**R998 Rumination for Mar. 10, 2024**

The **T**heme:**None Shall Appear Before the Lord Empty.** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *And none shall appear before Me ﻿empty.* Exo. 34:20

The **T**hots:

**Do Not Appear Before the Lord Empty…**

*Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which He shall choose;*

(A) *in the feast of unleavened bread, and* (B) *in the feast of weeks, and* (C) *in the feast of tabernacles: and ﻿****they shall not appear before the Lord empty:*** *Every man shall give ﻿as he is able, ﻿according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee.*

1. **They Shall Not Appear before the Lord Empty-Handed… Deut. 16:16, 17**

***In the Feast of Unleavened Bread*.** **16:16b**

1. The **B**asis of the Feast of Unleavened **B**read was **the Feast of Passover**:

*I will* ***pass over you****, and the plague shall not be upon you ﻿to destroy you…This day shall be unto you ﻿for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast ﻿by an ordinance forever. Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread…* Exo. 12:13, 14

1. The **B**lood sprinkled on the door-**P**osts would be a sign for the Lord to **P**ass over. Exo. 12:12, 13

*I am the Lord… The blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are:*

*and when I see the blood, I will pass over you*

1. Later, compare the **B**are, **B**loody hands of Israel – **empty** of what God wanted: Isa. 1:12-17

*When ye come to* ***appear*** *before Me, Who hath required this at your* ***hand****, to tread My courts?*

***B****ring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto Me; The new moons and sabbaths,*

*the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with* (bear); *It is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.*

*Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: They are a trouble unto Me;*

*I am weary to bear them. And* ***when ye spread forth your hands****, I will hide mine eyes from you:*

*Yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear:* ***Your hands are full of blood****. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before Mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well;*

1. Compare the Blood of Jesus, our **P**assover - *For even ﻿Christ our passover ﻿is sacrificed for us:* I Cor. 5:7

Thus, the **B**orn-Again Life of the **B**eliever is a **L**ife without **L**eaven (Sin) –

1. *Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread…* Exo. 12:15
2. *Therefore ﻿let us keep ﻿the feast, ﻿not with old leaven, neither with ﻿the leaven of ﻿malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened of sincerity and truth.* I Cor. 5:8
3. *Study ﻿to be quiet, and ﻿to do ﻿your own business, and ﻿to* ***work with your own hands****, as we commanded you –* **Do not appear before the Lord Empty-Handed!** I Thes. 4:11, 12
4. **They Shall Not Appear before the Lord Empty-Headed… Deut. 16:16, 17**

***In the Feast of Weeks -*  Deut. 16:16c**

1. Pentecost was the **F**east of Weeks to be kept on the morrow after the seven sabbath: Lev. 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: Even unto* ***the morrow after the seventh sabbath*** *shall ye number ﻿fifty days; and ye shall offer ﻿****a new meat offering*** *unto the Lord*

1. It was observed on the **F**iftieth day, the **F**irst day of the Week – *the morrow after the seventh sabbath.*
2. It was **F**ulfilled at Pentecost - *when ﻿the day of Pentecost ﻿was* ***F****ully come…* Acts 2:1
3. Compare Israel’s **P**osition before God in Isaiah’s time –
4. Their whole **P**erson was **S**ick, and **S**ore-Headed - Isa. 1:6a

*From the* ***s****ole of the foot even unto* ***the head*** *there is no ﻿****s****oundness in it.*

1. They **P**olluted the Table of the Lord: Mal. 1:12-14

*But ye have profaned it, in that* ***ye say****, ﻿****The table of the Lord*** *is polluted; And the fruit thereof,*

*even His meat, ﻿is contemptible. Ye said also, Behold, ﻿what a weariness is it! ﻿And ﻿ye have snuffed at it, saith the Lord of hosts; And ye brought that which was ﻿torn, and ﻿the lame, and ﻿the sick; Thus ye brought an offering: ﻿Should I accept this of your* ***hand****? saith the Lord. But cursed be the deceiver, ﻿which hath in his flock ﻿a male, And voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord ﻿a corrupt thing:*

1. Compare our **P**osition when **P**resent at the Lord’s Table today –

Are we Empty-Headed when we appear before the Lord? What are your Thoughts?

