

WHAT IS SHIMINI ATZERET?

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Shimini Atzeret is the feast celebrated on the 8th day, counting from the beginning of Sukkot or Tabernacles. It is a separate feast from Tabernacles however, and is in no way a part of it. It is its own convocation.

Lev 23:36

36 'For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. **On the eighth day** you shall have **a holy convocation**, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a **sacred assembly**, and you shall do **no customary work on it**.

Shimini means 8th. The number eight is symbolic of new beginnings and completion. For instance, the covenant of circumcision is performed on the 8th day to complete as it were, or "to instill the potential for perfection" in the human being.

Atzeret means: "to hold back" or "that which is held back" for the purpose of bringing something to a state of perfection.

The last or seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles pictures the final day of harvest.

Rev 14:14-16

14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Part of this latter crop will be put in the Lord's house for His use, as they have been prepared as His government. These are ones that God has poured truth on and that have accepted the word or

revelation released for this end time. This truth is called "the latter rain". It has been released to nourish and give life to the 7th day last planting that is the 8th day special crop. A symbolic picture is portrayed during Tabernacles foretelling this event. Seventy bulls were sacrificed to God representing the seventy different nations of mankind: but during Shimini Atzeret, only one bull was sacrificed, representing the one nation, the special crop, the new Israel. This is the true seed of Abraham that celebrate this 8th day feast.

The generation that is created for the 8th day is higher or greater than what was created during the 7 days. They would not be born of Adam, but born through God Himself!

John 3:6-7

6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

1 Pet 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

I Jn 5:18

18 We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

God promised Abraham one level higher, a level "closer to God", a special people, a special nation, a special priesthood. These are ones that keep themselves clean and make their robes white. This was a covenant entered into by circumcision on the 8th day, first in the natural, and then in the supernatural. These are a people of

covenant, a people of circumcision, a people that are in no way Adam. These are completely set apart, cut off from the world and its people. They are their own nation of people separate and yet open to all people that love God and want to be a part of God's Kingdom.

The 8th day people will manifest God's victory over the enemy and through them as their society grows, the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our God. This carnal realm will slowly fade from sight. Malachi says it this way:

Mal 4:1-3

1 "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch.

2 But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.

3 You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this," says the LORD of hosts.

His will is much more important to an 8th day child than their own, so their works are really His. Their agenda is actually His.

Therefore disappointment is accepted as part of God's plan that we just don't understand as yet, and seeming failures are but instruments to shape and mold us into His image and show us direction. A closed door simply means we are on the wrong path and we appreciate the Lord interfering on our behalf and for the sake of the Kingdom.

Rev 3:7-8

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, "These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":

8 "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and

no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

We are the church triumphant. Nothing really can overcome us because our Father has all in control and we are etched in His hand. We were predestined for this time: a different generation, a different race of people who were born in the city of Sion.

The 8th day children are not afraid to be different either, because the Bible talks of an age to come and we must be different to enter that age. No other generation has entered. Does the Bible actually speak about the age to come? Here are just a few examples.

Matt 12:32

32 "Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Mark 10:30

30 "who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-- houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions-- and in the age to come, eternal life (eternal life is in the age to come).

Eph 1:21

21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

The age to come is very real and as we saw from scripture, those that enter into it will be made eternal. First Corinthians 15:51 will be fulfilled in them. They will not only be willing to walk out God's plans, but will obediently obey the laws in their hearts until they actually become the law over sin and evil. In fact, one day they will not even look for or at the wrong thing, but will see only good. Like Adam and Eve before the fall, they will eat only of the tree of Life, and will not taste of the world's fruit and its tree of

good and evil. They will see only the Kingdom of God. This realm will dissolve or disappear from their eyes, and they will have no remembrance of it. All is good in God's world: no sickness, no pain, no defeat - only good and life eternal. What a beautiful promise for the children of the 8th day!

