

Chapter IV

The Law of the Nation Israel

God kept his covenant with Abraham, and out of the twelve sons of Jacob the nation of Israel came into existence. When the famine struck the land of Canaan, Jacob and his eleven sons went down to Egypt to be with his other son, Joseph. While in Egypt they multiplied and became a great nation. During this time they were placed in bondage by the Egyptians. Then God raised up Moses and led the Israeli nation out of Egypt back to the land of Canaan. On their journey, called the Exodus, God gave the nation of Israel the law through a covenant made with Moses.

Today many people feel that the Ten Commandments are the full scope of the law, but they are not. The law includes the Ten Commandments, plus the order of worship in the tabernacle and the feasts of the Lord which they were to observe every year. The law not only instructed them how to live with one another, but it also prophesied concerning the events of the future.

Israelis were scattered among the nations because of their disobedience to God, which He prophesied would happen. God also prophesied:

- That He would bring them back as a nation again (the valley of the dry bones).
- That He put them in their own land.
- The land would once again flourish with milk and honey (the budding of the fig tree).
- He would magnify the law.

Magnifying the law would allowing us once again to see what has happened, what is happening, and what will happen in relation to the Israelis. The prophecy to magnify the law is found in Isaiah 42:21 "The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make *it* honourable."

On September 13, 1967, the Israelis published a series of five postage stamps with the picture of a scroll on the stamps. Quoted in Hebrew on the tabs of the stamps are different verses of the Bible, reminding the Israelis of the need for reviving the law.

Magnify the law

Isaiah 42:21 "The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make *it* honourable."

	Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5728"
	Designer: E. Weishoff
	Day of Issue: September 13, 1967
	Motif: Scrolls of the Law
	Inscription on Tabs: "For his righteousness' sake he will magnify the law, and make it honourable" Isaiah 42:21
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Law of Moses

Deuteronomy 4:44 "And this *is* the law which Moses set before the children of Israel:"



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5728"

Designer: E. Weishoff

Day of Issue: September 13, 1967

Motif: Scrolls of the Law

Inscription on Tabs: "And this is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel".
Deuteronomy 4:44

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Length of Days

Proverbs 3:16 "Length of days *is* in her right hand; *and* in her left hand riches and honour."



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5728"

Designer: E. Weishoff

Day of Issue: September 13, 1967

Motif: Scrolls of the Law

Inscription on Tabs: "Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour"
Proverbs 3:16

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Path of Peace

Proverbs 3:17 "Her ways *are* ways of pleasantness, and all her paths *are* peace "



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5728"

Designer: E. Weishoff

Day of Issue: September 13, 1967

Motif: Scrolls of the Law

Inscription on Tabs: "Her ways [are] ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace." Proverbs 3:17

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Tree of Life

Proverbs 3:18 "She *is* a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy *is every one* that retaineth her."



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5728"

Designer: E. Weishoff

Day of Issue: September 13, 1967

Motif: Scrolls of the Law

Inscription on Tabs: "She [is] a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy [is every one] that retaineth her."
(Proverbs 3:18)

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In Israel 20 to 30 percent of the public schools' curriculum consists of Bible study. This does not mean that there is a great Christian influence in Israel, but it does mean that the Israelis are studying the Bible, even if for historical purposes.

On May 9, 1950, the Israelis published a postage stamp with the picture of the Hebrew university in Jerusalem, and quoted in Hebrew on the stamp's tab is

Proverbs 23:23 "Buy the truth, and sell *it* not; *also* wisdom, and instruction, and understanding."

This stamp is reminding the Israelis of the importance of

God's law. Of course, today the official language in Israel is the Hebrew Language.



Inscription: "The Hebrew University in Jerusalem 1921-195

Designer: F. Krausz

Day of Issue: May 9, 1950

Motif: The building of the National Library of the University on Mount Scopus, Jerusalem.

Inscription on Tabs: "Buy the truth"
Proverbs 23:23

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Later in Jerusalem, near the Hebrew University, the Israelis built a large black marble slab that extended up in the air and stated that this slab represented the Sons of Darkness. Just a little distance from this slab, they built a white building with the top in the shape of one of the lids of the Dead Sea jars in which the scrolls were found. Inside this building, which is recognized as the Sons of Light, or more commonly known as the Shrine of the Book, are housed the famous Dead Sea Scrolls.

