

Wavesheaf Day – Christ HAS RISEN! Accepted by God

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by Philip Shields

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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

Summary:

Do you skip or forget Wavesheaf Day? On the 1st day of the week after Yeshua's crucifixion, He ascended as the Wavesheaf offering, sanctifying the rest of the harvest of souls so that WE could be accepted by Father. It's not a holyday but IS a significant day FULL of power and inspiration and one we should never forget. Without his resurrection and being accepted by the Father, our religion and beliefs would all be worthless. Learn about the exciting meaning of Wavesheaf day.

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(NOTE: these notes are almost a transcript... not quite word for word. Video has more data.)

A warm sabbath greetings once again to my family in Yeshua, children of the House of YHVH. THIS very day as I speak – sabbath April 11, 2020 – and tomorrow, first day of the week, both picture very, very exciting days.

I'm Philip Shields. Welcome to Light on the Rock. From all over the world people are remembering that God does not want to condemn anyone if possible, in spite of our sins, so John 3:16-17 tells us he sent his one and only son to die for us that all of us who believe can be saved, and not condemned.

John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*”

So Sabbath evening April 11, 2020 – the date for this year-- just before sundown, is **the anniversary of when our Savior rose from the dead! How special and wonderful! Most of you will view or hear this *after* April 11, but that's OK. Just remember Saturday night April 11 our Lord has risen.**

Then on 1st day of the week, April 12, Yeshua does something spectacular – on **WAVESHEAF DAY, the oft-forgotten day among believers. **We must not forget wavesheaf day.****

WAVESHEAF DAY is about Christ being resurrected and ascending to heaven to be accepted on behalf of the rest of the firstfruits being harvested or called

now. *Get this: without His resurrection, without his appearing in heaven on Wavesheaf day – our religion and beliefs would all be useless; in vain. 1 Cor. 15:12-19.*

We do not keep EASTER – from pagan goddess Oestre or Ishtar – but the day the Bible says to keep: Wavesheaf Day and all its rich meaning. The name "Easter" comes from the pagan goddess of sex and fertility, hence the rabbits and Easter EGGS.

COVID-19: Let's remember my sermon about praying for our nation and the world – "standing in the gap" – beseeching God to kill the Coronavirus worldwide and to be merciful. Maybe He's already answering it to a point, and maybe that's the main reason the number of deaths is WAY below the originally anticipated numbers. Remember they said in USA even WITH self-isolation that there would be a minimum of 100,000 to 240,000 deaths. We're at 20,000 now and the number of deaths each day seems to be slowing down. Hopefully God is merciful about this.

This year, the weekly calendar days of the week matches the days of the week of the year Christ died in 30 CE. I will use Roman names of the week you're all familiar with as I speak so nobody is left confused. In future years, 2021 and beyond, the POINT about wavesheaf will still apply – though the days of the week in future years may not match what happened the year Christ died.

Christ's ONLY SIGN of his authenticity

When asked for a sign that he was whom he said he was, this is what Yeshua said to the Pharisees (orthodox Jews) of his day:

Matthew 12:38-40

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."

39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and **no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.**

40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will *the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*"

That's 72 hours. There's no way anyone can get 3 full days and 3 full nights from a Friday night burial, as most Catholics and Protestants believe, to an early Sunday morning resurrection. Jesus is not an impostor. He either fulfilled it or he didn't.

So what really happened the year Christ died

I will refer to scriptures but will not spell them all out, as I’ve covered a lot of the details surrounding Passover already. But let’s get the chronological flow.

He broke the bread and offered his cup of the New Covenant on Tuesday night, the eve of Passover day. The majority of the Jews and their leaders will keep their Passover meal the following night (**John 18:28**), so that’s why they didn’t want to get too close to Gentile Pilate.

So **after the foot washing and the breaking of bread** and drinking of Yeshua’s cup, they all then went to the Garden of Gethsemane – now early Wednesday morning of that year, prayed fervently near his top 3 disciples, was arrested, given a mock fraudulent trial, and Peter denies his Messiah 3 times (**John 18:25-26**).

This was now “early Wednesday morning” before 6 am. Yeshua hadn’t slept at all. **Pilate finds no fault with Yeshua, now 6 am**, after he inspected him (**John 18:38**). Christ was, after all, the Lamb of God without blemish.

He releases Barabbas instead of Yeshua (John 18:39-40). Please hear my audio version “*I am Barabbas*”. You will undoubtedly hear some interesting new things.

Yeshua is mercilessly beaten and scourged (**John 19:1-2**) so badly that he was marred beyond recognition (**Isaiah 52:14**). Depicted well in Passion of the Christ, though very graphic.

All of this is taking place now on a Wednesday EARLY morning in 30 CE, and then he carries his stake to be crucified on Golgotha, the place of the skull. Large nails are hammered into his hands/wrists and his heels, where there are numerous nerve endings. Yeshua is crucified, writhing in pain for us from 9 am until 3 pm that Wednesday, when he dies.

HIGH DAY: Passover Day was of course the 1 day before the “high day” – a term to refer NOT to the weekly sabbath but to an annual sabbath (**John 19:31**), one of God’s holy days of Leviticus 23, which were all also considered “sabbaths” – annual sabbaths, “high days” if you will.

Preparation Day: People think Yeshua was crucified on a Friday because the day when he was crucified is called “**the PREPARATION DAY**” (**John 19:31**). So everyone assumes “Preparation day” is exclusively referring to Friday. But that’s not the case. Any day before any sabbath – annual sabbaths (holydays) or weekly

Sabbaths – was a “preparation day” for that sabbath/holy day, when you could do no work except prepare a meal.

So he’s killed on Wednesday Passover day 30 CE. It’s the preparation day because that night would be a big meal and the start of the 7 Days of Unleavened Bread. The first and 7th day of Unleavened Bread were holy days, high days. By the days of Ezekiel, that entire period of time was simply called “The Passover” (**Ezekiel 45:21; Acts 12:1-4**). **Acts 12:1-4** was *during* the days of unleavened bread but would execute Peter “after PASSOVER” which only makes sense if the entire period is referred to as “Passover” since Passover comes before the days of Unleavened Bread.

Acts 12:1-4

Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. 2 Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. 3 And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also.

Now it was DURING the Days of Unleavened Bread.

4 So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, *intending to bring him before the people AFTER PASSOVER”*

So just like this year, Passover the year Christ died fell on a Wednesday and what we call Thursday nowadays was the first holyday of unleavened bread.

CRUCIFIXION: At 9 am Wednesday morning he was nailed to the stake (Mark 15:25, “the 3rd hour”) and stayed there writhing in pain until his death at 3 pm on Passover Day, the time God Almighty deemed it right and best to offer His Passover Lamb.

It was against the Torah for anyone to be left hanging or crucified over any sabbath, so the priests demanded the crucified ones have their legs broken so they could not support themselves to breathe. The two robbers on each side of Christ died soon after their legs were smashed. But Yeshua was found to be already dead. Not a bone of his body was broken though his flesh was broken open, ligaments pulled, joints out of joint. Remember annual holy days were also called sabbaths, or high days.

John 19:31-34

“Therefore, because it [Passover day] **was PREPARATION DAY**, that the bodies should not remain on the cross **on the Sabbath, for THAT Sabbath was a “HIGH day”**, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. 32 Then the soldiers came and broke

the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.

34 But one of the soldiers [had] pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.”

There is no remission of sins without blood being shed (**Hebrews 9:22**). Look what Yeshua had said at his Passover with the 12 the night before:

Matthew 26:28

“For this is **My blood** of the new covenant, which is **shed** for many for the **remission of sins.**”

Upon his death, God sent a huge earthquake, graves were opened – but most importantly **the VEIL between the Holy Place in the temple and The Holy of Holies was torn in two from top to bottom.** (Matthew 27:50-56). The Roman soldiers on the scene were convinced they had indeed killed the very son of God. God was showing that way into his presence was now opened to all of us, not just the High Priest once a year. Read **Hebrews 10:19-22**.

His burial late Wednesday afternoon, Passover Day: Joseph of Arimathea, a member of the Sanhedrin council, did not vote against Yeshua (**Luke 23:51**) at the mock trial but did use his own tomb for Yeshua. Isaiah 53:9 – “made his grave with the rich...”

John 19:38-42

“After this, **Joseph of Arimathea**, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. 39 And **Nicodemus**, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of **myrrh** and aloes, about a **hundred pounds**. 40 Then they took the body of Jesus and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.

41 Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.

42 So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.”

So it wasn't sundown yet, but minutes before sundown, the body of our Savior is entombed, after they wrapped him in white linen and some myrrh and aloes, a lot of it. Remember what the gifts of the wise men at Christ's birth was, who had come to see Yeshua? They brought Gold, incense, and MYRRH – and the myrrh is associated with the **holy anointing oil** (Exodus 30:23-25), **perfume** (Psalm 45:8; Song of Songs 4:6), as a medicine and **anesthetic** (Mark 15:23), and

for **embalming** and preparation for burial. Nicodemus and Joseph bought 100 pounds of this very expensive ointment. At Christ's birth the gold pictured his royal destiny and the frankincense foretold his role as High Priest of the order of Melchizedek.

In any case, this Joseph of Arimathea was quite wealthy and fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 53:9 that Christ would be buried with the wealthy.

Luke 23:53-56

Then he (Joseph of Arimathea) took it (Yeshua's body) down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before.

54 That day was the Preparation, and THE SABBATH DREW NEAR. [The holyday of the 1st day of Unleavened Bread]

55 And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. 56 Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

That week there were 2 sabbaths – the first holyday (Thursday that year) and the weekly sabbath. They rested on both of those days – Thursday that week and Saturday that week. So our Messiah is entombed just before sunset Wednesday night. So when should we expect his resurrection? He said 3 days and 3 nights in the heart of the earth = Sabbath evening (Saturday night).

Now MOVE INTO THE JOY OF "HE IS RISEN"!

Luke 24:1-12

"Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. 3 Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments.

