

So I’ll first explain why I have long believed this “Last Great day of the Feast” has to be the last day of the Feast, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the Feast of tabernacle, and not the 8<sup>th</sup> day one-day feast! Then we’ll go into the very special services of the Water Ceremony done on this special day. ***Some make the leap of assuming that the term “that Great Day of the Feast” referred to a “holyday” – but that is not the case.*** Jews called each annual holyday a “high day”, not a “great day”.

### **WHY “the LAST GREAT DAY of the Feast” is exactly that: the Last day of the Feast of Tabernacles ... and not the 8<sup>th</sup> Day holyday**

Let’s start in John 7. Here you find Yeshua going up to the Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles. He kept the Feast. Paul spoke of keeping the Feast in **Acts 18:21**. (Most ‘modern’ translations – other than KJV and NKJV – omit the phrase where Paul says “***I must keep this feast in Jerusalem.***”) The early believers certainly kept the Feasts of Yahweh. They received God’s Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost. If they hadn’t been keeping the holydays, they would not have been there to be anointed with the tongues of fire and God’s Spirit.

**John 7:37-39**

37 On the last day, that *great day of the feast*, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

**John 7:37 Apologetics Study Bible**

37 On the **last and most important day of the festival**, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, he should come to Me and drink!"

These feasts belong to Yahweh.

**Leviticus 23:1-2** make it clear that these feasts were feasts (*moedim – appointments*) with God Almighty, with Yahweh. They are called *His* feasts there, not the Jews' feasts. In John 7, John calls them "the feasts of the Jews" as Jews only were keeping these feasts by that time.

- When was this? It was the "last day of the Feast". The 8<sup>th</sup> day is a one day feast, separate from the Feast of Tabernacles. It would be linguistically silly to even try to refer to a one-day Feast as "*the last day of the feast*".
- **The feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) was always regarded as a SEVEN-day feast**, not an 8 day feast, as the 8<sup>th</sup> was a holyday after "the Feast". So "the last day of the feast" would be the last day of the feast of Tabernacles – the 7<sup>th</sup> Day. The 8<sup>th</sup> day was not part of the Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles) so it could not be "the last day of the Feast". Let's look at some verses to refresh our mind that the Feast of tabernacles is 7 days, not 8.

**Leviticus 23:33-36 (I will read the original YHVH where English Bibles change it to "Yahweh").**

33 Then Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, 34 "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall **be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to Yahweh**. 35 On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it.

36 For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. **On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation**, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> day holyday**

**The Holyday on the 8<sup>th</sup> day was not part of Sukkot, or the Feast of Tabernacles**, though it comes immediately on its heels. **It is always simply called the "Eighth Day"**. We are the ones who have, over the years, given it the name "Last Great Day" based on an erroneous conclusion after reading John 7:37-39. *Scripture always refers to the last holyday of the year – which falls on the day after the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles* – as simply "the 8<sup>th</sup> day", never as "the Great Day" or "the Last Great Day". **So I call this 8<sup>th</sup> day holyday simply "the 8<sup>th</sup> day" as well.** The number 8 is the focus – new beginnings.

**Deuteronomy 16:13-15**

13 "*You shall observe the Feast of Tabernacles seven days*, when you have gathered from your threshing floor and from your winepress. 14 And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates. 15 **seven days you shall keep a sacred feast to Yahweh your Elohim** in the place which Yahweh chooses, because Yahweh your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice.

**Numbers 29:12**

12 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month you shall have a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work, and **you shall keep a feast to Yahweh seven days.**"

*So if this was a seven day feast, then the last day of the feast has to be the 7<sup>th</sup> day!*

- **The 7<sup>th</sup> day of the Feast was called "the Great Day". The 8<sup>th</sup> day feast day or appointed day, was *never* called "the great day". The 7<sup>th</sup> day, the last day of the Feast of tabernacles, is to this day called by the Jews "Hoshana Rabbah" – meaning the **Great Hosanna, the Great Day** when God Saves.** Hosanna means "Save us" in Hebrew, or has implications of praise in English. But it's a great day. It was the 7<sup>th</sup> day. The CJB version of John 7:37 actually has the words "Hoshana Rabbah" in the verse, which was the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the festival.
- **Water was poured out all 7 days of the Feast of Tabernacles in the daily water ceremony** – and then poured out even FAR more copiously on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the Feast. Water was everywhere. Yeshua spoke of the Spirit in terms of living waters. It makes sense in context of all the water being poured out on this day. ***However, there was NO water being poured out on the 8<sup>th</sup> day.***

Let's review one more passage and learn more about the Feast of Tabernacles while we're at it.

**Nehemiah 8:13-18**

13 Now on the second day [of the 7<sup>th</sup> month] the heads of the fathers' houses of all the people, with the priests and Levites, were gathered to Ezra the scribe, in order to understand the words of the Law.

14 And they found written in the Law, which Yahweh had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month, 15 and that they should announce and proclaim in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the mountain, and bring olive branches, branches of oil trees, myrtle branches, palm branches, and branches of leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written."

16 Then the people went out and brought them and **made themselves booths**, each one on the roof of his house or in their courtyards or the courts of the house of God and in the open square of the Water Gate and in the open square of the Gate of Ephraim.

17 So the whole assembly of those who had returned from the captivity **made booths and sat under the booths**; for since the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day the children of Israel had not done so. And there was very great gladness.

18 Also day by day, from the first day until the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God. **And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day there was a sacred assembly**, according to the prescribed manner.

So I hope I can say “I rest my case” and move on. “The feast” is 7 days, not 8 days. The Last day was the 7<sup>th</sup> day. We’ll soon learn about all the water being poured out, especially on the 7<sup>th</sup> day as well. But notice that the people of Nehemiah’s day made booths and lived in those booths for the 7 day feast. By the way, they didn’t live in booths for 8 days, but for seven, as scripture commands.

### **WHY BOTHER WITH BOOTHS or temporary dwellings?**

I don’t want to assume everyone understands why temporary booths were made, so let’s review. To this day, observant Jews and believers live in temporary dwellings – tents, motel rooms, cabins, or some build literal booths – or sukkah – in their back yards.

#### **Leviticus 23:39-43**

39 'Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep **the feast of Yahweh for seven days**; on the first day there shall be a sabbath-rest, and on the eighth day a sabbath-rest.

40 And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of beautiful trees, branches of palm trees, the boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; **and you shall rejoice before Yahweh your God for seven days**.

41 You shall keep it as a feast to Yahweh for seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations. You shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

42 You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All who are native Israelites shall dwell in booths, 43 ***that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your God.***"

We live in booths to remember that Israel had to live in temporary dwellings on their way to the more permanent promised land Yahweh was giving them. Notice verse 43: Yah *made us live* in temporary booths. It’s HIS doing to teach us lessons and patience.

Why? One reason is this: in the very time when the weather is turning colder and rainier, we move outside the comfort of our solid homes into a booth. This makes a statement of our confidence in Yahweh and awareness of His ever-present providence and protection regardless of what we see on the outside. *I often think we miss the real meaning of the booths when we rent exquisite hotel suites at some of the feast sites. I’ve done it too...I’m just thinking aloud.*

Notice the end of Lev. 23:40 – the key to the rejoicing is that it is done “before YHVH your God for seven days”. Ultimate joy is possible only in the realization we are in and before Yahweh’s presence, regardless of what is going on outside. In Temple days, they would wave their “lulav” –

branches of the 4 species mentioned in v. 40 – in front of the temple area, “before YHVH” if you will and they did it with great joy being in YHVH’s presence.

### **The “Hallel”**

**They would also sing Psalm 113-118, called the Hallel**, at this time. This is where we get the word “**Hallelujah**” – meaning “Praise Yah”. Psalm 113-118 was a collection of songs of praise and thanksgiving. Many of them end in “Hallelujah” – Praise Yah. (When was the last time you proclaimed the “Hallelujah”?) All through those hymns, especially Psalm 118, Yeshua is called out by name in the word “salvation”. In your mind, imagine thousands of people singing these hymns and hearing the punctuation blasts of the shofar and silver trumpets.

Imagine how Yeshua was hiding in plain sight every time they said “salvation” in those psalms. Every time – “**salvation**” in Hebrew is the word “**yeshua**”. His very name. In Solomon’s day, the 2 silver trumpets increased to 120, being blown by trained priests. It was a grand, spectacular, moving, joyous occasion indeed.

I attend services today with people who still blow the shofar and the trumpet – especially on Yom Teruah, the feast of Trumpets. We are told to do so, so we do it.

