

12/06/2016

GALATIANS 5:22-25a = JOY (Let the real, Kingdom joy flow!..)

#MENORAH x FEASTS:

- ~ (1) Passover = *Death* of Christ (1 COR 5:7) / Paasfees = *Dood* van Christus (1 KOR 5:7)
- ~ (2) Unleavened bread = *Burial* of Christ (LUKE 22:1, JOHN 6:51) / Fees vd ongesuurde brood = *Begrafnis* v Jesus Christus/JX (LUK 22:1, JOH 6:51)
- ~ (3) First Fruits = *Resurrection* of Christ (1 COR 15:20-23) / Fees vd Eerstelinge = *Opstanding* van JX (1 KOR 15:20-23)
- ~ (4) Pentecost = *Spirit* sent by Christ (ACTS 2:1-4) / Pinksterfees = *Heilige Gees* deur Christus gestuur (HAND 2:1-4)
- ~ (5) Trumpets = *Rapture* by Christ (1 THESS 4:14-17, 1 COR 15:51) / Fees vd Basuine = *Wegraping* deur Christus (1 THESS 4:14-17, 1 KOR 15:51)
- ~ (6) Atonement = *Return* of Christ (ZECH 12:10-11, 13:1,6&9, MATT 25:31, REV 1:7) / Die groot Versoendag = *Terugkeer* v Christus (SAG 12:10-12, 13:1,6&9, OPEN 1:7)
- ~ (7) Tabernacles = *Reign* of Christ (ZECH 14, REV 20) / Loofhuttefees = *Heerskappy* van Christus (SAG 14, OPEN 20)

#PENTECOST (Feast of Weeks) / PINKSTER (Fees vd Weke):

*We recall that exactly 49 days after the Israelites left Egypt, they received the Law from God @ Mt Sinai - "giving birth to"/constituting them as a nation (EXOD 19-31). Term "*Feast of Weeks*": 7x7weeks = 49 days. Remember: Because Moses spent such a long time on the mountain/in God's presence (40 days = EXOD 24:18), the people asked Aaron *to worship a "god" they could see*. Choice of animal significant (*bulls/calves were symbols of fertility*), *led to a wild orgy*. When Moses came down and saw what was going on, *he smashed both copies of the Law* (EXOD 32:19), *symbolizing what the people had already done by their behaviour*. He insisted with God that the people were punished. In answering this call for judgement, *God instructed the Levites to walk through the camp and slaughter people - 3000 died* (32:25-28). Type&Shadow: *Before leaving Egypt, *the Passover lamb was slaughtered @ 15h00/3pm*; they left immediately, *liberated from physical slavery*. *Centuries later (1445BC to 33AD) the *Passover Lamb/Ram of God was "slaughtered" on Golgotha @ 15h00/3pm. He rose on the 3rd day, thus liberating us from Spiritual slavery (we can overcome sin through Him - HEB 9:14-15 & 1 JOHN 5:3-5) & from the punishment of sin/eternal death. He ascended 40 days later. 10 days later (50 days in total), as the Jews were celebrating Shavuot (commemorating receiving the Law - 49 days after Passover), the Holy Spirit was poured out - and God wrote his Law on the heart of man* (JER 31:33), *"gave birth" to the church. On top of everything - 3000 people were saved* (ACTS 2). What a *meticulous God* we serve!..

#MENORAH (Golden Lampstand) x HOLY SPIRIT:

*The menorah has 7 "*branches/arms*" - *why?* [Read how God instructed Moses concerning the manufacturing of the menorah - EXOD 37:17-24] EPHES 4:4 says *there is only one Spirit*. On the other hand John writes in REV 5:6 "...stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth." Now what do we make of that = *how do we "reconcile" this apparent contradiction?*.. Back to the principle "*Scripture teaching Scripture*". We read in ISAI 11:2 his prophecy about the coming Messiah: "The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. / Die Gees v/d Here sal op hom rus: die Gees wat wysheid en insig gee, die Gees wat raad en sterkte gee, die Gees wat kennis verleen en eerbied vir die Here." Do we "get" it, B/S? The middle branch represents the Holy Spirit itself, and the 6 branches symbolise the "detail" concerning the Person ("Personality") of the Holy Spirit.

