

# The Deborah Report

A Partner Update from Deborah Ministries International

August 2015

*"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." ~ Luke 21:28*

**F**all is right around the corner; one of the ways I know is that everywhere I turn, I hear or see **Back to School!** Our whole culture heralds the coming of fall with **Back to School!**, whether we have anyone in our households returning to school or not. Truly though, even in churches, September means we can get focused again, assuming vacations are over and schedules are geared to productivity instead of play.

This year, however, I am far more aware of fall or September for a much deeper reason. I well remember being awakened one night last November and hearing the words **Feast of Ingathering 2015** reverberating in my spirit. The first thing I did was to get on the computer to find out when the Feast of Ingathering is to be celebrated this year. **It begins at sundown on Monday, September 27 and continues for seven days.** Ever since that night, September has held a special anticipation for me. And it's not about back to school.

So, what is the Feast of Ingathering? It is one of the Jewish feasts that the Lord God gave to the Israelites when He gave Moses the Law on Mount Sinai about 1450 B.C. Therefore, the Jews have been celebrating this feast annually for nearly 3500 years!

So, what makes 2015 different than any other year for this feast? That's what has me intrigued, to say the least! First of all, let me lay a bit of foundation, both personal and doctrinal. One of the reasons I was so startled to be awakened to these words was that I have never been particularly knowledgeable about the feasts; neither have I been interested in them beyond being aware of their importance in the Old Testament. Doctrinally, I knew that the feasts all pointed to Christ, and since Christ has come, I never thought of them as having deep significance to us as believers. **But obviously God was calling my attention to something!**

Suddenly I wanted to know all about the Feast of Ingathering, so I began to do some study and research.

Interestingly enough, the Jews call this the Feast of Sukkot, or the Feast of Tabernacles, but the Lord God, when He first gave the instructions to Moses in the Book of Exodus, called it **the Feast of Ingathering.**

## *The Feast of Ingathering*

This feast was to be celebrated after the 'gathering in' of the crops--at the time of harvest. It was to be a time of rejoicing, a time of thanksgiving, but also it was to be a very special commemorative event. The people were to build for themselves temporary shelters to live in for the duration of the feast. *"This will remind each new generation of Israelites that their ancestors had to live in shelters when I rescued them from the land of Egypt. I, the LORD, am your God."* Lev. 23:43

I'll try to summarize for you the primary points of the symbolism that I have gleaned from my study of the feast in order to point us to whatever the LORD wants us to come to understand concerning this.

First of all, I have come to have a deep regard for the beauty of all the feasts that the LORD God gave to His people to celebrate. In the original language, the word that is translated feast, could just as accurately have been translated *divine appointment*. These feasts or celebrations were meant to be divine appointments between God and His people depicting His plan for the salvation of humanity. Since we know that Jesus is the savior of all mankind, we know that Jesus is the fulfillment of these enactments. Specifically, the four feasts that were celebrated in the spring were all completely fulfilled in the first coming of Christ. The three that are celebrated in the fall will have their complete fulfillment in His second coming.

Now, let's look specifically at the Feast of Ingathering again. As we saw earlier, the LORD God wanted everything predicated on the fact that He **rescued His people out of Egypt.** Remembering that He took them out **in order to take them into the Promised Land,** we see that

the term ingathering refers not only to their crops (short-term), but also in the bigger picture of the salvation of humanity, it refers to the ingathering of His people unto the Promised Land. So, the divine appointment every year commemorates the ingathering of God's people unto Himself for the purpose of taking them into their Promised Land. From my standpoint as a believer, it calls to mind the ultimate promise of God gathering His people unto Himself into our eternal Promised Land--heaven. Wow.

The second point of interest has to do with these temporary shelters that are part of the celebration. This is symbolic of the need for God's care and protection in the transition between being taken out of Egypt and being brought into the Promised Land. While the Israelites lived in tents in the wilderness, it was God who supernaturally sustained them. It was impossible for them to be self-reliant in the desert--there simply wasn't food or water enough to meet the needs of an entire nation of people. Yet God supernaturally provided for them for 40 years. But let's look at what that provision consisted of, really. Based on a figure of 3,000,000 people, which many Bible scholars estimate the number of Israelites to be, they would have needed 15,000,000 gallons of water *per day*, to keep them and their herds from death by dehydration--in a desert. So water flowed from *the Rock*. And they would have needed 4,500 tons of manna every day, which amounts to a stunning **65,700,000 tons** over the course of 40 years. (These figures came from Rick Renner's book *Sparkling Gems from the Greek*.) But the point is that God is the One who sustains us, whether He does it supernaturally or by giving us the fruit of our own labors--both of which are celebrated in the Feast of Ingathering. The more you let this realization settle deeply into your heart, the more prepared you will be to trust God in these days when we are finding the circumstances of our national condition to be increasingly unstable--particularly with regard to the national economy.

