

THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES DECLARATION

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This year The Feast Of Tabernacles begins at sundown on October 2nd. The Feast of Tabernacles is the final Feast of the Feasts Of The Lord. Passover is at the beginning of the agricultural cycle and Tabernacles is at the time of the Harvest Feast.

The work of redemption of mankind, begun in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus will conclude at His second coming, when He comes to take His throne in Jerusalem and transform the earth with His glory. The Feasts of The Lord signify and foretell - along with all the teaching of the Scriptures - that the future of the earth will be glorious. The Lord will reverse the devastation brought about by man's 6000 year mismanagement of the earth and redeem it with His rule. This will be world redemption longed for by the Jewish people.

"As truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord." (Numbers 14.21)

The Scriptures record that at the Feast of Tabernacles, when Solomon dedicated the Temple, the glory of the Lord filled the Temple in an astonishing outpouring of His glory. (2 Chronicles 7.1) From then on the Feast of Tabernacles became not only a remembrance of God's provision to His people in the wilderness, when they lived in total dependance on Him for 40 years in flimsy booths under the skies, but also a remembrance of the day that the glory of God filled His Temple in Jerusalem.

That is why Jesus used the Feast of Tabernacles to announce that His glory and life would fill His Temple. His Temple is not made with hands, but made of living people from Israel and every nation who receive His life and build their lives on Him.

"For He Himself has made both one and broken down the middle wall of separation to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace that He might reconcile them both to Godin whom the whole BUILDING, being fitted together grows into a Holy Temple in the Lord . (Ephes. 2. 14,15,21)

"On the last day, that great day of the feast (of Tabernacles), Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' 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 7.37-39)

In this declaration, Jesus announced boldly that He will flood the hearts of those who come to Him with His Spirit, which is His own life. Anyone who is thirsty, with an awareness of the needs of the world and their own lacks, weaknesses and inabilities can receive this drink of His Spirit. Furthermore this life will FLOW through each one of His followers - not as a trickle - but as gushing river, if they COME, RECEIVE AND YIELD. His followers will not be stagnant pools but irrigating systems of God's own life flowing out into a dry and thirsty world.

For generations the body of Messiah focused almost exclusively on the wonderful gift and grace of forgiveness, but many have not fully embraced the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is literally God Himself coming to take up residence in us.

In "The Feast Of Tabernacles Declaration" Jesus made clear His goal to flood the entire company of those who believe in Him with His life. Then that life - His life - will flow through His people to the nations. This "Tabernacles Declaration" announces that (especially at the end of the age) the Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua will receive the glory of the Lord's own life, as never before. This will be a key to the final Harvest – or ingathering.

Yeshua's own prayer will be answered "*Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me.*" (John 17.24)

We need not postpone the experience of God's glory until the Lord's return. Jesus invites all to come to Him right now for a greater fullness of His life. We can make TODAY the day we respond more fully to His invitation to be flooded with the streams of His Spirit and life. MORE, LORD.

We are entering new seasons of Ingathering. Israel and the nations are discovering the Messiah in new ways. Jesus' temple, made up of the living stones of those who lean on Him, is being built with believers from Israel and the nations and He will fill it with the glory of His Spirit and Presence. This Temple, which is the Lord's living multi-membered body, shall be filled with a glory that surpasses any glory experienced in previous generations. *'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts.*" (Haggai 2.9)

*'Arise, shine; for your light has come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!
For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people;
But the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The nations
shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.'*" (Is 60 1-3)

According to Jesus the restoration of Israel and especially the restoration of Jerusalem to Jewish dominion in 1967 is the sign that we are at the harvest time of history. (Luke 21.24) The Feast of Tabernacles, or Ingathering, reminds us God has a harvest He wants to reap on the earth. He wants to bring Israel back to Him and all nations back to Him.

*"Give the king Your judgments, O God,
And Your righteousness to the king's Son. ..
He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,
And from the River to the ends of the earth.
Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him;
All nations shall serve Him...
All nations shall call Him blessed.
Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel,
Who only does wondrous things!
And blessed be His glorious name forever!
And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen."* (Psalm 72,1,7,11,18, 19)

Have you responded to the challenge of Jesus' "Feast of Tabernacles Declaration" to be filled with His life and presence and be a channel of His life to the world around you?