Wave Sheaf Offering

This important step in Yah's Plan of Salvation literally depicts the winter barley harvest as the first growth, His increase, His earliest harvest after waiting all winter. The sheaf physically represents the first fruit of this earliest harvest, with a very important symbolic meaning that will be explained regarding the nation of Israel. The Wave Sheaf Offering pictures the resurrected Christ being accepted by Yah (God) as the very first human being to be actually born of God...the first fruit of the first harvest of brethren.

Leviticus 23:10&15 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete.

The firstfruit is the first of the new grain, the substance or the bread of life without leaven, fresh and new, not puffed up. The first fruits mark the beginning of the great harvest to come, for all to follow in suit. The wave sheaf offering is required unto God before the harvest is reaped or gathered, and offers a blessing through His grace. It is also an offering of thanks to God for the newness of the grain, the harvest containing the substance of life before we partake of its present and future blessings. The same principle applies today when we give thanks before a meal. In the Old Testament the grain, the substance of the bread, represented life, the unleavened bread depicted bread without impurity, not puffed-up or containing anything that could ever elevate or add impurity. The New Testament states that Christ is this new life, the bread of life, pure, unleavened bread without impurities, without sin.

Leviticus 23:9~11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a **sheaf of the firstfruits** of your harvest unto the priest: **And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you:** on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD. And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto the LORD for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin. And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God: it shall be a **statute for ever** throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

In ancient Israel during the days of Unleavened Bread, at the time of the spring Holydays, the Israelites were commanded to bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of the barley harvest to be waived by the Priest before the Lord for His acceptance. This first fruit presentation is the bringing of a sheaf, a hand full of the first crop, before the gathering of one's harvest. The wave sheaf offering consisted of an omer of barley having been cut at the beginning of the spring harvest that represented the very first of the firstfruits.

This event symbolically represents the Israelites leaving Egypt during the days of Unleavened Bread as they journey into the wilderness to have a Feast onto Yah. They are seen as being Yah's first harvest, those called out of bondage. This event is well documented in the next chapter, "Three Day Journey into the Wilderness" as well as in the associated calendar found in the appendix that shows the 18th Day of the first month, as a Sunday during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Please refer to the Feast of Unleavened Bread Chart found in the folder labeled; "Biblical Calendars & Charts" to easily follow the days and dates of this event happening in the Old Testament and then in the New Testament in the year 30A.D.

The Wave Sheaf Offering

Exodus 14:15~20 And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it:

and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. And the angel of God, which went **before** the camp of Israel, removed and went **behind** them; and the pillar of the **cloud** went from before their face, and stood behind them: And it came between the **camp of the Egyptians** and the **camp of Israel**; and it was a **cloud and darkness to them**, (*Egyptians*) but it gave **light by night to these**: (*Israel*) so that the one came not near the other all the **night**.

Yah instructs Moses to stretch out his hands over the sea and go forward. Why is this action significant? First, when does Moses stretch out his hands, and when does Moses proceed to go forward? These points seem trivial but read further. Take note what scripture says: that an angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind the pillar of the cloud. And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and so that the one came not near the other "all the night." Thus both camps remained separated by divine intervention. Thus all that night meant the end of the Sabbath into the first part of the first day of the week, Sunday, one full day. To reiterate, the Lord protected them for one full day as they encamped by the sea that night, the beginning of first day of the week, Sunday. He stretched forth his hand over the sea that night, but it's not until the morning, Sunday morning, that Moses and the Israelites go forward. Let's read on and see.

Exodus 14:21~25 And Moses **stretched out his hand** over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind **all that night,** and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And it came to pass, that **in the morning** watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the **pillar of fire** and of the **cloud**, and troubled the host of the Egyptians, And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

Did you get that? It was at the end of the Sabbath, "that evening," the beginning of the new day, when Moses stretches forth his hand to start the water to recede by the force of the east wind. It wasn't until the "early morning" that the Egyptians are seen chasing the Israelites into the sea with the walls of water on each side.

Exodus 14:26~31 And the LORD said unto Moses, **Stretch out thine hand** over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen. **And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea**, and the sea returned to his strength when the **morning appeared**; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them. But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. **Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians**; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: **and the people feared the LORD**, **and believed the LORD**, **and his servant Moses**.