Rev 21:3-4

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

The eternal ones will rule with God a thousand years, which to God is but one day, to train the nations. They will be the living law to them. They are the full stature of the body of Jesus. Jesus is the law, the Torah and His Spirit manifests through the 8th day

children to train the world. Those that choose to follow at the end of the thousand years will rejoice in the Torah and will also celebrate the last and final feast: Simchat Torah. What does the number 9 stand for? The gifts of the Holy Spirit. In the 9th day the final battle will have been fought. Satan, who has been locked up for the thousand years will be released to test those trained during the thousand years, and at last the greatest gift the Holy Spirit has ever given man will be released for all mankind that have become the Torah: the gift of eternal life and dominion once more over this planet. Satan's rule will finally be destroyed, along with his world and its dress, music, arts etc. Let us read of this victory in Daniel 7:26 - 27.

Dan 7:26-27

26 'But the court shall be seated, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever (we are speaking here of Antichrist - the body of Satan).

27 Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people,

the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

Hanukkah of old was in the natural a type and shadow of Shimini Atzeret: a time like now when the people of God were tired of the system they were forced to live in and the force behind it. For the Maccabees it was a physical Antiochus with his armies, his lifestyle and culture that was in opposition to God and His people that they fought, but for the people that will make the 8th day it is a battle against the evil powers and principalities that operated through them. Ours is a worse fight as our opponents are supernatural and so powerful that only Michael is strong enough to subdue and finally defeat them. The Menorah is symbolic of the feasts we must experience in our lives to carry us through this terrible battle. It is symbolic of the church, the people of God with the Holy Spirit of Christ dwelling in them to sustain them to the 8th day. The spiritual menorah (the church), although broken and powerless, does have the strength of Christ the anointed one (the holy oil) to make it through to victory, Shimini Atzeret and

Simchat Torah. Satan is convinced he has us so entrenched in his world that we can't fight our way out. There's not enough of us, or is there? There were only Mattathias and his family in the physical Hanukkah, but with the help of God they won. Could it be if we take the same hard stand against all that offends and opposes the family of God that we too could make the spiritual 8th day? We have the prophecies of old as promises that we can, as well as the song of God today that says we can. We must be separate from this evil system to be aware of the prophecies or the song.

Rev 14:1-3

1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that

song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

There's the song of God for direction today.

Ezek 37:10-14

10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'

12 "Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13 "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves.

14 "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place

you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD."

This is prophecy, the breath of life that God promises.

Dan 8:21-26

21 "And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.

22 "As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.

23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king shall arise (the body of Satan, Antichrist), having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes.

24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power (Satan's); he shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty (stop God's angels), and also the holy people.

25 "Through his cunning he shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; and he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many

in their prosperity (his economy will hurt the people). He shall even rise against the Prince of princes (Jesus); but he shall be broken without human means (God will do it).

26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true; therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future."

Spiritual Hanukkah is real, and victory promised. Let me read Revelation 11: 7-15, as it tells the whole story better than us.

Rev 11:7-15

7 Now when they finish their testimony (the great men and women of the old church) , the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them (make them idols and denominations).

8 And their dead bodies (the spiritually dead) will lie in the street of the great city (Babylon) which spiritually is called Sodom (because of the sexual permissiveness) and Egypt (the world), where also our Lord was crucified (Jesus was killed by the

religious system of His day and the government of man).

9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.

10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. (There were people in the old church that spoke truth that the church world as a whole did not want to hear. To be obedient to that truth, they would have had to change, which was not what they wanted to do. So they ruined the validity of those speaking truth and killed them spiritually in doing so. The same tactics are used today.)

11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them (God prophesied life into them), and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud (there are no boundaries on these eternal ones), and their enemies saw them.

13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the

city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand men were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

WE SEE IT - WHEN CAN WE BE IT?

God has been calling up His army for quite some time now. We can only proceed when we are fully prepared (it takes 7 feast days to become the Bride). We as individuals cannot skip any of the truth that has been released, or ignore it and not mature, or we as a church will be found lacking as the eighth day manifests. And above all, we must be a holy people so the angels of God will march with us and fight for us. Remember, the battle is won without human hands.