

## THE THREE HARVEST RITES

**‘Three times** thou shalt keep a **feast** unto **Me** in the **year**. Thou shalt keep the **feast of unleavened bread**: in the time appointed of the month Abib; and none shall appear before Me **empty**: And the **feasts of harvest**, the **firstfruits** of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the **feast of ingathering**, which is in the **end of the year**, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. **Three times** in the **year all thy males** shall appear before the Lord God. . . . The **first of the firstfruits** of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the Lord thy God. . . .” Exodus 23:14-19. The three harvest rites are: (1) Wavesheaf—waved on the first day [Sunday] of the week during the Passover week in the first month Abib March-April); (2) The two wave loaves—presented at Pentecost in the third month Sivan (May-June); (3) The fruit harvest— presented at the feast of ingathering of the Feast of Tabernacles in the seventh month Tishri (September-October). From these three harvestrites, we are taught the soul harvest-rites and the time for each. A correct understanding of these is the only way we can understand the soul harvests’. The three physical harvests are : Barley, wheat, and fruits in their seasons, just so there are three groups of people to be harvested in the Judgment for the Living, with each being judged separately, beginning with those who have had the greatest light and knowledge. As the judgment and harvest are one and the same act, and they are accomplished through the Sanctuary System, we therefore must realize that we are weighed in the balances of the Sanctuary to determine our destiny. Ten Commandment Law points out what sin is, but it does not provide any remedy. Thus we must look to another means for salvation, and we find that means recorded in Psalms 77:13 **“Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?”** “Until I went into the **sanctuary of God**; then understood I their end.” Psalms 73:17. Thus we see that the Heavenly Sanctuary with its law and blood system is the plan of salvation. For Hebrews 9:22 says, “And almost all things are **by the law purged with blood**..... So a knowledge of, and obedience of the Sanctuary System is our only means of salvation today, just as it was in the days of Moses and the children of Israel. The wavesheaf, barley, represents the very first ripe grain or souls from the barley field that ripened at the beginning of the Harvest-Judgment for the Living. After the barley harvest is completed, then commences the Harvest-Judgment of the Living for the wheat harvest. When this is completed, the harvest of all types of fruit that ripen in the fall is started. As the first two harvest, barley and wheat, are both of the grain family, it shows that these two harvests are to come from spiritual Israel, Revelation 14:1-4 calls them the **144,000 Firstfruits**. Revelation 7:1-8 shows that the 144,000 come from the twelve tribes of Israel. But notice the third harvest comes from a varied species of fruit, which is in harmony with the Scriptures. For Revelation 7:9 shows that after the 144,000 are brought forth, then, “... a great multitude, which no man could number, of **all nations, kindreds, people, and tongues** . . .” is harvested. And it is found in our acceptance of the message in Ezekiel 20:19. “I am the Lord your God; **walk in My statutes**, and keep My judgments, and **do them**; and hallow **My Sabbaths**; and **they shall be a sign** between Me and you, that ye may know that **I am** the Lord your God.” **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**.” Nahum 1:15. Notice, the admonition given in Nahum 1:15 is to **behold**, which means to give attention to; to look at, or see the one who is bringing these “**good tidings**,” meaning **good news**, and is publishing this message which brings peace and harmony between **God, (YHWH)** and those who hear and obey. This message calls us to a knowledge of the **feasts of the Lord**; showing that those who heed this message of peace will be harvested and put into the barn according to the harvest-rites.