OK, back to the temporary dwellings... **We too, live in temporary dwellings.**

- **We must come to see our very existence on this earth as a temporary one**, preparing us for real everlasting life when we are changed at the last trump. Our *real* home is heavenly Jerusalem – not the life on this planet right now. We have the example of Abraham and our fathers who looked to a real city with real foundations, whose builder and maker is God. They knew they were just pilgrims on this earth waiting for the promised land to come (**Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16**).
- **Our bodies are also a type of temporary tent or booth as well.** We know our bodies are getting older and falling apart. When you build a literal booth as my friend Mike did, when he first put the branches inside, they were beautiful, green and leafy. By the end of the Feast, the branches and leaves had died and withered away – a reminder indeed of the temporary nature of our lives. Notice how Paul and Peter refer to our bodies as “tents”.

### **2 Corinthians 5:1-4**

For we know that if our *earthly house, this tent*, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.

### **2 Peter 1:12-15 Apologetics Study Bible**

Therefore I will always remind you about these things, even though you know them and are established in the truth you have. 13 I consider it right, *as long as I am in this tent*, to wake you up with a reminder, 14 knowing *that I will soon lay aside my tent*, as our Lord Jesus Christ has also shown me.

For that matter, even this very universe we live in is going to go away and fall apart like a tent. I was watching a special on TV about the Hubble Telescope discoveries. It was very exciting as they described something they can’t see – but can see its effects – called “Dark Energy” and “Dark

Matter” that keep this universe together. But they said the time is coming when the entire universe will collapse and disappear in one humongous explosion!

**2 Peter 3:10** (read thru v. 13 on your own)

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

**WHY 70 BULLS were offered during the Feast of Tabernacles**

We can read the full details of the sacrifices during the Feast of Tabernacles in **Numbers 29:12-34**. Here you'll find that a total of 70 bulls were sacrificed during the Feast of Tabernacles. **Yeshua fulfilled all the sacrifices so we no longer sacrifice any animals.** The blood of bulls and goats cannot forgive sin, but the blood of the son of God- made-man does forgive us of all sin we've ever committed when we accept Him as our Savior.

**Numbers 29:12-19**

**12 'On the fifteenth day of the seventh month you shall have a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work, and you shall keep a feast to the Lord seven days.**

13 You shall present a burnt offering, an offering made by fire as a sweet aroma to the Lord: **thirteen young bulls**, two rams, and fourteen lambs in their first year. They shall be without blemish.

Skipping to v. 17...day 2...

**17 'On the second day present twelve young bulls**, two rams, fourteen lambs in their first year without blemish...

I won't take the time to read the entire passage here, but you can check Numbers 29 and find that each of the 7 days of the Feast of tabernacles, bulls were sacrificed. On day 1 – 13 bulls. On day 2 – 12; Day 3 – 11, and so on, until by the time we get to day 7, only 7 bulls were sacrificed. But if we add up the number of bulls, it comes to 70. WHY?

***This is to represent the fact that Yahweh will offer atonement and salvation to the whole world. Why 70? If you look at Genesis 10***, after the Flood, there were 70 primordial nations which sprang out of the three sons of Noah. Some call it the 70 languages. All 200 or so nations on earth today are ultimately part of those original 70.

70 bulls. 70 nations. Be turning to Zechariah 14. Yahweh shows us that He always intended Sukkot- the Feast of Tabernacles – to be a holy festival **for the whole world**. By offering 70 bulls from the beginning, Yah clearly shows His ultimate will: be bonded to all nations, when the restoration of all things is complete! Remember his House is a house of prayer for all nations.

**Zechariah 14:16-19**

***And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.***

17 And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, on them there will be no rain.

18 If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which Yahweh strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. 19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

If you read the first 15 verses of Zechariah, you see that all nations came to battle against Jerusalem and those armies are obliterated by the Almighty in a terrible display of power. Those who are left of the nations are given one command: Yah basically says, “If you want my blessings, show Me you have come under my rule by coming to Jerusalem – but this time, in peace. This time to build a sukkah – a booth – and to worship Me at the Feast of Booths (tabernacles) and learn of Me, learn my ways, my teachings and live in them. Take those teachings back to your country.”

So there you have it! Israel kept the feast. Jesus – Yeshua – kept the Feast. The Apostles did. We do. And the whole world will during the Millennial reign of the King (Zechariah 14).

**Father is creating us into His image.** He created us in His likeness with the first man and woman. That was easy. Likeness is what Yahweh *looks* like. Image is what He *is* like. That takes longer. It is His righteousness, His character and He imbues us with that as we trust Him in faith and prove our faith with obedience. The Feast of tabernacles is a time and way for us to all come together to worship the King of kings and His Father, and our Father.