#SCRIPTURES: Gal 5:22-25a, 1 Chron 15:1-29 (25), Psalm 21:1-13, James 1:2-4, 2 Cor 3:1-3

#SERMON: *Testimony re Midmarmile 2016 & Aquelle sponsorship: "Let the real joy flow"... Illustration of card playing tune when you open it but stops playing when you close it. Now if we are born-again & Spirit filled, we should be "joyful" people (GAL 5:22). Are we truly joyful Kingdom citizens? Paul calls us Kingdom letters being read by the world (2 COR 3). Do those "reading" us, experience the real joy flowing? Or is it also a matter of open/close = play/stop?... Is there a difference between happiness and joy, and if so, what is the difference?*

*B/S, there is a vast difference between happiness and joy = between feeling happy and being joyful/inderdád 'n réuse verskil tussen gelukkig vóél en om vreugde te ervaar! Geluk vind sy oorsprong in omstandighede/gebeure - vréugde vind sy oorsprong in Gód. Happiness is related to circumstances - joy is a gift from God. Christian joy is directly related to God, and is the firm confidence/belief that all is well - regardless of your circumstances. Geluk vind sy oorsprong in gebeure, vreugde vind sy oorsprong in Gód. Joy is God's gift to every believer; it's the fruit that the Spirit produces within us. Vreugde is een v/d "vrugte" wat die HG in my bewerk, terwyl ek (olv HG) God dáágliks prákties eer en navolg. Wáre vreugde is dírek gekoppel aan heiligmaking. True joy is dírectly related to Godly living.

*But what do we mean when we (as children of the Lord) say: "All is well"?..B/S in CJ: This joy is carried by hope, and this hope is carried by faith. One/two remarks re faith. The beginning point of faith is believing in God's character - He IS Who He says He is. The end point is believing in God's promises - He will DO what He says! And to me that constitutes hope. My shortest definition of hope: The conviction that God will keep/fulfill his promises - concerning the present and the eternal!

*Re your present situation: What are the challenges you're facing, your "giants"? Do you hope you'll come through/survive them? Is this "hope" of yours anything else/more than nervous optimism?.. Or are you convinced that God will bring you through? Are you filled with true hope because God is faithful, He is trustworthy? Remember now: The "tools" God has given us to live a life of victory are his promises. Living conscious of our promises from Him enables us to live in hope - and with joy!.. But the importance of hungering for his Kingdom, while maintaining a heart that is "poor in spirit", cannot be overemphasized. This condition of heart attracts the unlimited resources of God...Oneliner: Any area of our lives for which we (as children of the Lord) have no hope for, is under the influence of a lie. True or false?..

Re future challenges: God knows about every problem/challenge I'll have to face in future. Remember: He néver wonders, He only knows! "Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done" (ISA 46:10) B/S: It is as if He has gone ahead and brought back what is necessary to get me there; and those are his promises..

Practical illustration: Dereen Steyn's funeral - Friday, 29/01/2016 @ Stilbaai. Dries' tears - and as the hearse drove into the cemetery, Dries walked to the side and said the following: "Guys, this is just her remains, she's not here. If it wasn't true, I wouldn't have made it..." To me a life-changing moment; witnessing "ráw" joy, but true joy - carried by Biblical hope! Because, remember what Jesus Himself said: "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."(JOHN 14:1-2) Celebration of her life. *Another source for true joy is obedience. Practical illustration: Pabble Grewan x"seamstress".

+CONCLUSION: We're "Kingdom letters/cards" the world reads/opens&closes. Are we a continuous joyful Kingdom melody? It's not in the 1st place about the tune, but the testimony! His glory manifested in us, is our never-ending joy! Pentecost, B/S? "Let the réal joy flow!.." Amen!

(...\Preke\Vreugde\Gal5v22)