In the center of the building is a large cylinder containing a copy of one of the Dead Sea Scroll that has the complete text of the book of Isaiah. Here again God is fulfilling his prophecy in magnifying the law, bringing about a unity in Israel.

On May 25, 1971, the Israelis published a stamp with a verse from the Bible in illuminated lettering on the stamp. The verse that is quoted on this stamp is

Exodus 34:22 "And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end."



Inscription: "Shavuot"

Designer: A. Kalderon

Day of Issue: May 25, 1971

Motif: Exodus 34:22 in illuminated lettering

Inscription on Tabs: (Translation of verse on the stamp)

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The emphasis of this stamp is placed on the first part of this verse "And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks", reminding the Israelis of the law of the feasts that they are to keep.

On August 31, 1950, the Israelis published two postage stamps with the picture of four spices under a white star of David, and quoted in Hebrew on the stamp's tab is

Nahum 1:15 "Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off."



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5711"

Designer: A. Szyk

Day of Issue: August 31, 1950

Motif: The four spices under a white Star of David

Inscription on Tabs: "O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts" Nahum 1:15

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The emphasis on these stamps is placed on the phrase "O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts." These stamps remind the Israelis of their solemn oath of observing the feasts of the Lord every year.

There are seven feasts of the Lord that the Israelis are to observe every year. In Leviticus 23 we have these feasts outlined for us. The feasts of the Lord set the pattern for the prophetic events that are to happen. Each feast was a prophecy within itself that was to be fulfilled at a later date. The seven feasts in their order are:

1. Feast of the Passover

Leviticus 23:5 "In the fourteenth *day* of the first month at even *is* the LORD'S passover."

2. Feast of Unleavened Bread

Leviticus 23:6 "And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread."

3. Feast of Firstfruits

Leviticus 23:10 "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:"

4. Feast of Pentecost

Leviticus 23:15-16 "And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD."

5. Feast of Trumpets

Leviticus 23:24 "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first *day* of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation."

6. Feast of Atonement

Leviticus 23:27 "Also on the tenth *day* of this seventh month *there shall be* a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD."

7. Feast of Tabernacles

Leviticus 23:34 "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."

The Israelis have published a number of stamps reminding their people about these various feasts and their fulfillment. We must remember that the Israelis are blind and cannot see what God is doing, nor will they be able to see what God is doing until after the rapture of the Christians.

Romans 11:25 "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in."

There is still a vail over their minds in understanding what is happening. This is explained in 2 Corinthians 3:12-16 "Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:

13 And not as Moses, *which* put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which *vail* is done away in Christ.

15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away."

In 1972 the Israelis published a postage stamp with the picture of the Israelis coming out of Egypt, and quoted on the stamp's tab in Hebrew and English is

Exodus 34:18 "The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt."



Inscription: "Pesah"

Designer: D. Ben-Dov

Day of Issue: March 7, 1972

Motif: The exodus from Egypt

Inscription on Tabs: "For in the month abib you came out from Egypt" Exodus 34:18

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The emphasis on this stamp is placed on the phrase "thou camest out from Egypt", reminding the Israelis of their bondage in Egypt and their deliverance from this bondage, which begins the first feast, the Feast of the Passover.

FEAST OF THE PASSOVER

The first feast that they are to observe is the Feast of the Passover, and the Israelis published a stamp in 1972 showing a Jewish family around a table, observing the Passover. Quoted in Hebrew and English on the stamp's tab is

Numbers 9:12 "They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it."



Inscription: "Pesah"

Designer: D. Ben-Dov

Day of Issue: March 7, 1972

Motif: Seder Night ceremony , Feast of Passover

Inscription on Tabs: "According to all the statute for the passover they shall keep it." Numbers 9:12

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The emphasis is placed on the phrase "according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it." Because of the spiritual blindness of the Israelis, they do not realize that the Passover was fulfilled. This was done when the Lamb of God

(John 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.")

was offered as a passover for our sins on the cross, that is the death of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. In this Feast of the Passover the Israelis took the blood of the passover lamb and formed a cross on their door post by placing the blood at the top and to each side of the door. Those who were under the blood were spared from the death angel who came. This feast also pointed to the time when Jesus of Nazareth would shed his blood for our sins on the cross of Calvary. It was on the day of the Passover that Jesus was crucified, a complete fulfillment of this first feast.

John 19:14-15 "And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:

and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!

