

The Feasts of the Lord

Name of Feast	Time of Year / Length of Feast	Original Purpose Given in Scripture	Prophetic Fulfillment	Church History Significance
Passover/ Feast of Unleavened Bread	Spring: 15th day of the first month of the Biblical year. Usually in April. The feast lasts seven days.	1. To commemorate God delivering his people from physical bondage in Egypt, and saving their firstborn by means of the blood of the Passover lamb. (Exodus 12:1-13:16) 2. To present the first fruits of the barley harvest as an offering to the Lord. No Israelite can eat any part of the harvest until this offering is made. (Lev 23:10-14)	1. Jesus Christ sacrificed himself as the true Passover lamb. His blood delivers his people from spiritual bondage. (1 Cor 5:7). 2. Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead, as the firstfruits unto God. (1 Cor 15:20,23)	1. A Jewish Passover tradition involves expecting Elijah to attend. This is based on an old tradition that Elijah would visit the temple of God during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, to fulfill the prophecy about him in Malachi 4:5-6. Elijah appeared to Joseph Smith in the Kirtland Temple on April 3, 1836, which was during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. During that appearance Elijah announced he was fulfilling Malachi 4:5-6. (RLDS History 2:47; LDS History 2:436).
Feast of Pentecost	Early Summer: 50 days after the Feast of Unleavened Bread ("Pentecost" means 50). The feast lasts one day.	To present the first fruits of the later harvest (wheat, olives, etc.) as an offering unto the Lord. This feast occurs fifty days after the Passover. (Lev 23:15-21)	An endowment of power was given to Jesus' disciples on the Feast of Pentecost, allowing them to be instrumental in converting and baptizing many souls. In fact, 3000 people were baptized on that particular day. Those converted are the first fruits after Christ's resurrection. (Acts 2; James 1:18; Rev 14:4)	2. The restored church was organized on April 6, 1830, the day before the Passover. General Conferences in the early Restoration usually occurred in April and October, which are the times of the two longest feasts. Conference activities from the early Restoration bore some resemblance to what God prescribes for those feast days.
Feast of Trumpets	Fall: The first day of the seventh Biblical month. Usually in September. The feast lasts one day.	To sound trumpets at the beginning of the final harvest month. This announces the final harvest season and that the Day of Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles are coming very soon. (Lev 23:24-25)	Joseph Smith received the Book of Mormon plates on the Feast of Trumpets in 1827. The Book of Mormon announces the beginning of the final harvest of souls, that Zion will soon be atoned for (redeemed), and that God will soon make his tabernacle with us. (September 22, 1827 was the Feast of Trumpets)(RLDS History 1:17; LDS History 1:18)	Joseph Smith received the Book of Mormon plates on the Feast of Trumpets in 1827. The Book of Mormon announces the beginning of the final harvest of souls, that Zion will soon be atoned for (redeemed), and that God will soon make his tabernacle with us. (September 22, 1827 was the Feast of Trumpets)(RLDS History 1:17; LDS History 1:18)
Day of Atonement	Fall: 10 days after the Feast of Trumpets. Usually in September or October. The feast lasts one day.	To have the high priest offer a sacrifice to atone for the sins of Israel. The high priest enters the Holy of Holies once a year on this day. All Israel afflicts their souls, or fasts, on this day. (Lev 16:1-34; Lev 23:26-32)	This feast has not had its prophetic fulfillment yet. It may be fulfilled by the atonement (redemption) of Zion, as well as a true Aaronic high priest entering a restored Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant will be. (RLDS DC 100:3d-3f; LDS DC 103:15-20)	
Feast of Tabernacles	Fall: Five days after the Day of Atonement. Usually in October. The feast lasts eight days.	1. To have a feast after the final harvest of the year. This feast is to be a solemn assembly, as well as a time of rejoicing in communion with God and with the Saints. 2. To live in tents, to remember that all Israel lived in tents when God brought them out of Egypt. (Lev 23:34-43)	This feast has not had its prophetic fulfillment yet. It may be fulfilled by the return of Jesus Christ, when he will make his tabernacle with us. (Rev 21:3)	General Conferences in the early Restoration usually occurred in April and October, which are the times of the two longest feasts. Conference activities from the early Restoration bore some resemblance to what God prescribes for those feast days.
The Sabbath	The seventh day of every week.	To observe the seventh day of rest which God observed at the time of creation (Ex 20:8-11; Lev 23:3)	This feast has not had its prophetic fulfillment yet. It will be fulfilled when Jesus Christ reigns on earth with his Saints for 1000 years, which will be the seventh thousand years of this creation, and the earth will experience a millenium of rest. (Rev 20:4,6; RLDS DC 85:35; LDS DC 88:108-110; Times and Seasons 5:596; LDS DC 77:12)	