



# *Imperial Academy Bible Lessons*



**Special Fall Festivals Lesson**

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**I**n April of 1994, the plane carrying the president of Rwanda was shot down. Radical members of the president's Hutu tribe blamed the Tutsi tribe for the atrocity. They went on a horrific killing spree, murdering members of the Tutsi tribe and even members of their own tribe who were not as radical.

Within a few months, close to 1 million men, women and children had been murdered, most of them hacked to death with machetes. The small country was strewn with dead bodies. People could hardly believe it was real. They had been living in relative peace, and suddenly their lives were terrifying nightmares that they couldn't wake up from.

The Rwandan genocide was one of the worst atrocities in the modern era, but it is not the worst or even the most recent such tragedy. Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are being killed, maimed, impoverished and banished from their homes in Syria's civil war. Thousands are being tortured and killed in Syria and Iraq by the Islamic State terrorist group. Tens or hundreds of thousands of Kurds were murdered by their own government in Iraq in the 1980s. As many as 3 million people were murdered by their own Communist government in the 1970s in Cambodia, one out of every four people in the country. Millions of Jews were exterminated by Nazi-controlled European leaders in the 1940s during World War II, along with tens of thousands of others. The Soviet Union killed through starvation up to 7 million or more Ukrainians whom it ruled over in the 1930s. The list of genocides stretches back through ages of history and resulted in the loss of millions and millions of lives. And this sad litany does not include the bloody history of violent crime or war.

These massive horrors seem distant to young people who have grown up in safety, free from genocide and war. But they are real. One day, a young

person as valuable and precious as you was going to school—and the next day, he and his family were being exterminated. In Rwanda, it happened overnight.

This is the ugly, filthy, bloody world that human beings have made for ourselves. In ancient, classic, medieval and modern times, human beings have proven over and over that they do not know how to live the way of peace.

Why? For all those who have suffered or are suffering, this is a life-and-death question. On a planet with so much natural beauty and abundance, why do human beings take from each other their dignity, rights, possessions and lives?

As each year goes by, each person whose life is snuffed out adds to the pile of evidence: To have peace, human beings need God.

The very existence and characteristics of human beings prove not only that God exists but also that He is love. Yet for human beings to have the capacity for God to bring them into His Family, He created them with free choice. Led by Satan ever since Adam and Eve rebelled, human beings have used their free choice to follow Satan and to reject God.

In doing so, we have rejected the only way to peace.

And the violence is not over. The Bible says that human beings will break out into war and genocide across the entire globe in the near future. The worldwide carnage will saturate this planet to the point where human beings will actually kill themselves off completely unless God miraculously intervenes by force and stops us from choosing the way of Satan, selfishness and slaughter.

In this special lesson, you will learn how God is preparing for that miraculous intervention and how He will teach human beings, once they realize the horror that their choices ultimately bring.

God's plan to save human beings from literally annihilating themselves is revealed in His holy days. This lesson will show you God's fall festivals and what they mean for you. To learn how God will put a stop to human murder and genocide—and will give justice to those whose bones are already dried in the mass graves of Rwanda, Ukraine, Europe and beyond—gather your Bible and pencil, and study this lesson with an attitude ready to learn!

### **OVERVIEW OF GOD'S PLAN**

As the first human beings, Adam and Eve, had the opportunity to begin a world of peace under God. But they rejected God and His instructions on right and wrong, good and evil, and chose to live their own way, inspired by Satan. Their first son, the first baby ever born, grew up to become the first human murderer. All of Adam and Eve's children since then, except Jesus Christ, have embraced Satan's way of selfishness, greed and violence.

When Adam and Eve rejected God, He cut human beings off from knowing Him. He assigned 6,000 years for them to build their own societies, their own cultures and their own educational systems. Century after century, millions and even billions of people have lived and died without knowing His way of life. God has not pleaded with them or even allowed them to come to know Him. The masses have not had an opportunity to become part of God's Family, but their opportunity

is soon coming. Right now, God is allowing human beings to learn the hard way that they don't know the difference between right and wrong, good and evil.

The consequences of the selfish, evil choices of human beings are multiplying exponentially, building up to a massive explosion of violence and war that will make the Rwandan genocide and the Holocaust seem tame in comparison. This massive war will nearly exterminate human life from the planet. Near the very end of the 6,000-year period, Jesus Christ will intervene and reestablish God's rule on Earth.