15 But they cried out, Away with *him*, away with *him*, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar."

FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

The second feast, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, was brought to the attention of the Israelis by a stamp published in 1972 with the picture of a family baking unleavened bread, and quoted in Hebrew and English on the stamp's tab is

Exodus 12:15 "Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel."



Inscription: "Pesah"

Designer: D. Ben-Dov

Day of Issue: March 7, 1972

Motif: Feast of Passover, the baking of unleavened bread

Inscription on Tabs: "Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread" Exodus 12:15

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The Feast of Unleavened Bread is a prophecy concerning the body of Christ. Unleavened means without sin. Jesus lived on the earth without sin but took our sin upon himself on the cross and condemned sin in the flesh.

Romans 8:3 "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:"

This feast also pointed to the sacrifice and burial of Jesus for our salvation. In the Lord's Supper, which Christians observe today, we recognize the fulfillment of these two feasts: the wine - the Feast of the Passover, the blood of Christ on the cross; the bread - the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the body of Jesus, which was broken for us.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS

The third feast, the Feast of the Firstfruits, was brought to the attention of the Israelis by a stamp published in 1971 with a scripture verse printed in Hebrew and English,

Exodus 23:19 "The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk."



Inscription: "Shavuot"

Designer: A. Kalderon

Day of Issue: May 25, 1971

Motif: Exodus 23:19 in illuminated lettering

Inscription on Tabs: (Translation of verse on the stamp)

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The feast of the Firstfruits is a prophecy concerning the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the beginning of the resurrection of the redeemed. Throughout the Bible, the resurrection of the believers is compared to the harvesting of a crop. When a crop was to be harvested, the very best of the crop, whether it be an ear of corn or a head of wheat, was to be brought to the priest as a firstfruit. Then the best 10 percent of the crop was to be brought in as the firstfruits,

2 Chronicles 31:5 "And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithes of all *things* brought they in abundantly."

After the firstfruits were brought in, the main harvest was taken. When they harvested the crop, some of it was to be left for the gleanings by the poor.

Leviticus 19:9-10 "And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.

10 And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather *every* grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I *am* the LORD your God."

The harvest of the crop is in three stages:

1. The firstfruits (the tithe)
2. The main harvest
3. The gleanings

The resurrection of the redeemed is in three stages:

1. The firstfruits (Christ and many Old Testament saints)
2. The main harvest (the rapture of the New Testament saints)
3. The gleanings (the rest of the redeemed)

The order of the resurrection of the redeemed is outlined in

1 Corinthians 15:22-23 "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."

The first part of the harvest is the firstfruits, and the first part of the resurrection of the believers is Christ, the firstfruits. The term "firstfruits" is plural, not singular. Christ is the firstfruit, but also at the resurrection of Christ, the firstfruits were raised.

Matthew 27:52-53 "And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which

slept arose,

53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many."

From this account in Matthew, we know that not only was Christ raised but also many of the Old Testament Saints were raised. It did not say all of them, but just many. Then in 1 Corinthians 15:33, we are told that this "many" are the firstfruits; therefore, only 10n percent of the Old Testament Saints were raised at this time.

The second and third parts of the harvest, which are the main harvest and the gleanings, are mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:33 in the phrase "afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." This involves two comings of Christ:

one at the rapture before the great tribulation period, and the other at the close of the great tribulation period to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. When Christ comes back in the air at the rapture, the main harvest, the resurrection of the believers, will take place.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Then seven years later, when Christ returns to the earth to reign on David's throne, we have the gleanings of the harvest - the rest of the redeemed are raised.

Revelation 20:4 "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

This gleaning concludes the resurrection of the redeemed in which these three events - the firstfruits (Resurrection of Christ), the harvest (Rapture), and the gleanings (Tribulation Saints) - are referred to as the first resurrection. The next resurrection will be a thousand years later and it will be a resurrection of the lost.

Revelation 20:5 "But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection."

Revelation 20:11-15 "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

FEAST OF PENTECOST

The fourth feast is the Feast of Pentecost, which is a prophecy concerning the Holy Spirit developing the church, which includes both Jews and Gentiles. On September 16, 1951, the Israelis published a stamp, symbolic in design, with the picture of a woman (the bride of Christ) holding the firstfruits in her left arm,

James 1:18 "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."

and a dove (the Holy Spirit) in her right hand. In

Leviticus 23:16-17 "Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; *they are* the firstfruits unto the LORD."

We have the instructions concerning the Feast of Pentecost, in which they are to use two wave loaves, baked with leaven. It illustrates the combining of all nations in the body of Christ, the church.

