

Haverimupdate

STUDY COMMUNITY

SEPT
2022

Elul	Tishri	Heshvan	Kislev	Tevet	Shevat	Adar	Nisan	Iyar	Sivan	Tammuz	Av
SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG

Tabernacling Among Us Spiritual Renewal During the Upcoming Fall Feast Season

with James Whitman and
Rosalind Mishra Whitman

Audio & Transcript: jcstudies.com/haverim

James: Brothers and sisters, we're being buffeted—beaten down, tempted, and challenged at every level by a world that is hostile to grace. In the biblical festivals, I see a foretaste of incarnation. I hear the Father saying, "Look, I am with you and I know what you're up against. Trust me, walk with me." These festivals become a time of spiritual seeking and course correction. **Rosalind:** I love the idea of course correction, it is the concept of repentance. I have this image of you teaching us and guiding us as children, that repentance is a turning *from* something and a turning *to* something else. It is not just the turning from. A lot of times we stop there like, "Okay, well, I'm never going to do that again," [chuckles] but what is it that we're going to replace it with? What is it that we're going to turn to? What is it that's going to capture our attention instead of the sin?

Grace! and Peace! to you Friends,

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house. - Psalm 65:4

I wonder if you'd indulge me a moment? Pretend you know nothing about the biblical festivals found in the first five books of Jesus' Bible. (You might be new to our ministry and not pretending at all :-)) Imagine exploring them as something designed and created for our good by a wise Father. Now, pause for about three minutes to read the article on the back page, *God's Got Rhythm* by our founder. Go ahead; I'll wait.

Creatively Walking on Ancient Paths, Together

My response to hearing Dwight's article with fresh ears is one of awe followed by YES, I want and need this season of spiritual recalibration and renewal. How about you? The pastoral gifting in me takes it one step further. How can we at JC Studies create opportunities for an orchestra of haverim (friends) to play along with the score of this Divine Symphony? And how do we keep everything Father-focused and Christ-centered? We've come up with some innovative answers to those questions. Here is the overview of online community activities, designed with something for everyone to benefit from this holy season.

The Fall Feast Cycle Overview

- ▶ *Getting in Tune:* It all starts with my presentation, *Meeting the God Who Seeks*. In this live online setting, you share your thoughts as I address key questions like, What does Tabernacles have to do with Passover and Pentecost? What impressions did the Fall Feast cycle make on the faith of Jesus? And what impact can it have on our faith in Jesus?
- ▶ *Feast of Trumpets:* You'll hear the shofar skillfully sounded and a special message to stir your heart.
- ▶ *The High Holy Days:* We'll spend ten days reflecting on our God and our lives using the Book of Hebrews.
- ▶ *Day of Atonement:* This special day is dedicated to prayer and fasting in the haverim community online.
- ▶ *Feast of Tabernacles:* Watch the live celebration from Church of the Messiah. Also, participate in our seven day praise challenge with other haverim.

Join us online, whenever and wherever you're able.
Check out the details at jcstudies.com/sukkot.

Guess Who's Coming for the Feast of Tabernacles?



Our good friend Lois Tverberg is the featured teacher at our Feast of Tabernacles celebration on October 14-15, 2022. Come be inspired by this weekend of joy. You'll experience messianic high-praise led by John Shuffle, banner processions, worship dance for all ages, a water libation ceremony, and more. If you can't travel to Jerusalem, joining us in Dayton for this one-

of-a-kind event is the next best thing. [Click here](#) for details, location, and free registration.

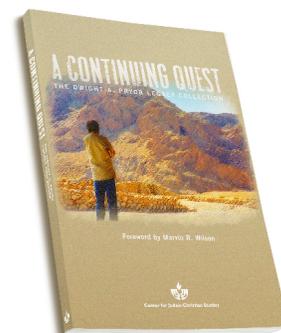
Paul: Jewish Apostle to the Roman World

I have sought guidance from our Lord regarding the monthly audio messages for quite some time. My clear sense of direction is to give you, and the church, Dwight Pryor's foundational study on the Book of Romans. Our generation needs this teaching. So, starting in October, we will begin working through his engaging audio course, one message, one month at a time.

Haverim Stories: Using Our Book as Curriculum

Longtime haverim Eric and Christine Tomlin called today with a great story. They travel in an RV (we fondly remember it parked in our driveway when they came for the Feast of Tabernacles). They make new friends at each stop and share Bible study with them, Dwight's video course *Behold the Man!*, to be specific.

