FEASTS OF JEHOVAH
Leviticus 23:1-44

INTRODUCTION
1. The importance of the O.T. ritual is clearly indicated by the book of Hebrews. Everything in the O.T. was written for our learning (1 Cor. 10:11).
2. God's pattern for living is evident in the Bible, so is His pattern for worship (Leviticus).
3. The seven feasts of this chapter (omit the weekly Sabbath) are all designed for worship. They are God's feasts, not Israel's (cf. Jn 5:1; 6:4), but all related to Israel, not Gentiles or Church (Lev. 23:2). Moreover, all relate to Messiah.

EXPLANATION
1. FOUR FULFILLED FEASTS
   a. Passover v. 5
      Details are found in Ex. 12:1-11. The issue is release from bondage through the sacrifice of a lamb. Christ fulfilled this (Jn 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:7).
      b. Unleavened Bread vv. 6-8
         This Feast is closely associated with Passover (cf. Lk 22:1, 7). Christ buried as the Sinless One fulfills this type for He saw no corruption (Psa. 16:10; Acts 2:25-28).
   c. Firstfruits vv. 9-14
      The wave sheaf (v. 11) is indicative of resurrection. Hence Christ fulfills this feast by resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20-23). His resurrection is the pledge for believers.
   d. Pentecost vv. 15-22
      This feast was fulfilled by the coming of the Holy Spirit (Lk 24:49; Jn 14:16). Beginning of feast of weeks was firstfruits; end was Pentecost. Beginning of the Church. Prediction of Holy Spirit from Joel 2 (cf. Acts 2:16). All except Jews were Jews. All were Jews.

2. THREE UNFULFILLED FEASTS
   a. Trumpets vv. 23-25
      1 Cor. 14:14: This people to be fulfilled at regathering of Israel (Isa. 18:37; 27:12, 13; Mt. 24:25-31). Messiah will return to earth.
   b. Atonement vv. 26-32
      To be fulfilled when Israel repents at the return of Messiah and weeps (Zech. 12:10). National atonement, hence nation born in a day (Isa. 66:8).
   c. Tabernacles vv. 33-44
      To be fulfilled at the return of Messiah to the earth and peace is established under Him for 1000 years (Zech. 14:16; Rom. 11:26).