

### **The Feast of First Fruits (Leviticus 23: 9-14)**

- Last Sunday: the feast of Passover and the feast of unleavened bread

#### Seven feasts & Festivals

1. 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first month – Passover
2. 15<sup>th</sup> day, next day – Feast of Unleavened Bread for the whole week
3. 16<sup>th</sup> day of the first month – the Feasts of First Fruits
4. Seven weeks later – end of May was Pentecost
5. 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month – Feast of Trumpets
6. 10<sup>th</sup> day of the seventh month – Great Day of Atonement
7. 15<sup>th</sup> day of the seventh month – Feast of Tabernacles

#### **I. Old Testament Legislation Regarding the Feast of First Fruits**

- This feast was not celebrated until Israel entered the promise land (v.10)
- On the 16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, every year they were to celebrate the feast of firstfruits
- First crop, cut a sheaf, take it to priest who waved it before the Lord (v.11)
- Sheaf accepted as thankful acknowledgement that God gave whole harvest
- V 12 – they offered at the same time a lamb as a burnt offering
- V 13 food & drink offering, v.14, no grain eaten until the sheaf was offered
- Vs 12 Manna ceased the day after they ate the produce of the land

#### **II. New Testament Fulfillment (1 Cor 15:20, 23)**

- Corn of wheat: Jesus Christ, fell into the field, died, grew & bore fruit
- Jesus stands for the whole, He's the pledge: whole harvest will be reaped

1 John 3:2; Romans 8:23; James 1:18; Romans 16:5

#### **III. Practical Application & Lesson for Ourselves**

- There's a blessed promise connected to honoring "first fruits" Prov 3:9-10
- Jesus spoke similar words to His disciples in His beatitudes Matt 6:33