One of their contacts leads a Bible study with neighbors and, now, a men's group. Their curriculum? *A Continuing Quest*, the book of Dwight's articles, we published posthumously in his honor. May all of the good seed they sow—and this applies to us all—bring our good Father a bountiful return. Amen.



Your financial support is helping us proclaim and preserve biblical faith by tapping into our Jewish roots—for this and future generations. Thank you and thank you Father (Todah Abba).



God's Got Rhythm by Dwight A. Pryor (1946-2011), JC Studies

3 min 11 sec reading time

The Composer of the masterwork of Creation imbues the warp and woof of the cosmos with repeating rhythms, cycles, and seasons. Note for instance the rhythmic repetition of four words at the beginning of Genesis: *Vay'hi erev, vay'hi voker...* "And it was evening, and it was morning..." day one (two, three, four, etc.).

After six days of this creative syncopation God writes in a full stop: the Sabbath.

The weekly cycle of six days of work punctuated by a seventh day of rest seems entirely natural to us. But in fact it exists because of Divine fiat, not as a natural by-product of the created order.

Neither the monthly lunar cycle nor the annual solar cycle is divisible by seven. The seven-day rhythm is the Composer's imprint upon the score of His creation.

In sanctifying the 7th day – the first thing in all creation to be hallowed (Genesis 2:3) – in effect God sanctified time, notes the great Jewish philosopher A. J. Heschel. He set in motion divinely appointed times (*moadim*) for celebrating with His covenant people.

These *moadei-Adonai*, "set times of the Lord," recur in seasonal cycles: spring (Passover), summer (Pentecost) and fall (Tabernacles). Each festival has its unique rhythm and character, corresponding on the one hand with agricultural harvests and on the other with key events in Israel's redemptive history.

Now, as we move towards the autumn of the year, we are witnessing the climactic concert of the Divine Symphony: the High Holy days, consummated by the Feast of Tabernacles. It is a magnificent production with varied moods and intersecting melodies, repeatedly punctuated with the great trumpet of the Lord, the shofar.

To help you appreciate the rhythms and beauty of this divinely orchestrated fall concert, here are some "Program Notes".

Reflection: The month preceding the High Holy Days is a time for reflection and preparation of the soul for the awesome days ahead. The name of the month *Elul* is read as an acronym for "*Ani L'dodi V'dodi Li*" ("I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine") (Canticles 6:3). The love of God gives us confidence to approach Him for the approaching day of reckoning.

Recognition: The day on which the world was made is commemorated on *Rosh HaShanah* (New Year) and signaled by the loud sounds of a trumpeting ram's horn. "Awake all you who slumber!" cautions Maimonides, and "know before Whom you stand." The righteous Judge of the Universe is examining the records of our lives, for good or for ill.

Repentance: The shofar inaugurates Ten Days of Awe (*Yamim Nora'im*) during which the appropriate response is taking responsibility for wrong doing, turning from it and resolving to walk in ways that befit the King's name and character. We seek out anyone we have offended and ask for forgiveness.

Remission: The shofar gives us hope because it reminds us that God provided a ram in place of Isaac's sacrifice. So on *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement) we fast to humble ourselves and then earnestly confess our sins, individually and corporately, beseeching Heaven to "forgive us, pardon us, atone for us." The final extended and triumphant blast of the shofar concluding the Yom Kippur service reminds us that the Lord God does indeed make a way to remit our sins.

Rejoicing: The haunting refrains of the shofar quickly give way to the tapping of hammers as families begin constructing their *sukkot* (booths) for the Festival of Tabernacles, in which God commands that we be altogether joyous. We know now that our confidence is not in bricks and mortar and bank accounts but in the firm foundation of God's steadfast love and covenant faithfulness.

So for seven days we dwell in fragile booths and give extended thanks for the abundant final agricultural harvest of the year and the prosperity bestowed by a gracious God.

And we look forward to the Great Day foreseen by Zechariah (14:9) when the Lord will be One in all the earth, and the nations shall acknowledge Him as King and come up to Zion for Tabernacles to rejoice with all the people of God.

The Symphony has begun. Let those with ears to hear, hear!

At jcstudies.com/sukkot you can explore creative ways to engage with this Divine Symphony.

Fall Feast Cycle

Feast of Trumpets (9/26)

Days of Awe (9/26-10/5)

Day of Atonement (10/5)

Feast of Tabernacles
(10/10-16, 17)

jcstudies.com/sukkot