Here it is, the **morning offering** of the **Wave sheaf**, the first offering to be accepted by Yah before partaking of the new harvest in the new land. Out stretched hands offering that **morning**, the first fruit, the nation of Israel as Yah's chosen. As stated **"the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians."** The nation of Israel, the seed of Abraham, is seen as the first of the first fruits coming out of bondage to serve Yah.

Numbers 33:8 And they departed from before **Pihahiroth**, and passed through the midst of the sea **into the** wilderness, and went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and pitched in Marah.

The Lord brings Israel first out of the land of Egypt, then to the edge of the wilderness, and lastly through the Red Sea. Moses and the nation of Israel come to the other side, called the wilderness of Shur, in the morning at the time of the Wave Sheaf Offering, on the day after the Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. They became the first fruit of God's creation being offered as the first of the called out ones. The Israelites were used to initiate the start of His Plan of Salvation. This is also the first reference to fulfilling the instructions to go three day's journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to Yah.

Exodus15:1~21 The song of Moses and Miriam the prophetess.

The event is celebrated with praise as the **Wave Sheaf Offering**, which is the offering of the first of the first fruits. Remember the law has not yet been given, so sin that is both hidden and of ignorance is not accounted for until acknowledged. From here it is stated that they **journey three days into the wilderness** of Shur to fulfill the original mission given to them from Yah: to bring their offerings before Him.

Again this same commemoration of Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread with the Wave Sheaf Offering is seen in scripture as Yah records the historical events as the Israelites enter the Promise Land for the first time.

Joshua 5:1~12 And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel. At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time. And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt. Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised. For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey. And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole. And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day. And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho. And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the **morrow after the passover**, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day. And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna anymore; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Note carefully the instructions given in the Book of Leviticus, Chapter 23, about what day this will be. It's the day after the Sabbath that falls within the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Leviticus 23:9~11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be **come into the land** which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: **on the morrow after the sabbath** the priest shall wave it.

Yah is specifying what day they would be coming into the Promise Land; on a Sabbath. That Sabbath was also the Passover in that year, thus they were not to partake of the harvest of the land until the day after the Sabbath that falls within the Feast. Only then did they first present the wave sheaf offering on the first day of the week.

Thus these are the first two wave sheaf offerings depicted in scripture for our admonishment. Both events establish the beginning of a new season for His chosen. Firstly, as the Israelites leave the bondage of Egypt and secondly when they entered the Promise Land for the first time. The Wave Sheaf is an acknowledgment of thanksgiving to our Creator for the blessings He has bestowed on us before partaking of the life given. The offering of the sheaf, the first fruits to Him, is the dedication, the vow and pledge we bring to Him.

This most important event also involves the pivotal time in Yahshua's life, the year 30 A.D., when He came as the Messiah to His chosen nation. Now we see that it is Yahshua instead of barley being the first fruit who ascends to His Father, His God and our God to be accepted as the first of the firstfruits chosen to serve as both our King and High Priest.

Please refer to the Feast of Unleavened Bread Chart found in the folder labeled; "Biblical Calendars & Charts" to easily follow the days and dates of this event happening in the Old Testament and then in the New Testament in the year 30A.D.

John 20:11~18 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

Yahshua tells Mary Magdalene not to touch Him as He had not yet ascended to His Father. He augments His statement by saying He will ascend to His Father to present Himself as the first of the firstfruits chosen to serve in Yah's Kingdom. From the early morning of the first day of the week until the evening of the same day, a change has been made in our Lord. He was untouchable in the morning hours, due to His not having ascended to His Father but by evening while meeting with His disciples in the upper room, Yahshua instructed them to touch Him, thus indicating that a change had occurred. He had ascended to the Father as the wave sheaf offering and was accepted by Yah. The acceptance of Him as an offering sanctioned the harvesting of the first fruits.

1 Corinthians 15:20~23 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the **firstfruits** of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits**; **afterward they that are Christ's** at his coming.

Paul clearly links the resurrection and the firstfruits. Christ was the only human resurrected from the dead to eternal life; He was and is the **first of the first fruits**. The Book of Corinthians states, "every man in his own order, we have Christ being first and His called, His chosen, His firstfruits after Him when He returns, at His Second Coming.

With the wave sheaf offering begins the count to the Feast of Weeks. Seven Sabbaths of weeks and the day after the seventh Sabbath is our next Feast day, the Feast of Weeks, in the Plan of Salvation.

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