1. *This do in Remembrance of Me…* I Cor. 11:24, 25
2. *Let a man examine himself…* I Cor. 11:28
3. *He that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh judgment to himself,* I Cor. 11:29

*not discerning the Lord’s body –* **Do not appear before the Lord Empty-Handed!**

1. **They Shall Not Appear before the Lord Empty-Hearted… Deut. 16:16, 17**

***In the Feast of tabernacles* - MAL. 3**

1. It was a **P**eriod of **L**iving in Booths (Tents). **Lev. 23:33-44 (42)**

*Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:*

1. It **P**ertains to a **L**ife of Service unto the **L**ord – Jn. 1:14, YLT

*The Word became flesh, and did tabernacle among us, and we beheld His glory… full of grace and truth.*

1. We are **P**ilgrims **P**assing through, hence set your Heart right before God always. I Pet. 1:11, 12

*Beloved, ﻿I beseech you ﻿as ﻿strangers and ﻿pilgrims, ﻿abstain from ﻿fleshly lusts* (pertaining to your Heart)

*which war against the soul.* **Do not appear before God Empty-Hearted.**

*Take* ***my life****, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee…* Frances R. Havergal Cont’d Below

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R. 998**

**1.**  *Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.*

*Take my mo­ments and my days; Let them flow in cease­less praise.*

*Take my hands, and let them move At the im­pulse of Thy love.*

*Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau­ti­ful for Thee.*

*Take my voice, and let me sing Always, on­ly, for my king.*

*Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes­sag­es from Thee.*

*Take my sil­ver and my gold; Not a mite would I with­hold.*

*Take my in­tel­lect, and use Every pow­er as Thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will, and make it Thine; It shall be no long­er mine.*

*Take my heart, it is Thine own; It shall be Thy roy­al throne.*

*Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its trea­sure store.*

 *Take my­self, and I will be Ever, on­ly, all for Thee.* Frances R. Havergail

During a period in 1873 Frances became increasingly aware of the seriousness of sin, and wrote that any compromise, any dalliance with it spoils our fellowship with God, even though it be for a moment, till we repent and ask forgiveness. Soon she became increasingly convinced of the need for total consecration of ourselves to God – and this became a constant theme of her conversation and of her hymns. The famous hymn, “Take my life and let it be” comes from this period, and she has recorded the circumstances of it in a letter. She had been making a five-day visit at a household, and characteristically, she saw the visit as an opportunity to speak of Christ:

“There were ten persons in the house, some unconverted and long prayed for, and some converted, but not rejoicing Christians. He gave me the prayer, ‘Lord, give me all in this house!’ And He just did! Before I left the house every one had got a blessing. The last night of my visit I was too happy to sleep, and passed most of the night in praise and renewal of my own consecration, and these little couplets formed themselves and chimed in my heart one after another, till they finished with Ever, ONLY, ALL For Thee!”

This desire to share Christ with others was the pattern of all her short life.

<https://banneroftruth.org/us/resources/articles/2005/the-life-of-francis-ridley-havergal-1836-1879/>

***They shall not appear before the Lord empty.***

How do you think you would appear before the Lord when the time comes? **REFLECT**

**2**. Let us keep the three feasts, Israel was to observe, not literally or physically, but in application, when approaching and appearing before the Lord,

and **be sure not to appear before Him empty…**

1. **Let us keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread: I Cor. 5:7, 8**

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

*For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:*

***Therefore ﻿let us keep ﻿the feast****, ﻿not with old leaven, neither with ﻿the leaven of ﻿malice and wickedness; but* ***with the unleavened bread of ﻿sincerity and truth*** *–* ***­***

**Let us not appear before Him Empty-Hearted.**

1. **Let us keep the Feast of Weeks: Acts 20:7**

*And* ***upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread****…*

*…they ﻿continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship,*

*and* ***in ﻿breaking of bread,*** *and in prayers.* Acts 2:42; I Cor. 11:23-25 –

*The Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: 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****.*

*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****.*

**Let us not appear before Him Empty-Headed.**

1. **Let us keep the Feast of Tabernacles:**

*Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in ﻿this* ***tabernacle****, ﻿*

*to stir you up ﻿by putting you in remembrance;* II Pet. 1:13

*For we know that if ﻿our earthly house of ﻿this* ***tabernacle*** *were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house ﻿not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.* II Cor. 5:1

*(For ﻿we walk by faith, ﻿not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and ﻿willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.****Wherefore we ﻿labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be ﻿accepted of Him****.* ***For we must all appear*** *﻿before the judgment seat of Christ; ﻿that every one may receive the things done in his body,* ***according to that he hath done****, whether it be good or bad* II Cor. 5:7-10

**Let us not appear before Him Empty-Handed**

Are you prepared to appear before the Lord any time He calls you to do so? **REFLECT**

 **Points to Ponder:** *that Christ may be Magnified in my Body…by Life…or by Death*. Phil. 1:20, 21