Jesus Christ will not rule and teach the world by Himself. He will comfort, heal and educate human beings with the assistance of a group of individuals. These individuals will have already proven and lived God's way, and they will be ready to teach it.

God reveals His master plan for bringing human beings into His Family through His festivals. The festivals correspond to the two harvest seasons in Jerusalem: one in the spring and one in the fall. The three spring festivals during the smaller spring harvest picture God gathering members of His Church into His Family. This includes everyone whom God has ever called out of Satan's world prior to Jesus Christ's return. This is a comparatively small number of people. When Christ returns, these individuals will be born into God's Family and will collectively marry Christ. They will then use their experience and their office as Christ's Bride to help Him teach God's way to everyone on Earth (Revelation 20:4).



Passover is the first of God's annual festivals.



The armies will gather in the Valley of Megiddo before marching to Jerusalem to fight the returning Christ.

The four festivals during the large fall harvest picture God bringing as many human beings as possible into His Family as children of God. This great fall harvest will include billions of people. This harvest starts when Jesus Christ returns to Earth after the first 6,000 years of God's 7,000-year master plan. This amazing stage in God's master plan is almost here!

The four fall festivals reveal the details about God's thrilling great fall harvest.

### **RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST**

The first crescent-shaped moon in the fall indicates that God's seventh month has already begun. All four of the fall festivals occur during this seventh month. God uses the number seven to signify completion, and the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh festivals falling during this month signify the completion of God's master plan.

The first fall festival is the Feast of Trumpets. This festival is a high day (holy day). It represents the fourth step in God's plan. According to the Roman calendar that most people use today, this feast is on a different day each year. It usually occurs in late September or early October. In God's sacred calendar, this Feast always falls on the same day of the seventh month (called Tishri).

*Fill in the blanks using Leviticus 23:23-25 to find out why this festival is called the Feast of Trumpets: "And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall you*

*have a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, an \_\_\_\_\_ . You shall do no servile work therein: but you shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD."*

The Feast of Trumpets is a *Sabbath*. God commands that no ordinary work be done on this day. Instead, His people gather together for a "holy convocation." The word *convocation* means "a formal assembly of people." God's people keep the Feast of Trumpets by not working, by attending Church services, and by giving an offering to God. At the service, through the Bible and through His ministers, God teaches His people about the deep meaning behind this feast day.

When the ancient Israelites kept the Feast of Trumpets, priests blew a trumpet made from a ram's horn. This trumpet is called a *shofar*, and its sound is a piercing blast.

They also blew two long silver trumpets, which produce a variety of musical notes. Throughout history, trumpets have been used to make major announcements. The shofar in particular was used to announce an alarm and warn people that war was coming. When an enemy approached, the duty of a watchman was to blast out a warning on an instrument like a shofar so the people could take cover or get ready to fight (Ezekiel 33:1-6).

Why did God command His people to sound an alarm of war on the Feast of Trumpets? Because this feast represents the day when Jesus Christ will return to Earth as the conquering King of kings.

Christ will return in the middle of World War III, and the nations will war against Him. The Bible reveals that a huge army will assemble in a plain to the north of Jerusalem called Megiddo. That army will fight Jesus Christ at His return. He will fight and overcome them, stopping them from killing every human being on Earth with their weapons of mass destruction.

Read Matthew 24:3-22 and fill in the blanks using verses 21 and 22: "For then shall be \_\_\_\_\_, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those \_\_\_\_\_ should be \_\_\_\_\_, there should no \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ [alive]: but for the elect's sake those \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_."

Ever since the time of Adam and Eve, human beings have listened to Satan, who is able to influence people by broadcasting moods, impulses and emotions (Ephesians 2:2). Human beings have believed him: They think that God's way of life is wrong and that the way of selfishness is right. When Christ returns, millions of human beings will attempt to destroy Him so that He cannot rule over them!

Use Revelation 11:15 to fill in the blanks of the great announcement that an angel will proclaim at Christ's return: "And the \_\_\_\_\_ sounded; and there were \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, saying, The \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_ are become the \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_, and of his \_\_\_\_\_; and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

After this announcement thunders from the heavens, another amazing thing will happen.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 to fill in the blanks and get the rest of the details: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ shall be caught up together with them in the \_\_\_\_\_, to meet the Lord in the \_\_\_\_\_: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 for more details: "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all \_\_\_\_\_, but we shall all be \_\_\_\_\_, In a moment, in the \_\_\_\_\_ of an \_\_\_\_\_,

at the last \_\_\_\_\_: for the \_\_\_\_\_ shall sound, and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be raised \_\_\_\_\_, and we shall be changed."