And the last two points I want to make are these: the first day of the feast was to be a holy convocation, and that the date for this feast would always fall on a full moon. Why are these points relevant? The original Hebrew word for convocation means rehearsal and carries the idea that the celebration of the yearly feast is to be a rehearsal of what is

to come. The spring feasts were a rehearsal of the fact that Jesus was the Passover lamb, He was the unleavened bread (without sin), He was the First Fruits (of our resurrection) and He sent the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Just so, every time that the Feast of Ingathering is celebrated, it is a rehearsal of the fact that Jesus will be the One who gathers God's people unto Himself to bring them into the Promised Land, and He is the One who will harvest the fruit of salvation, and He is the One who will provide for them to sustain them in the transition between Egypt (the world) and the Promised Land (heaven).



Temporary shelter built by the Jewish people when celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles, also called the Feast of Ingathering.

### *The Blood Moons*

All that is a beautiful and precious encouragement to our faith, but it still begs the question, *what makes 2015 different than all the other years?* For that I go to the information that you have perhaps already heard concerning the phenomenon called *the four blood moons*. For this information, I consulted a powerfully profound book by Mark Biltz, a pastor and speaker on the

subject of biblical prophecy in conjunction with signs in the heavenlies, specifically the sun and the moon. I can't begin to recount all that I found here, but I will try to capture just a couple of key points.

Basically, the foundation is that in several locations the Bible speaks of the sun being darkened and the moon turning to blood in the last days. (Two of these scriptures are Joel 2:30-32 and Rev. 6:12.) The sun gets darkened when there is a solar eclipse; but when there is a total eclipse of the moon, the moon takes on a blood red color instead of being darkened. Pastor Biltz consulted NASA's records of the occurrences of these "blood moons" and found some astonishing facts. Again, I can't recount them all here, but I will cut to the chase and say that when a series of four *consecutive total* lunar eclipses occurs, it is called a lunar tetrad. This particular phenomenon called a tetrad is not as common as one would think. In fact, there were only 62 over the last 2,000 years. Of these, only *eight* fell on Jewish feast days (a Biblical tetrad), with the *ninth* in process right now! The first eclipses in this current tetrad came on April 15, 2014 (Passover), October 8, 2014 (Feast of Ingathering), and April 4, 2015 (Passover). *The last of the tetrad blood moons will occur on September 28, 2015, during the Feast of Ingathering. There will not*

*be another Biblical tetrad for somewhere between 500-600 years. The last time one of these tetrads occurred was in 1967-68, probably tied to the recapture of Jerusalem by Israel. The one before that occurred in 1949-1950, probably related to when Israel became a nation.*

Surely we must realize that there is profound significance to the convergence of this Feast--divine appointment--and the signs in the heavens! As 'children of the light' we should not be caught unaware when God is intervening in the affairs of men to cause events that change history. I believe that something historically significant will take place (probably concerning the nation of Israel) very soon, and that is why these blood moons and feast days are converging the way they are. Things that affect the nation of Israel affect the whole world, spiritually speaking. I also believe that God is sovereign in the convergence of global events that relate to end-time prophecies. In other words, they will happen according to God's timetable--not accidentally, coincidentally or by the will of man or Satan. And we stand on the brink of something deeply significant being set in motion. ***I am not saying that something catastrophic will happen exactly on the dates I have mentioned--***rather I am saying that God is giving us a 'heads-up' that natural events should be viewed through the perspective of the deeper underlying spiritual realities.

God definitely has my attention! So, does He have yours? There is a divine call going out to those who are attentive to wake the others from a deep spiritual sleep. We are being called to ***see*** beyond our own lives, to ***see*** the bigger picture of God's sovereign purposes, and to be willing to help fulfill God's purposes by being an active and willing participant ***for His sake***. For too long God's people have come to God for the sake of their own needs and wants. Not anymore. Now it's time for each of us to move into a bigger focus, and serve in whatever way God has called us. There is a sense of urgency in this season. It's no longer just about us--it's about being ***active*** on behalf of God and for the sake of others who need what we have to offer. The time is short.