Galatians 3:27-28 "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

This feast started its fulfillment on the day of Pentecost,

Acts 2:1-4 "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance"

and is presently being fulfilled until the next feast, the Feast of Trumpets.



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5712"

Designer: M. Kara

Day of Issue: September 16, 1951

Motif: Symbolic design

Inscription on Tabs: 5712 - 1951

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FEAST OF TRUMPETS

In 1955 the Israelis published a postage stamp which has a picture of a man blowing a horn, and quoted in Hebrew on the stamp's tab is

Psalms 81:3 "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day."



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals" "Ram's horn"

Designer: Mrs. AM. Karoly

Day of Issue: August 25, 1955

Motif: Musicians and musical instruments of biblical times

Inscription on Tabs: "Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.:" Psalms 81:3

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The fifth feast of the Lord is the Feast of Trumpets, which is a prophecy concerning the rapture of the redeemed.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:1-10 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him."

When a saved person dies, his soul and spirit leaves his body and is carried by the angels into the presence of God.

Luke 16:22 "And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;"

When Jesus returns in the air, He will bring with Him the soul and spirit of the one who died in Christ. That saved person's body will be raised to receive his soul and spirit. The resurrected body will be like the resurrected body of Jesus. The bodies of the saved, who are alive at that time, will be changed in an instant and taken up to the clouds with others who were raised. That day will come as a thief to the lost. The saved will not know the day or hour the Lord will come but should be ready and expecting Him to come at any time. The lost are left for a period of great Tribulation, a time of God's wrath. The saved are not appointed to the wrath of the Tribulation period.

In 1955 the Israelis published a postage stamp which has the picture of a man blowing a trumpet, and quoted in Hebrew on the tab of the stamp is

Numbers 10:10 "Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets

over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I *am* the LORD your God."

These two stamps remind the Israelis of the Feast of Trumpets, which is to happen after the Feast of Pentecost and before the next feast, the Feast of Atonement, which means the redeemed are raptured before the great tribulation period.

	Inscription: "Joyous Festivals " "Tuba"
	Designer: Mrs. AM. Karoly
	Day of Issue: August 25, 1955
	Motif: Musicians and musical instruments of biblical times
Inscription on Tabs: "Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginning of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets" Numbers 10:10	
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FEAST OF ATONEMENT

The sixth feast of the Lord is the Feast of Atonement, which is a prophecy concerning the affliction and physical judgment that is to come upon the Israeli nation. On June 5, 1968, the Israelis published a postage stamp with the picture of a burning candle and the window of a jail in the background. Quoted in Hebrew on the stamp's tab is

Psalms 44:22 "Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the

	Inscription: "To the executed in the generation of resurgence"
	Designer: J. Zim
	Day of Issue: June 5, 1968
	Motif: symbolical
Inscription on Tabs: "Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long" Psalms 44:22	
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slaughter."

This stamp is to remind the Israelis not only of the suffering they have already had but also of the suffering they are to go through in preparation for the seventh feast, the Feast of Tabernacles. This period of preparation is known as the great tribulation period, so named by Christ in

Matthew 24:21-22 "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

The reason for the great tribulation period (as prophesied by the Feast of Atonement), which will last for seven years, is to purge the Israeli nation that they might be the kingly nation that God promised to Abraham. This is explained in

Ezekiel 20:34-38 "And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face.

36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD.

37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant:

38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD."

The great tribulation period is also known "as the time of Jacob's trouble" in Jeremiah 30:4-7 "And these *are* the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah.

5 For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?

7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."

Down through the years, the purity of the nation of Israel, the silver, has become dross in that tin, iron, and lead have been mixed in. In other words, as the Israelis were scattered to other nations, they would compromise with some of the customs and traditions of other religions and cultures. During their time of captivity, the Israelis remained in a backslidden condition. This was especially true during the time of Christ, in which they came to the point of crucifying the only begotten Son of God. In order for the Israelis to be the pure silver, the spiritual nation that God would have them to be, they must be purged. As silver becomes dross, it is put into a furnace of fire so that the foreign matter may be burned out and only the pure silver remains. So

must the Israelis go through a period of great tribulation in order that the dross of other nations' religions and cultures may be burned out. Then God will have a pure nation with which to rule the world. This is explained in

Ezekiel 22:17-22 "And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

18 Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they *are* brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are *even* the dross of silver.