The moment Christ returns, God will resurrect everyone in His Church who has died in the faith. He will then transform them into God beings. Many famous men and women of God will be raised from the dead and turned into Gods at this moment: Noah, Abraham, Moses, King David, the 12 apostles and many others.

In the next moment, everyone in God's Church who is still alive will also be transformed into God beings. God will change their physical human bodies into spirit instantaneously, in the twinkling of an eye. Many people you know will be in this group of saints (perhaps even your own parents or older siblings). All who have been baptized into God's Church, and who cling to God's truth, will be transformed into God beings at this time!

With His people now born into His Family and following His lead, Jesus Christ will engage the army fighting against Him and defeat it. He will take Earth's throne from Satan and will reestablish God's government over the whole Earth. Along with His Family, He will teach the human beings who remain how to give up hatred, selfishness, perversion, lying, coveting, violence and murder. He will begin to teach everyone how to live God's way of life.

## **BECOMING AT ONE WITH GOD**

The fifth festival in God's plan is the Day of Atonement. It is the fifth high day. This holy day comes nine days after the Feast of Trumpets, on the 10th day of Tishri.

God gives His people a special instruction for this day, an instruction that He gives for no other holy day.

Fill in the blanks using Leviticus 23:27-29 to record the details of this instruction: "Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of \_\_\_\_\_: it shall be an holy \_\_\_\_\_ unto you; and you shall \_\_\_\_\_ your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. And you shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of \_\_\_\_\_, to make an \_\_\_\_\_ for you before the LORD your God. For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be \_\_\_\_\_ in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people."

God commands His people to “afflict” themselves on Atonement. The word *afflict* means “to humble.” We humble ourselves on Atonement by *fasting*, which means abstaining from food and water!

Fill in the words from King David’s writing in Psalm 35:13: “... I \_\_\_\_\_ my soul with \_\_\_\_\_.”

When human beings do not eat food or drink water, we have less energy and less strength. In fact, if we went more than a few days without food or water, we would die! Fasting reminds us that we are weak, physical, temporary human beings. It also shows us that we need to be fed spiritually. It reminds us that we need God to give us life! God is our Creator: He made us; He gives us food and water; He is our only hope for physical life and for eternal life.

Fasting teaches us that we need humble, teachable attitudes to follow God! During Atonement, God’s people should spend extra time praying and studying the Bible. Only by praying and studying with a humble attitude can we start to draw closer to God!

The opposite of a humble attitude is Satan’s vain, selfish attitude. Satan was originally created as the archangel Lucifer. God created Lucifer with extraordinary beauty and ability and gave him a name that means “light-bringer.” God gave Lucifer the duty of ruling the Earth and making it more beautiful. Lucifer was in harmony with God and did the work. But at some point, this archangel began to focus on himself. His thoughts became more and more focused on his own beauty, his own ability and his own wants. He became selfish and evil—and he ultimately led a third of the angels in a violent rebellion against God. God changed Lucifer’s name to Satan, which means “adversary.”

Read Isaiah 14:12-14 for an account of Lucifer’s change of attitude: “How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how are you cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations! For you have said in your heart, I will \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_, I will \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will \_\_\_\_\_ above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the \_\_\_\_\_.”

Satan now hates God’s plan. If he had obeyed God, he could have remained as king over the Earth,



God commands us to fast on the Day of Atonement.

ruling under God’s overall authority. He could have beautified it, led the angels, and proceeded to greater and greater things that God had prepared for him. After Lucifer rebelled, God left him on the throne of the Earth, but only temporarily. God created human beings and eventually sent Jesus Christ to Earth as a human being to live a perfect life and to die for the sins of mankind. Christ qualified and thus will succeed Satan on the throne of the Earth.

The days of Satan’s regime are numbered. He is intensifying his hateful attempts to destroy as many human beings as he can, physically and spiritually, in his ongoing, deadly, evil rage.

Yet God is using even this to strengthen His plan. He is allowing Satan to broadcast to His people so that they have to exercise faith in God and His strength to struggle against Satan’s attitudes. This struggle matures and strengthens them to ultimately defeat Satan by God’s power and to qualify like Christ qualified and to rule with Him when He returns to rule.

So what is Satan’s future? Atonement also reveals that.

