

## Help! I'm New to Torah, and I Don't Know What to Do!

### Part 1

### Lesson 2: The Feast of Tabernacles

#### 1. What is the Feast of Tabernacles?

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| <b>Leviticus 23:33-44</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Tabernacles”—<i>sukkot</i>, or <i>sukkah</i> (sing.) H5521, meaning a hut or temporary shelter             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the verb <i>sakak</i> H5526b, to weave together                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holy convocation—<i>mikra kodesh</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Customary work—<i>m’lechet</i> (H4399) <i>avodah</i> (, no work, but food can be prepared for that day, not the next day)</li> <li>• Begins 15<sup>th</sup> day of seventh month (Tishri) and lasts for seven days</li> <li>• First day (15<sup>th</sup> day of Tishri) and last day (22<sup>nd</sup> day of Tishri) are High Sabbaths (Yom Tovs among Jewish community)</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> day of the feast—Shemini Atzeret, or concluding assembly</li> </ul> |
| <b>Numbers 29:12-38</b>     | <p style="text-align: center;">70 bulls, one for each nation of the world—<b>Genesis 10</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Deuteronomy 16:13-17</b> | All the offerings are to come to the place where the LORD chooses, or Jerusalem.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Deuteronomy 31:9-13</b>  | Notice who was required to hear the reading of the Torah at Sukkot: Men, women, children, and the non-Jew who chose to be part of the children of Israel.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>John 7:2</b>             | <i>heorte</i> G1859 and <i>skenopegia</i> G4634 (hey-or-TAY skay-nop-uh-GHEE-uh)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

#### 2. What are Customs at the Feast of Tabernacles?

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| <b>Build a Sukkah</b>   | Reread <b>Leviticus 23:42-43, Jonah 4:5, Matthew 17:4</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>The Four Species</b> | <p style="text-align: center;">From <b>Leviticus 23:40</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fruit of beautiful trees</b> (<i>p’ri etz hadar</i>)—it is custom to use an etrog (citron), a fruit that looks like a giant, bumpy lemon</li> <li>• Why an etrog? “According to an ancient tradition, when God first told Moses about the four species, Moses sent messengers to Calabria (Italy) to fetch an etrog from there”—Chabad.org             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Branches of palm trees</b> (<i>kapot t’marim</i>)—date palm</li> <li>• <b>Boughs of leafy trees</b> (<i>anaph etz avot</i>)—myrtle bough</li> <li>• <b>Willows of the brook</b> (<i>arbeh nachal</i>)—willow branch</li> <li>• All four species are referred to as <b>the lulav and etrog</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• It is interesting to note that the date palm, myrtle, and willow are native to Israel, but the citron is not—A picture of Jew and Gentile, one in Messiah</li> </ul> |

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|                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the Midrash, the four species represent four different kinds of people</li> </ul> |                              |                                                  |
|                               | <b>Etrog</b>                                                                                                                          | Good fragrance and taste     | One with good deeds and wisdom (Torah knowledge) |
|                               | <b>Myrtle</b>                                                                                                                         | Good fragrance, but inedible | One with good deeds, but lacks wisdom            |
|                               | <b>Date Palm</b>                                                                                                                      | Edible, but no smell         | One with wisdom, but lacks good deeds            |
|                               | <b>Willow</b>                                                                                                                         | Neither taste nor smell      | One with neither good deeds nor wisdom           |
| <b>Simchat Torah</b>          | “The rejoicing of the Torah”—Occurs on the eighth day, known as <i>Shemini Atzeret</i>                                                |                              |                                                  |
| <b>Read the Megillah</b>      | It is customary to read the entire book of Ecclesiastes.                                                                              |                              |                                                  |
| <b>Simchat Beit Hashoevah</b> | Read article from Chabad titled “Simchat Beit Hashoevah”                                                                              |                              |                                                  |

## Part 2

### 3. What Does the Feast of Tabernacles Teach Prophetically?

#### a. The Birth of Messiah

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| <b>John 1:14</b>                 | “Dwelt”— <i>skenoo</i> G4637, from the word <i>skene</i> G4633, which is the Gk. Equivalent of <i>sukkah</i> |
| <b>Luke 1:5-38; 2:8-12; 2:21</b> | Read notes from “When was the LORD born?”                                                                    |

#### b. The Establishment of the Kingdom of Messiah

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| <b>Exodus 12:37</b>               | The first place the children of Israel stopped was a place called Sukkot.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Matthew 21:6-10</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During the time of Sukkot, the traditional prayer Hoshana is recited every day. It seems that the people were calling for Messiah to come, but it wasn’t the right time. <b>Psalms 118:25-26</b></li> <li>Save now—<i>hoshiah</i> (H3467) <i>na</i> (H4994); hiphil imperative, so it could say “Save, please”</li> </ul> |
| <b>John 7:37-39</b>               | Yeshua claimed to be the Messiah on the seventh day of Tabernacles, or Hoshana Raba                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Revelation 7:15 &amp; 21:3</b> | The LORD will dwell, or “tabernacle”, with us for eternity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>2 Chronicles 5:3</b>           | Read v.2-3; This is a picture of the establishment of the Kingdom.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Zechariah 14:16-19</b>         | Tabernacles will be kept by all nations in the Kingdom; “punishment”—sin ( <i>chatat</i> H2403)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

### 4. Why the Emphasis on “Joy”?

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| <b>Season of Our Rejoicing</b> | <i>Z'man Simchateinu</i>                                                            |
| <b>Galatians 5:22</b>          | Joy ( <i>chara</i> G5479) is one of the fruits of the Spirit.                       |
| <b>Psalms 51:8</b>             | Repentance brings joy ( <i>simchah</i> H8057).                                      |
| <b>Isaiah 35:10</b>            | In the Kingdom, there will be everlasting ( <i>olam</i> H5769) joy.                 |
| <b>Isaiah 51:3, 11</b>         | Zion is characterized by joy and gladness ( <i>simchah</i> ).                       |
| <b>Luke 2:10</b>               | The joy ( <i>chara</i> ) of Messiah’s birth is for all people.                      |
| <b>Numbers 10:10</b>           | The moedim are associated with joy ( <i>simchah</i> ).                              |
| <b>Nehemiah 8:1-18</b>         | Sukkot is a time of joy, not mourning, because it reminds us of the coming Kingdom. |