19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

20 As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt *it*; so will I gather *you* in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave *you there*, and melt you.

21 Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof.

22 As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the LORD have poured out my fury upon you."

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

The seventh feast, which is the Feast of Tabernacles, was brought to the attention of the Israelis on August 24, 1971, by the publication of four stamps. Each stamp has a verse from the Bible in illuminated lettering printed in Hebrew on the stamp and in English on the tab.

	<p>Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5732 - 1971"</p>
	<p>Designer: A. Kalderon</p>
	<p>Day of Issue: August 24, 1971</p>
	<p>Motif: Verses from the bible in illuminated lettering.</p>
	<p>Inscription on Tabs: "And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast." Deuteronomy 16:14</p>
<p>Israel Ministry of Communications Philatelic Services Catalogue No. 9 Page 128</p>	

	<p>Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5732 - 1971"</p>
	<p>Designer: A. Kalderon</p>
	<p>Day of Issue: August 24, 1971</p>
	<p>Motif: Verses from the bible in illuminated lettering.</p>
	<p>Inscription on Tabs: "Ye shall dwell in booths for seven days." Leviticus 23:42</p>
<p>Israel Ministry of Communications Philatelic Services Catalogue No. 9 Page 128</p>	



Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5732 - 1971"

Designer: A. Kalderon

Day of Issue: August 24, 1971

Motif: Verses from the Bible in illuminated lettering.

Inscription on Tabs: "That I made the people of Israel to dwell in booths." Leviticus 23:43

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Inscription: "Joyous Festivals 5732 - 1971"

Designer: A. Kalderon

Day of Issue: August 24, 1971

Motif: Verses from the Bible in illuminated lettering.

Inscription on Tabs: "When ye have gathered in the fruit of the land." Leviticus 23:39

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The Feast of Tabernacles is a prophecy concerning the reign of peace that will come upon the earth while the Israelis are the ruling nation, with the Messiah as the King. This time of peace is illustrated by a series of three stamps published by the Israelis on September 5, 1962.

The first stamp has a picture of a wolf and a lamb together. Quoted in Hebrew and English on the stamp and its tab is part of Isaiah 11:6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."



Inscription: "And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb"

Designer: Mrs. C. Menusy & Mrs. Ch. Ornan

Day of Issue: September 5, 1962

Motif: A stylized illustration of the prophecies of Isaiah 11:6, 8

Inscription on Tabs: "And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb" Isaiah 11:6

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The second stamp has a picture of a leopard with a kid. Quoted in Hebrew and English on the stamp and its tab is part of Isaiah 11:6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."



Inscription: "And the leopard shall lie down with the kid"

Designer: Mrs. C. Menusy & Mrs. Ch. Ornan

Day of Issue: September 5, 1962

Motif: A stylized illustration of the prophecies of Isaiah 11:6, 8

Inscription on Tabs: "And the leopard shall lie down with the kid" Isaiah 11:6

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The third stamp has a picture of a child playing with a snake. Quoted in Hebrew and English on the stamp and its tab is part of

Isaiah 11:8 "And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den."



Inscription: "And the suckling child shall play over the hole of the asp"

Designer: Mrs. C. Menuisy & Mrs. Ch. Ornan

Day of Issue: September 5, 1962

Motif: A stylized illustration of the prophecies of Isaiah 11:6, 8

Inscription on Tabs: "And the suckling child shall play over the hole of the asp" Isaiah 11:8

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These stamps are reminding the Israelis again of the time of peace

that shall come when the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, shall reign on David's throne for 1,000 years.

The seven feasts of the Lord and the prophecies are as follows:

Seven Feasts of the Lord

The Prophecies

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Feast of Passover | 1. The Crucifixion of Christ |
| 2. Feast of Unleavened Bread | 2. The Burial of Christ |
| 3. Feast of Firstfruits | 3. The Resurrection of Christ |
| 4. Feast of Pentecost | 4. The Holy Spirit and the Church |
| 5. Feast of Trumpets | 5. The Rapture of the Christians |
| 6. Feast of Atonement | 6. The Great Tribulation Period |
| 7. Feast of Tabernacles | 7. 1,000-Year Reign of Christ on Earth |

The law that was given to the Israeli nation was not given as a means for salvation, but it was given as a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ that we might be saved by him. This is explained in

Galatians 3:21-25 "Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.

22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster."

We must remember that a man is not justified by the law, but that we are justified by our faith in Christ. Galatians 3:11 "But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith."