

PALM SUNDAY – 2009



Dr. William J. Senn, III – Tri-City Baptist Church, April 5th, 2009 AM

The Uses of the Palm Tree

Psalm 92:12, The righteous shall flourish **like** the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

1. FOOD USES: Coconut products, oils, **dates**, syrup, ivory nuts, etc.
2. MEDICINAL USES
3. VARNISHES, DYES
4. WAX: carnauba wax
5. FANS: the long, evergreen leaves are fan-leaved or feather-leaved
6. BUILDING MATERIAL: thatched roofs, doormats, mattresses, ropes
7. FUEL
8. MILITARY USES
9. ORNAMENTAL USES
10. SYMBOLIC USES

I. THE PALM TREE AND TYPOLOGY

In the ancient world:

Victory or Triumph (Romans awarded the victor in their sporting events with a palm branch. The Romans also celebrated their military victories with palm branches.)

Peace (In Judaism the palm represented the peace and the plenty that came as the by-product of victory.

Fertility

Today: Vacations, the tropics, state flags and seals

The Palmetto State – South Carolina



Palm Tree – on the Seal of Florida



Palm Tree Comparisons

- **Song of Solomon 7:7**, This thy stature is **like** to a palm tree.
- **Jeremiah 10:5**, They *are* upright **as** the palm tree, but speak not:

II. THE PALM TREE AND TENTING

- **Exodus 15:27**, And they came to Elim, where *were* twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: **and they encamped** there by the waters.
- **Numbers 33:9**, And they removed from Marah, and came unto Elim: and in Elim *were* twelve fountains of water, and threescore and ten palm trees; and **they pitched there**.

Elim = “palms” – 70 Palm Trees



III. THE PALM TREE AND TABERNACLES

One of three annual pilgrimages

- **Leviticus 23:40**, And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.
- **Nehemiah 8:15**, And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as *it is* written.

THE COMMANDMENT OF THE FOUR SPECIES OF TABERNACLES

1. The Date Palm Tree – “the spine”
2. The Myrtle Tree – “the eye”
3. The Willow Tree – “the mouth”
4. The Citron – “the heart”

By binding them together, the Hebrew shows his desire to consecrate his entire being to the service of God.

THE FOUR SPECIES



THE WAVING OF THE PALM BRANCH

1. The palm leaf is bound together with the myrtle and the willow tree branch and held in one hand.
2. The citrus fruit is held in the other hand.
3. The worshiper brings his or her hands together and waves the four species in all four directions, plus up and down, to attest to God that He is Lord over all of creation.
4. They do the wave three times in each direction.
5. *They pronounce this blessing each day, "Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to take the palm leaf."*
6. The ceremony is completed by seeking God and saying the "Hosanna" which means "save us."
7. This they would do for each of the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Hebrew Worshiper at the Feast of Tabernacles



THE SEVENTH DAY OF THE FEAST

1. The seventh day of Tabernacles/Sukkot is known as Hoshana Rabbah – Great Supplication.
2. This day is marked by a special service, in which seven circuits are made by the worshippers with their palm branch and citrus fruit.
3. The congregation then recites Psalm 118:25, “Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.”
4. Then a bundle of five palm branches are taken and are used to beat the ground. They then repeat these words “a voice brings news, brings news and says.” These words express their desire for the speedy coming of the Messiah.

During the Festival the Jewish Family Lives in a tabernacle/hut/booth



THE EIGHTH DAY OF THE FEAST

1. The Feast of Tabernacles lasts seven days.
2. The eighth day is called Shemini Atzeret, which means “eighth and completion.”
3. **Leviticus 23:36**, “on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.”
4. In Jewish tradition they would complete the yearly reading cycle of the Torah by finishing Deuteronomy.
5. The Jewish Feast cycle ends with a unique Sabbath.

THE SEVEN FEASTS OF THE LORD

FEAST	DATE	HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE	PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE
Passover	Spring – Nisan 14 Event	Redemption from Egypt	Death of Christ
Unleavened Bread	Spring -Nisan 15-21; One Week	Hasty exit from Egypt – no leaven	Repentance needed to enjoy Christ
Firstfruits	Spring – Sunday after Passover	Dedication of harvest to God	The resurrection of Christ
Pentecost	Summer – 50 days after Firstfruits	Dedication of new harvest	The birth of the church
Trumpets	Fall 1 st day 7 th mo.	Gathering of Israel	Gathering of Israel
Day of Atonement	Fall 10 th day 7 th mo.	National repentance	National restoration
Tabernacles	Fall – seven days 15-21, 7 th month	God's provision in wilderness	The millennium
	Sabbath on 8 th day 22 nd day of 7 th mo.	Rest	Eternal rest after the millennium

IV. THE PALM TREE AND THE TEMPLE

Solomon's Temple

THE CARVINGS ON THE WALLS

- **1 Kings 6:29**, And he carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, within and without.

THE CARVINGS ON THE DOORS

- **1 Kings 6:32**, The two doors also *were of* olive tree; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid *them* with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubims, and upon the palm trees.

THE LEDGES ON THE BRONZE BASES

- **1 Kings 7:36**, For on the plates of the ledges thereof, and on the borders thereof, he graved cherubims, lions, and palm trees, according to the proportion of every one, and additions round about.

THE CEILINGS

- **2 Chronicles 3:5**, And the greater house he cieled with fir tree, which he overlaid with fine gold, and set thereon palm trees and chains.

V. THE PALM TREE AND THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY OF CHRIST

- **John 12:13**, Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed *is* the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

THE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY - Matthew 21:4-8

(21:4) All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,

(21:5) Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.

(21:6) And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them,

(21:7) And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon.

(21:8) And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way.

VI. THE PALM TREE AND THE SEVEN YEAR TRIBULATION PERIOD

- **Revelation 7:9**, After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
- **Revelation 7:10**, And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation (Hosanna theme) to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

VII. THE PALM TREE AND THE TEMPLE

The Millennial Temple

ON THE POSTS

- **Ezekiel 40:16**, And *there were* narrow windows to the little chambers, and to their posts within the gate round about, and likewise to the arches: and windows *were* round about inward: and upon *each* post *were* palm trees.

ON THE POSTS BY THE SEVEN STEPS

- **Ezekiel 40:26**, And *there were* seven steps to go up to it, and the arches thereof *were* before them: and it had palm trees, one on this side, and another on that side, upon the posts thereof.

ON THE POSTS BY THE EIGHT STEPS

- **Ezekiel 40:31**, And the arches thereof *were* toward the utter court; and palm trees *were* upon the posts thereof: and the going up to it *had* eight steps.

ON THE POSTS TOWARD THE UTTER COURT

- **Ezekiel 40:37**, And the posts thereof *were* toward the utter court; and palm trees *were* upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side: and the going up to it *had* eight steps.

THE PALM TREE IN THE MILLENNIAL TEMPLE

ON THE WALLS AND DOORS OF THE TEMPLE

- **Ezekiel 41:18**, And *it* was made with cherubims and palm trees, so that a palm tree *was* between a cherub and a cherub; and every cherub had two faces;
- **Ezekiel 41:19**, So that the face of a man *was* toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side: *it* was made through all the house round about.
- **Ezekiel 41:20**, From the ground unto above the door *were* cherubims and palm trees made, and *on* the wall of the temple.
- **Ezekiel 41:25**, And *there* were made on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubims and palm trees, like as *were* made upon the walls; and *there* were thick planks upon the face of the porch without.

THE OBSERVANCE OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES IN

THE MILLENNIUM

- **Zechariah 14:16**, And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.
- **Zechariah 14:17**, And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

WILL THERE BE ANY PALM TREES IN HEAVEN?

WILL YOU GO TO HEAVEN?

- **Matthew 21:9**, And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.
- **Mark 11:9**, And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:
- **Luke 19:38**, Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

“What must we do to be saved?”

1. **Acknowledge** that you are a sinner and that you need salvation – forgiveness: Hosanna!
2. **Believe** that Jesus is the son of David, the Messiah. Believe that He is who He claimed to be: the Son of God and that He died for you and was raised from the dead on the third day.
3. **Call** on the name of the Lord and ask Him to save you.

CALL ON THE LORD TO SAVE YOU!

□ PRAY:

“HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST, SAVE ME FROM MY SINS, BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER, COME INTO MY HEART AND LIFE AND BE MY LORD AND SAVIOR. I PRAY IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN!”