Fill in the blanks using Revelation 20:1-3 to learn what will happen to Satan on the Day of Atonement: “And I saw an \_\_\_\_\_ come down from \_\_\_\_\_, having the key of the \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ in his hand. And he laid hold on the \_\_\_\_\_, that old \_\_\_\_\_, which is the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and bound him a \_\_\_\_\_, And

cast him into the \_\_\_\_\_, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ no more, till the \_\_\_\_\_ should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.”

Atonement pictures the time when Satan will be locked away! Human beings will have just seen the ultimate end of Satan’s way of life; Christ will have returned with His Bride to forcibly stop all rebellion; God’s government will have been reestablished on Earth; and Satan will be cast into a bottomless pit, restrained from interfering as Christ teaches human beings God’s way of life. The Bible shows that Satan will be kept in this prison for 1,000 years.

With Christ and His Bride teaching, and free of Satan’s influence, people will finally have the chance to become *at one* with God. That is why this day is called the Day of *At-one-ment!*

**LORD’S GOAT VS. AZAZEL GOAT**

In ancient Israel, God commanded a special ceremony for the Day of Atonement. This ancient ceremony is no longer part of the Atonement observance today, because Jesus Christ’s sacrifice superseded it. Yet studying it still teaches us clear lessons on the meaning of Atonement.

Read *Leviticus 16* and summarize this ceremony in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_

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In this ceremony, the high priest in ancient Israel cast lots over two goats. The goat on which the Lord’s lot fell was killed for a sin offering. This goat represented Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of the world. The high priest also represented Jesus Christ, who, following His resurrection, became the High Priest of His people, beseeching God the Father and working with Him to forgive us and help us repent of our sins. The high priest used the blood of the slain goat to ask



The two goats were identical in outward appearance.

God to forgive the sins of the Israelites. Of course, the blood of a goat cannot pay the price for our sins, but this ceremony pointed to the time when Christ’s blood would be shed. His blood does have the power to forgive sins upon repentance (Hebrews 6:19-20; 7:25-26).

The second goat is referred to as the “scapegoat” in the King James Bible. Today, *scapegoat* has come to mean “one who takes the blame for another,” but the Hebrew word for “scapegoat” is *azazel*, meaning “the goat of departure.” In the ceremony, the high priest put his hands on this goat and confessed the sins of the people over it. A strong man then took this goat into the wilderness and released it.

The *azazel* goat represented Satan. Christ’s blood does not pay the penalty for Satan’s sins and his part in inspiring the sins of human beings, because Satan will never repent. So the high priest (a type of Christ) put the blame for Satan’s sins right back on his own head. The term “scapegoat” is incorrect. Satan doesn’t get blamed for the sins of others. He gets the blame that he deserves for inspiring others to sin. The strong man who takes the *azazel* goat into the wilderness is a type of the angel who will bind Satan in the bottomless pit. When the Day of Atonement is finally fulfilled after Christ’s return, Satan will be removed from the presence of God for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:10).

We don’t have to sacrifice a goat today, because Christ has already come as the fulfillment of the Atonement ceremony. Today on the Day of Atonement, we fast, pray and study the Bible so we can draw closer to God!

A key lesson from this ancient Atonement ceremony is that human beings cannot tell the difference between Christ and Satan. You may think you can easily tell the difference, but the Bible says

Satan comes as an “angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14). Just as the high priest had to solemnly appeal to God for His lot to determine which goat was which, you need to pray to God and let His Spirit lead you to understand whether you are being influenced by Him or by Satan. Without God’s guidance, education and direct intervention, human beings cannot tell the difference between God and Satan!

### THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

The sixth festival in God’s plan is the Feast of Tabernacles. The first day of this seven-day festival is a high day. This holy day occurs on the 15th day of the seventh month (Tishri), under the light of a full moon.

God gives His people a special and interesting command for the Feast of Tabernacles.

*Read Leviticus 23:40 and write God’s one-word command for you to keep at the Feast of Tabernacles:*  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The Feast of Tabernacles gives God’s people a lot to rejoice about. Another name for this festival is the feast of ingathering, because it celebrated the great fall harvest when families brought in a huge bounty of valuable crops that would last a long time. Just as Pentecost represents the time when God will harvest a small group of people into His Church, the Feast of Tabernacles represents the time period when God will harvest a great number of Spirit-begotten human beings into His Family during His 1,000-year reign on Earth.

