

April 13, 2017

First Fruits

Dear Family,

*Genesis 4:3 So it came about in the course of time that **Cain brought an offering to the LORD** of the fruit of the ground.*

*Genesis 4:4 And Abel, on his part also brought of the **firstlings** of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering;*

In the midst of the Passover celebration and the days of unleavened bread, **there is a wonderful commemoration of the resurrection called Yom HaBikkurim, or the Day of Firstfruits.** The prophetic fulfillment of this day, three days after Passover, is that this is the day that Yeshua was raised from the dead. You will notice in Matthew 27:52 and 53 that many saints which had died prior to the time of Yeshua were raised at that same time and were seen by many witnesses. Notice the following group of scriptures so that you may receive revelation and understanding into the plan of YHWH. I believe you will see with your heart how God has orchestrated His plan to demonstrate, from the beginning, His deliverance and purposes to bring about great blessing to His covenant people.

Remember, that YHWH had delivered His people from Egypt after the death of all the firstborn of those who were not covered by the blood of the lamb, and thereafter commanded that every firstborn of man and beast from the House of Israel was to belong to Him (Exodus 13:2). This is another instance that shows that the firstborn, another form of firstfruits, has special significance to God, and reminds us that everything we have is a blessing from our Creator. To offer the first and the best to Him is to show gratitude for His loving gifts to us and trust that He will see to it that all we can ever need will be provided. Our offering of our firstfruits to Him is an indication of our participation with Him in His covenant by demonstrating our trust that everything He assures to us in His Word will come into manifestation. We are showing our love to our God in response to His love shown to us in giving the first and the best as He did when He demonstrated His love in the gift of His only begotten Son so that we might be made one in Him.

1 Peter 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

1 Peter 1:19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

With these thoughts in mind, let the Holy Spirit minister to you and reveal the power and joy that is released in us as we read and study the following scriptures and lovingly wave our offering before Him. Everything we have, or ever will have, comes from His gracious blessing upon us. What a privilege to be able to give our very best unto our Lord and Savior and know that He always multiplies what we offer and brings about a great harvest in His shalom.

*Numbers 18:12 All **the best of the oil, and all the best of the wine, and of the wheat, the firstfruits** of them which they shall offer unto the LORD, them have I given thee.*

Numbers 18:13 And whatsoever is first ripe in the land, which they shall bring unto the LORD, shall be thine; every one that is clean in thine house shall eat of it.

Deuteronomy 26:1 And it shall be, when thou art come in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance, and possessest it, and dwellest therein;

*Deuteronomy 26:2 That thou shalt **take of the first of all the fruit of the earth**, which thou shalt bring of thy land that the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt put it in a basket, and shalt go unto the place which the LORD thy God shall choose to place His Name there.*

*Deuteronomy 26:5 And **thou shalt speak and say before the LORD thy God**, A Syrian ready to perish was my father, and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous:*

Deuteronomy 26:6 And the Egyptians evil entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage:

Deuteronomy 26:7 And when we cried unto the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression:

Deuteronomy 26:8 And the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders:

Deuteronomy 26:9 And He hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey.

*Deuteronomy 26:10 And now, **behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which Thou, O LORD, hast given me**. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God:*

*Deuteronomy 26:11 And **thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the LORD thy God hath given unto thee**, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.*

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Malachi 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 3:12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Covenant relationship is a life established on friendship. Jesus told us that He does not call us servants, but friends (John 15:15). God, in His love for us, gave His precious Son, and through Him, all things that pertain unto life and godliness. We, as friends of God, joyously and thankfully wave before Him the first and the best of the fruit we have received from His abundance. We offer up our lives, a sacrifice of praise.

Join us to learn the Authority of the Believer each Thursday evening at 6:30pm in Granby.

Offering our best,
Terry