The Feast of Tabernacles pictures the 1,000 Millennial reign of the Messiah on earth. During this time, the nations of the world will start to respond, one by one, and come to salvation. Zechariah 14 prophesies – or hints – that it might take Egypt 3 years, for example, to give in. but in the end, there will be a highway linking Egypt, Assyria and Israel.

**By the end of the Millennium, pictured by the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the feast** and the final 7 bulls being sacrificed out of the 70 total, the whole world will be submitting to King Yeshua and obeying His laws. This is an incredibly joyous time, a great time, a wonderful time. It pictures indeed a Great Day when all who are willing can come to their King and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. It was on this day that Yeshua said what He did in John 7:37-39.

But what else was going on?

### **THE GREAT WATER CEREMONY AND ITS MEANING**

Scripture does not teach the Water libation or water ceremony that was practiced at the temple. It came out of the oral Torah. Sadducees rejected the oral law, *but clearly it was being practiced on the temple mount when Yeshua was there – as He referenced the water being poured out in immense quantity on the last day when He pointed to the fact that all that water ceremony really pointed to Him, and He was the true source of living water.*

**It is because Yeshua references water – none of which was poured out on the 8<sup>th</sup> day, by the way – that I will now discuss this water ceremony** that culminated on Hoshana Rabbah – the 7<sup>th</sup> day, the last and Great Day of the Feast of Tabernacles.



What was this tradition? I'll quote from notes taken from the Temple Institute, which we visited while we were in Israel a few years ago:

***“Each morning*** of the festival, during the daily sacrifice, water was poured onto the altar in a special manner. The joyous service was purposely conducted with great public ceremony...At the foothills of Mount Moriah, down below the City of David, flows a natural spring (to this day) called Shiloach (Siloam). ...it is the original source of Jerusalem's water.”

To summarize, every day the priests descended down to the pool of Siloam, accompanied by the people who had come to worship. There they filled a golden flask that would hold about ½ liter of water. They ascended back up with great song and shouts and would be greeted at the Water Gate on the south side of the court, with great blasts from the shofars and trumpets. This they did to fulfill Isaiah 12:3, “you shall draw water out of the wells of salvation”. The word “salvation” there is “Yeshua!” You shall draw water out of the wells of YESHUA!

***Now do Yeshua's words make more sense? He is telling the crowd that HE is the well of living water. HE is what all that water ceremony pointed to! HE is the well of salvation. He IS salvation, He IS Yeshua! Do you see why it is so important we use the right name? The actual Hebrew word for “salvation” in Isa. 12:3 is yeshua, and spelled that way too!***

Once in the temple, the priest who had the honor of performing the water service now carries the golden flask up the altar ramp and turns left, pours out the water on the southwest side of the altar into one of 2 silver cups. Wine was poured in the other silver cup – and these would drain down to the bottom of the altar.

When this happened, there would be such celebration and joy that the sages of Israel said, “Whoever has never seen the celebrations of the Water Libation has never experienced pure joy in his life”. **At this time the leading priests would dance ecstatically in the temple courts** while the congregants would watch. It is said that even the famous Rabbi Gamaliel danced while juggling 8 flaming torches, never once dropping any of them or having any of them touch the others. Those who said they watched this claimed it was divinely guided.

During the water ceremony, innumerable priests sang and played on harps, lyres, trumpets, shofars. They would sing during the daily sacrifices and especially so during the water libation.

The joy is said to come from:

- What King David wrote in **Psalm 73:28** – “It is GOOD for me to be close to Elohim ... and put my trust in Adonai Yahweh (my Master Yahweh).” Now they were feeling close to their God and it brought great joy.
- They believed that **Ex. 20:24** was to be taken literally, that when we come to God's House – where His name Yahweh is recorded and it's called “the House of Yahweh”-- and bless His name, He would come to our house also and bless us. This brought them great joy.

**So this went on for 7 days. For the first 6 days, the priests circled the altar once. Then the 7<sup>th</sup> day, on Hoshana Rabbah, this last day of the feast that they called “the Great Day”, the priests circled the altar 7x in remembrance of Jericho and crossing over victoriously into the**

**Promised Land.** They would recite especially Psalm 118:25 over and over. But a few verses before that, their Messiah was “hiding in plain sight”. In Hebrew, “salvation” is “yeshua” and “save” is “yasha” – both referring to the person of our Savior, Yeshua. That is what Yeshua means: Savior, or Salvation.

**Psalms 118:21**

**“I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation (yeshua).”**

**Psalm 118:25**

**“Save [Hebrew: YASHA] now, I pray, Yahweh; Yahweh, I pray, send now prosperity.”**

**The Pierced One**

Now get this – and orthodox Jews do not understand this: as the priests went around the altar 7 times, *were led by a man playing on a FLUTE, and this man was called “the Pierced One”*. A flute was a pierced reed, so perhaps that’s where they got “pierced one”. But there’s more!

**John 19:34-37**

But one of the soldiers **pierced His side with a spear**, and immediately blood and water came out. 35 And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. 36 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, “Not one of His bones shall be broken.” 37 And again another Scripture says, *“They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”*

**Zechariah 12:10**

“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; *then they will look on Me whom they pierced*. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

**Revelation 1:7-8**

Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega [**Alef and the Tav in Hebrew**], the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, **“who is and who was and who is to come [another way of saying “I am who I am”], the Almighty [El Shaddai]”**

*Someday they will connect the fact that the one who leads us in all victory is indeed the Pierced One.* Every eye shall see Him whom they pierced. We all pierced Him by our sins. But the Pierced One is resurrected. He is alive. The tomb in which he was laid – is empty! He has risen. He is my King, and your king. He is my Master and yours. He is my Yeshua –my Salvation – and yours. HE is my Spring of living waters!! He is Yahweh Yeshua, the God of my Salvation! Hallelujah!

*You see, this day is all about Yeshua!* It’s all about how the whole world will come bow before Him and He shall rule until all enemies have been put under His feet. He *is* Yahweh Almighty. He is also the SON of Yahweh Most High, in the Highest. This day is about the extreme joy we

should feel when we realize all this and come to Him for more of His spirit, more of the living waters that only He can provide.

## WHAT YESHUA SAID

### John 7:37-39

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, ***let him come to ME and drink.*** 38 ***He who believes in Me,*** as the Scripture has said, out of his heart ***will flow rivers of living water.***" 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Greek literally says "out of his belly" – not "heart".

**He said "come to me".** He will in no way cast us out (John 6:37)

It is callous hirelings who *think* they are shepherds but aren't, who actually throw some of God's sheep *out* of the sheepfold and leave them to the wolves and the weather. The good shepherd seeks the lost, binds up the hurting, helps heal the sick or weak sheep. Read Ezekiel 34 again sometime and see how the Good Shepherd views many of the present shepherds and condemns them for NOT seeking the sheep who are lost, for NOT keeping the flock together, for looking more after their own needs than the sheep! False shepherds end up not being shepherds at all! They're in it for their own glory. They're hirelings.

**If you thirst:** Some people get dehydrated spiritually and don't realize how dangerous that is! If you need more joy, need more power, need more light in your life – and yes, I often do – we need to come to the well of living water, to our Siloam. HE is our Siloam. John 9:7-11 tells us of a blind man Yeshua heals after the blind man washed in Siloam.

***Siloam, also translated Shelah – means "SENT". Who was sent? It was the Messiah (John 13:16, 20)! He was the One Sent. He IS the pool of "the One Sent" – of Siloam.***

Have you ever in prayer actually said the words, "O Savior, let me drink, and drink deeply of you and your spirit, O Master!"? He tells us to. This is about living water, springs of flowing water. Remember that the bride for Isaac was found at the well – which was really a flowing spring.

Yeshua said this while they were probably in the midst of the water ceremony, whose aim was to please God and to ask for Him to bring prosperity and rains and waters in due season for their harvest in the coming year. At that point Yeshua says, "come to ME for water". ***This could be seen that Yeshua was claiming to be the source of the water, of being God Himself. So if you keep reading in John 7, no wonder there was an attempt to arrest Him.***

***He says in John 7:38 that one believing (ongoing tense) in Him will evidence the flow of Christ's own Spirit in him!*** John 7:39 – Yeshua clearly says the rivers refer to the flow of the Spirit.

### Isa 55:1 ASB

"Come, everyone who is thirsty, come to the waters;  
and you without money, come, buy, and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost!

When Yeshua spoke of springs of living water – and told His listeners to come to *Him*, whose name is YESHUA, meaning “salvation”—I think He could have been thinking of Isaiah 12:2-3.

**Isaiah 12:1-6 ASB**

In that day you will say: “I will praise You Yahweh, although You were angry with me. Your anger has turned away, and You have had compassion on me.

