**R784\_Rumination for Feb. 9, 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **The Fifteenth Day** berita-bethel-ung.com

The **T**ext: *On* ***the fifteenth day*** *of the same month is the feast…* Lev. 23:6

The **T**hots:

Intro. Yesterday (Feb. 8th) – The **C**hinese **C**ommunity **C**elebrated **the Fifteenth Day** of the **C**hinese New Year which **C**oncluded it and brought it to a **C**limax. It is **C**ommonly **C**alled in **C**hinese (Hokkien) “**C**hap-Goh-Meh” or the Fifteenth Night and is likened to the **C**hinese Valentine’s Day.

* **The Fifteenth Day** was also an important day in the History of God’s People, Israel.

1. **On the Fifteenth Day of the Second Month, God Prepared His People to enter the Promised Land.** *And all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on* ***the fifteenth day*** *of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.* Exo. 16:1

*I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God*. Exo. 16:12

1. He Provided them with Bread (**M**anna) in the **M**orning.
2. He Provided them with **M**eat (Quails) in the Evening.
3. He Provided them with Water from the Rock when they **M**urmured. Exo. 17:6

*Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.*

1. **On the Fifteenth Day of the First Month…**
2. The **F**east of Unleavened Bread was Observed. **Lev. 23:5, 6**

*In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover.*

*On* ***the fifteenth day*** *of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD:*

*seven days ye must eat unleavened bread*.

1. The **F**oundation of this **F**east was the **P**assover (See #1 above) Lev. 23:5-6a
2. The **P**eriod of the feast - *seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.* Lev. 23:6b
3. The **P**urpose of the Feast – *On the fourteenth day of the month at even,*

*ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.*

*Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses.* Exo. 12:15, 17-19

1. Leaven is a **P**icture of Sin and Evil – *A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.* I Cor. 5:6; Gal. 5:9
2. It must not be **P**resent. Exo. 12:19

*Whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation…"*

1. It must be **P**urged out. I Cor. 5:7

*Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened.*

1. **On the Fifteenth Day of the Seventh Month…**
2. ***The fifteenth day*** *of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles.* **Lev. 23:34, 39**
   1. The **P**eriod of the Feast: *the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.*

*In* ***the fifteenth day*** *of the seventh month…ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days:*

1. The **P**eculiarity of the Sabbath: Lev. 23:34

*on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath.*

1. Contrast the Weekly Sabbath: Lev. 23:3

*Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation;*

*ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.*

* **W**hatever **W**ork was not allowed – including gathering of sticks. Num. 15:32-36

1. Compare this Feast’s Sabbath:
2. *On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile* [ordinary] *work.* Lev. 23:35
3. *On the eighth day shall be an holy convocation…ye shall do no* servile *work therein.* Lev. 23:36
4. On this Special Sabbath, no ordinary **W**ork was to be done, but the people could **W**orship!

**Note also :**

1. **On the First Day of the Week or The *Morrow after the Sabbath…***
2. The **F**east of **F**irstfruits was Celebrated. Lev. 23:10-11

*ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits…to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath.*

* This Feast typifies the Resurrection of Christ. I Cor. 15:20

1. The **F**east of Pentecost was Celebrated on the **F**iftieth day after **F**irstfruits. Lev. 23:15-16

*From the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering…Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.*

* This **F**east typifies the Descent of the Holy Spirit to the earth to **F**orm the Church. Acts 2:1-4

1. On the **F**irst Day of the Week (*the morrow after the Sabbath*) …
2. Jesus was **R**esurrected. Matt. 28:1, 6
3. Jesus was **R**emembered by Believers. They Kept the Feast of the Lord (The Lord’s Supper) Acts 20:7

* On this first day of the week [the morrow after the Sabbath], let us do likewise… I Cor. 11:26

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

*How happy are Thy servants, Lord, Who thus remember Thee!*

*What tongue can tell our sweet accord, Our perfect harmony?*

*Who Thy mysterious supper share, Here at Thy table fed,*

*Many, and yet but one we are, One undivided bread.*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 784**

1. Incidentally the two important feasts of Israel that typify future events that relate to Christ and the Church, and which were fulfilled, were celebrated on ***the first day of the week***, as…

**The Feast of Firstfruits** which Pictures the Resurrection of Christ (I Cor. 15:20 – *now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept*) was observed on the first day of the week:

Lev. 23:10-11 - *When ye be come into the land…and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it*.*:*

*The morrow after the Sabbath* is the first day of the week.

Christ rose again on the first day of the week, as…

Matt. 28:1, 5, 6 - *In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week*…

*the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as He said.*

* Jesus rose again on the First Day of the week fulfilling the Feast of Firstfruits!

**The Feast of Pentecost** which Predicts the Descent of the Holy Spirit to earth to give birth to the Church, the Body of Christ was observed on the first day of the week.

Lev. 23:15-16 – *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: Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD*.

Compare Acts 2:1, 4, NKJV - *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place…And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit…*

* The Holy Spirit descended to earth and the Church was born fulfilling the Feast of Pentecost which was celebrated on the morrow after the seventh sabbath from the Feast of Firstfruits

- A First Day of the Week!!

In the Feasts of the Lord (listed in Lev. 23) given to Israel, their celebration was observed in relation to the sabbath. But in the above two feasts which relate to Christ and the Church, only the two-mentioned feasts were observed on *the morrow after the sabbath* which was significant.

Today, do you count the first day of the week as an important day in your Christian life? Consider the thoughts below as well. **REFLECT**.

1. **The first day of the week** is also important in the Post-Resurrection Life of Christ and of the Christians, as after His resurrection…

Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene on the first day of the week:

Mk. 16:9, NKJV – *Now when He rose early on the* ***first day of the week****, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.*.

Then He appeared to His disciples in the upper room also on the first day of the week (Jn. 20:19, 24) - *Then the same day at evening, being* ***the first day of the week****…came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you…But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came*.

When told about Jesus’ appearance, Thomas said (Jn. 20:25): *Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe.*

Jesus again appeared to His disciples in the same way also on the first day of the week, this time when Thomas was present (John 20:26-28) - *And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus* [and] *saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God..*

It was also on the first day of the week that the disciples met together to break bread.

Acts 20:7 - *Upon* ***the first day of the week****, when the disciples came together to break bread.*

What does the first day of the week mean to you? How do you spend it?

We are exhorted in Heb. 10:25, NRSV -*not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching*.

Are you regularly found on the Lord’s Day at the Lord’s Supper around the Lord’s Table worshipping Him, listening to His Word and Working for Him? **REFLECT.**

**Points to Ponder:** *On the Lord’s Day, Give the Day to the Lord.*