With Christ ruling and Satan locked away, all the people who survive World War III (called the Great Tribulation in the Bible) will be taught God’s way of life during this 1,000-year time period (which we refer to as the Millennium). Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will also be taught God’s way and will receive the chance to become spirit beings in the God Family once they learn to live God’s way of life.

*Fill in the blanks using Leviticus 23:39-43 to find out how the ancient Israelites kept this Feast: “Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the land, you shall keep a \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD seven days: on the \_\_\_\_\_ day shall be a \_\_\_\_\_, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath. And you shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees,*



During Christ's reign, abundant crops will be common.

*and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. And you shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute \_\_\_\_\_ in your generations: you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. You shall dwell in \_\_\_\_\_ seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in \_\_\_\_\_: That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in \_\_\_\_\_, when I brought them out of the land of \_\_\_\_\_: I am the LORD your God.”*

Because of this command from God, the Feast of Tabernacles is also called the feast of booths. To keep the feast of booths, God tells His people to leave their homes and live in temporary dwellings at special Feast sites. In ancient Israel, people lived in huts or tents during this time. God’s people today stay in tents, hotels or other temporary accommodations.

Living in temporary dwellings during the Feast of Tabernacles reminds us that our physical lives are temporary. We cannot live forever, unless we are born as spirit beings in God’s Family. Only members of God’s Church understand this truth today. But in the Millennium, everyone on Earth will understand that physical life is temporary and that its purpose is to prepare us to be born into God’s Family.

*Turn to 2 Corinthians 5:1-2 and fill in the blanks: “For we know that if our \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_ were dissolved, we have a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, an \_\_\_\_\_ not made with hands, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our \_\_\_\_\_, which is from \_\_\_\_\_.”*



This is an important lesson to remember when you perhaps become vain about your physical appearance, or discouraged over your trials. Our physical bodies and lives are like tents that can suddenly be folded up and stored away forever, never to be used again. The only thing that really endures is your character. The only purpose for your life is to develop godly character.

It is easy to get discouraged when times get tough and to let your mind become focused on yourself and your problems. Yet God doesn't think of you as you are now. He looks at the potential character you can develop, and how He can use that character in His Kingdom to help others. The Feast of Tabernacles is a time to reflect on how temporary physical life is and how eternal godly character is. During the Millennium, Christ and the Church will teach this same lesson to every human being on Earth.

### **THE WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW**

Because, over time, most everyone will become subject to the rule of Jesus Christ and because He and the members of His Bride will teach them God's way of life, the world will become peaceful during the Millennium. People will not hate, steal, lie, lust for power, and kill. Governments will not declare genocide on people. Factories will not churn out weapons used to kill people. In fact, workers will melt down and re-craft weapons into farm tools for agricultural use.

Read Micah 4:1-4 to see what the Bible says about this time period: *"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain [government] of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will \_\_\_\_\_ us of his \_\_\_\_\_, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_, and their \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ shall not lift up a \_\_\_\_\_ against \_\_\_\_\_, neither shall they learn \_\_\_\_\_ any more. But they shall sit every man under his \_\_\_\_\_ and under his*

\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken it."

In the Millennium, people will have no need for rifles, pistols, ammunition, Tasers, clubs or handcuffs, or even locks, keys or safes. People will not even need eyeglasses, wheelchairs, medicines, vitamins or hospitals. During this period, God will heal the blind, deaf or crippled. People will also have no need for zoos, bars, cages or leashes, because God will also change the nature of wild animals, and they will become tame.

Fill in the blanks using Isaiah 35:1-7 to see more detail about the Millennium: *"The \_\_\_\_\_ and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the \_\_\_\_\_ shall rejoice, and \_\_\_\_\_ as the rose. It shall \_\_\_\_\_ abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. \_\_\_\_\_ you the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence;*



The World Tomorrow will literally be a time when people beat their weapons into agricultural implements.

he will come and save you. Then the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be unstoppable. Then shall the \_\_\_\_\_ man leap as an \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.”

Today, only those in God’s Church have access to God’s Spirit. In the Millennium, however, God will give all people the opportunity to receive His Spirit if they choose to repent and be baptized.

Turn to Joel 2:29 and fill in the blanks: “And also upon the \_\_\_\_\_ and upon the \_\_\_\_\_ in those days will I \_\_\_\_\_ out my \_\_\_\_\_.”

Many children in God’s Church will not yet be baptized when Jesus Christ returns. Perhaps you will not yet be baptized. If so, you will still be a human being during the Millennium. You will help Jesus Christ and other God beings, like your parents, as they personally teach every single human being how to forsake the way of suffering and how to build a world of peace! No wonder God’s command during the Feast of Tabernacles is to “rejoice”!

### **GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT**

We have seen how the people who are in God’s Church will be born into His Family, and how everyone living on Earth will live God’s way during the Millennium and will also be given the same opportunity to be born into the Family. But what about everyone else?

What about the families murdered in Rwanda? What about the people who starved in the streets of Ukraine? What about those slaughtered in the killing fields of Cambodia? What about the peasants in the path of the Holy Roman Empire? What about the villagers left for dead in the wake of Genghis Khan? What about the Jews slain by Romans in the houses of Jerusalem? What about the wretched pagan tribes the Israelites executed in the Promised Land? What about those who died in the Flood? What about the children of Adam and Eve themselves?

What about all these people who have died *never knowing God*?

God has a plan for them! And it is pictured by the Last Great Day.

Fill in the blanks using Leviticus 23:34-36 to discover God’s command for this festival: “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD. On the first day shall be an holy convocation: you shall do no servile work therein. Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the \_\_\_\_\_ day shall be an holy \_\_\_\_\_ unto you; and you shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a \_\_\_\_\_; and you shall do no servile work therein.”

The eighth day mentioned in the passage is actually a separate festival from the Feast of Tabernacles. In the New Testament, the Apostle John calls it the Last Great Day (John 7:37). This seventh festival is the seventh holy day of the year.

The Last Great Day pictures a time after the Millennium when God will bring back to life all those people who have died never knowing Him! This means that probably close to *100 billion* people will be resurrected! Some of these people will be Adam’s children. Some will be from Noah’s lifetime or from ancient Egypt. Some will be from King David’s lifetime or Christ’s lifetime. Some will be your own relatives!

Consider the Prophet Ezekiel’s vision recorded in Ezekiel 37:1-14. Fill in the blanks using verses 4-6. “Again he [God] said unto me [the Prophet Ezekiel], \_\_\_\_\_ upon these \_\_\_\_\_, and say unto them, O you dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause \_\_\_\_\_ to enter into you, and you shall \_\_\_\_\_: And I will lay \_\_\_\_\_ upon you, and will bring up \_\_\_\_\_ upon you, and cover you with \_\_\_\_\_, and put \_\_\_\_\_ in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

Jesus Christ, the other God beings and the billions of human beings living on Earth during the Millennium will spend a thousand years *getting ready* for this huge resurrection! When it occurs, Christ and the rest of the God Family will begin comforting these billions of people and teaching them God’s way of life. God will then give these resurrected people 100 years to live, and He will give them the choice to embrace God’s way or to reject it.



Skulls of Rwandan genocide victims are displayed at a memorial. All who have died will get a chance at salvation during the Great White Throne Judgment.

*Fill in the blanks using Isaiah 65:20 to find out how God describes this 100-year lifespan: “There shall be no more thence an \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, nor an \_\_\_\_\_ that has not \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_: for the \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ years old; but the sinner being an \_\_\_\_\_ years old shall be accursed.”*

At the end of the 100-year period, God will judge these people in an event known as the Great White Throne Judgment.

*Turn to Revelation 20:11-12 for a description of this event: “And I saw a \_\_\_\_\_, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, stand before God; and the \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_: and another \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_, which is the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: and the \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”*

All the people who refuse to obey God and who instead live Satan’s selfish way will die in a lake of fire. They will not have to live forever as selfish, hateful, miserable beings, the way Satan does. All those people who believe and obey God’s unselfish way of give will be born into His Family as spirit beings!

After the Last Great Day, God the Father will come

to Earth. By this point, there will be no more humans on the planet. Everyone will either be dead (likely a small minority) or born as a God being into God’s Family (likely the great majority). Together with their new Family, God the Father and Jesus Christ will rule the universe from the capitol city of new Jerusalem on planet Earth. They will create new worlds and do amazing things that are too awesome, too joyful and too wonderful to even imagine! (1 Corinthians 2:9). And you can be there to help them do it.

## Cryptic Assignment

In this puzzle, every letter represents another letter of the alphabet. See if you can decode your assignment for this Feast of Tabernacles by paying attention to letter repetition and placement. Hint: The most commonly used letters in the English language are e, t, a, l and n.

B O H C D W O M U U L O

X O M V U U L D V I O M B,

M Q S L O G A C U L O B V

U C B O H C D W O