**2 *Indeed, God (El) is my Yeshua (salvation).***

I will trust Him and not be afraid. Because Yah Yahweh is my strength and my song,

***He [Yahweh] has become my Yeshua (salvation).”***

**3 *You will joyfully draw water from the springs of salvation (Yeshua in Hebrew)***

4 and on that day you will say: “Give thanks to ***Yahweh; proclaim His name!***

Celebrate His deeds among the peoples. ***Declare that His name is exalted.***

5 Sing to Yahweh, for He has done glorious things. Let this be known throughout the earth. 6 Cry out and sing citizen of Zion, for the Holy One of Israel is among you in His greatness.”

**John 4:9-14**

9 Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

**10 *Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."***

11 The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 ***but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.***"

Let's not be like the 5 foolish virgins who had no oil when they needed to have a fire burning brightly. They weren't prepared for the apparent delays, for the hard times, for the long night. Come, drink up from the wells of life of our living Yeshua, our waters of salvation!

***Brethren, THIS is the real meaning of this day: it's all about Yeshua. It's about HIM being the living waters, who gives us abundantly of His Spirit.*** But we do have to ask. Have you recently? Today, yesterday, the day before? Of all the things we should be asking for – it's to drink of his well of living waters. It's to have more of His Spirit.

**Luke 11:13**

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, ***how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"***

**Joel 2:28-29**

"And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;  
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams,  
Your young men shall see visions.  
29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants  
I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

**Isaiah 44:1-5**

"Yet hear me now, O Jacob My servant, And Israel whom I have chosen.  
2 Thus says Yahweh who made you  
And formed you from the womb, who will help you:  
'Fear not, O Jacob My servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

*3 For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground;  
I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring;  
4 They will spring up among the grass like willows by the watercourses.'*  
5 One will say, 'I am Yahweh's'; another will call himself by the name of Jacob;  
Another will write with his hand, 'Yahweh's,' and name himself by the name of Israel.

**Psalm 36:9** – “For in you is the fountain of Life; In your light we see light”.

David said he pants for God – and His Spirit – like a deer pants for water in a dry desert.

**Psalms 42:1-2**

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God.  
2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?

Are we like that? Is this what we could die for? Is this what we seek more than anything else? It's when you're especially down and out – and I've experienced a lot of that lately too – feeling alone, dead in spirit, down, distressed, depressed – these are the times we pour out our soul before our Maker and He WILL revive us – as a man dying of thirst who comes upon the pools of living water. You can also read this in **Psalm 143:1-6**. It spoke powerfully to me today. Maybe it will for you too.

During and after the Millennium, there will be a river of life available to all at that time.

So this 7<sup>th</sup> day of the Feast pictures the *last* day of the Feast, the Great Day, when all the nations will finally have submitted to Yahweh as king, come repentantly to seek His blessings and good pleasure. It pictures the time of restoration of all things on the earth. It pictures the completion of the thousand years of Messiah's millennial rule.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Day – the day after the Last Day of the Feast**

*Then, at sundown of the 7<sup>th</sup> day, begins the 8<sup>th</sup> day – a new festival, a new beginning. What does the 8<sup>th</sup> day picture?*

I gave a full length sermon on the messages Jesus preached on the REAL 8<sup>th</sup> day. Be sure to hear it – Oct. 2006. The 8<sup>th</sup> day is also very, very special indeed. But that's for a separate sermon. It is also a wonderful day with deep meaning....I look so forward to this.

- It is a day when I will be able to hold once again our precious David, my first son who died.
- It pictures the resurrection of all who have ever died without having had a saving relationship with their God.
- The many billions who have ever lived will be resurrected into world that has finally and completely been restored. The whole world will be like the Garden of Eden. Weather patterns will be corrected. Deserts are all blooming and lush and green. The Sahara – was once marshlands in the day of Rome – and will be again. The world will be at peace – certainly after the final instigation of Satan who does get released for a short while.
- ***This day also pictures the new heavens and the new earth. This is why YHVH did not have them live in booths on the 8<sup>th</sup> day*** – because the meaning of booths – temporariness – was done! We now have the NEW heavens, the new universe, and the new creation in all its permanency. I suspect we will get to watch or maybe even to some extent participate in this new universe creation with our Father and King/Husband Yeshua.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> day also pictures when Yah sends the New Jerusalem to His new earth (Rev. 22)
- It's when the prophecies of **Rev. 21-22** will be completed in their fullness. I will try to record a sermon for the 8<sup>th</sup> day as well.

This too is a wonderful, powerful day... yes, it too is a “great day”, the time of NEW beginnings. God speed this day too!

So let's wrap it up with that... and until next time, your brother in Messiah, Philip Shields.