*Jesus Is Coming!*

I remember the other things I heard echoing in my spirit that night in November. ***Jesus is coming! Tell them!*** We are on a time clock counting down to some of the most poignant events in human history. We have kingdom appointments to fulfill; places to go; people to see. If we don't do it, who will?

Truly, I want to encourage you. Discouragement swirls all around us and threatens us through the news, the growing darkness of terrorism, the instability of the economy, the decline of morality in our culture and on and on it goes. However, be encouraged that ***God is moving powerfully, positioning and aligning all things according to the fulfillment of His Word.*** Evil and darkness ***will not prevail.*** But the peace, strength, and hope that is ours in Him will only be a reality in your life if you respond to Him in a ***very personal and***

***individual way.*** The return of Christ--and before that--the rapture of His church--bring great hope and comfort to those who are His. But in order to partake of that comfort, you must engage with that reality and let it be the defining perspective through which you view your world and your circumstances. Otherwise your experience will be just as dark as those who are the children of darkness. Increasingly, you must learn to draw from the reality that you belong to God and your well being comes from Him--never from your circumstances or whatever the world offers as security.

As the world around us gets darker and darker, we are not to freak out, freeze up or give up. We are to live as people of hope and strength, shining our light to show others that ***our God lives!*** As we all respond to the call of the Spirit in these days, let me once again tell you how grateful I am to be on this journey with friends and partners like you. Years ago, the Lord told me that He would cause people to come alongside me to help me do what He has called me to do. Each of you are the fulfillment of His promise to me. What a blessing you are!†

Deborah





# What Can You Do?

When large scale and grand events are in play, it's tempting for us regular folks to want to leave the action to the big names and big bank accounts. After all what does all this have to do with a regular Joe? Everything! God needs you to accomplish the things He has for you to do. Only YOU can do those things. Here are some practical ideas of how to be in the right place at the right time so that God can use you:

• **Be attentive to the Holy Spirit and be available to Him during this crucial season.**

- **Be part of a church body.** Ask the Holy Spirit which one, and then go. The time for being drawn aside by our own tasks, busyness, or issues is over. *Be strategic and purposeful about being an asset to your local church body.*
- **Live a life led by the Spirit.** Consult the Holy Spirit concerning your life. This is a time to evaluate the things that consume your time. Wait on the Lord. Don't act rashly or impulsively, but instead be willing to listen. Develop a prayer life that is conversational and extends throughout the day. Don't confine prayer to your first and last waking moments of the day. Recognize that the most important thing you can do to equip yourself for the days ahead is to *cultivate your inner ear to hear and then practice trusting His voice.*
- **If the Holy Spirit asks you to do something, do it.** Though this sounds simple, He rarely asks us to do things that come easily. The thing He asks might be easy enough, but our obedience might not come easily for any number of reasons. Be prepared for Him to ask you to do something outside of your comfort zone. Be on the lookout for the opportunities He places in your life for you to impact someone else for the cause of Christ.
- **Be prepared for the spiritual to permeate the physical.** You must be willing to believe in the realities of the things of the Spirit – both good and evil. To approach this season from a strictly natural perspective robs you of the illumination that it means to be 'children of the light.' Why give up crucial resources that the Lord has put at our disposal? Too many will be overcome by confusion, anxiety and fear--all tools of the enemy. We have *the Light*, and we are to be people of strength and hope shining the light in the surrounding darkness!



## New Resource Available!

Deborah and Harvey have begun videoing their ministry messages at their local church, Crossfire. So, many of their messages will now be available in video format on our You Tube Channel. Our channel is listed at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) under

CrossFire International Alliance.

Please Pray!

## Coming Up!

October 11-14  
College Station, Texas

October - November  
Munich, Germany  
Uganda  
Tanzania

Please Pray!



Deborah Ministries International ministers in response to Isaiah 61:1, "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

## Deborah Ministries International

5910 S. University Blvd. C18-219  
Greenwood Village, CO 80121

[www.DeborahMinistries.org](http://www.DeborahMinistries.org)