5 Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here but is risen!" Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, 7 saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

WHEN did the resurrection take place?

John 20:1

“Now the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, **while it was still dark**, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb”.

And what did they find? An empty tomb!

Matthew 28:1-2

“Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week *began to dawn*, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.”

- **By early the first day of the week(s), the body was gone.** He had already been resurrected. NOT at Sunday sunrise, but before then – at the end of the sabbath, exactly 72 hours after being entombed. Hallelujah.

But why is Yeshua “hanging around” til the next day? Because the next day would be WAVESHEAF day and he needed to be actual fulfillment to what/whom it pointed!

So long before sunrise, God the Father has already resurrected him. He’s risen! Peter runs in and sees something very interesting that would make sense to the Jews of his day.

John 20:6-7 the folded handkerchief / napkin

“Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,
7 and **the handkerchief** that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, **but folded together in a place by itself.**”

Peter sees **the HANDKERCHIEF or napkin** that had been placed over or around Yeshua’s face, **folded neatly** and in a place by itself. That’s significant. It’s not just showing he was neat. There’s more. When a man was at dinner, if he had to get up for a while, IF he was finished eating, he would leave his napkin on the side. *If he intended to return and finish more of the meal, he would fold the napkin neatly as a signal – ‘I’m not done yet. I’m coming back.’*

YES, our Yeshua is coming BACK!

So I’m glad we’re rejoicing over the Lord’s resurrection. But frankly if he was killed Friday night and resurrected early Sunday morning, then there’s really no way you can get 3 full days and 3 full nights between that time frame.

WAVESHEAF DAY AFTER PASSOVER’s weekly sabbath

After Passover, Israel was to count 50 days starting from the day after the sabbath – *the weekly sabbath*, called “counting the omer” to the Feast of Weeks, or Feast of First fruits, Pentecost.

Day 1 of the 50-day count in the year Christ died would have been “Sunday”. John 20:1 says in the original “On the first of the weeks...” – meaning the first day of the 7 weeks or sabbaths count (plus 1 day) to Pentecost—but it was also “Sunday”.

Now notice in your KJV and others, the word “day” in John 20:1 is in italics. The word “day” wasn’t in the original. The original KJV translators thought it must mean Sunday, so they said “First *day* of the week”. **THAT particular year he died it WAS a Sunday, but it was – more importantly – *the first of the sabbaths, the first of weeks, the first of the 50-day count to Pentecost, the FEAST of weeks.***

We always start the count to Pentecost on the first day after the *weekly* sabbath after Passover (see **Leviticus 23:15-16**). I know many of you believe it should be started on the first day after the high day, holyday sabbath as the Orthodox Jews believe (descendants of ancient Pharisees). But that way *always* ends up with Pentecost on Sivan 6 of the Hebrew calendar and there’d therefore be no need to count!

Leviticus 23:15-17

“And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you *brought the sheaf of the wave offering*: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. 16 **Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath**; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the Lord.”

Today, in 2020 – April 12 “Sunday” (first day) IS WAVESHEAF DAY this year 2020, *day of firstfruits, A MOST SPECIAL DAY*. Yeshua is the first of the firstfruits. This day is entirely about HIM and him alone. The wavesheaf represented Christ, who is the first of the firstfruits. That FIRST of firstfruits was to be put into God’s house, God’s presence.

Exodus 23:19a –

“The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring into the house of YHVH your God”.

Then 50 days later is the FEAST of firstfruits, also called Feast of Weeks and Feast of Pentecost –Acts 2-- about the REST of the early harvest, culminating in the WHEAT harvest of Israel.

Very key point: The Spring-early summer harvests of barley and wheat were considered God’s **“FIRST FRUITS” calling** – picturing those God is calling now. (James 1:18; But before the spring BARLEY harvest could proceed, God wanted Israel to bring a small sampling of the very first of the first barley harvest sheaves, beat the grains down to a fine flour – and present that fine barley flour to God on Wavesheaf Day.

The REASON for that, was that presentation was *to let God give the GO-AHEAD for the rest of the harvest to begin AND BE ACCEPTED BY HIM, THROUGH THAT FIRST WAVESHEAF OR OMER*. That Wavesheaf offering on Wavesheaf day was so the REST Of the harvest could be accepted and approved – by God.

Though Wavesheaf Day is not a holyday, neither should it be ignored or forgotten

Leviticus 23:9-11 BARLEY WAVESHEAF during the days of Unleavened Bread

“And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest,

then **you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.**

11 He shall wave [raise] the sheaf before YHVH, to be ACCEPTED ON YOUR BEHALF; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it. ...”

Wavesheaf Day, during the days of unleavened bread, has always been a regular workday in my life. But I do think we should pause at least and remember it, thanking YHVH and our King Jesus (Yeshua) for what God did for us with this day.

Sure, we don’t keep Easter, but let’s remember our Lord’s resurrection and commemorate Wavesheaf Day at least.

SPRING AND FALL HARVESTS – and callings

50 days from this Wavesheaf day would be another late-spring harvest – the WHEAT of Israel. So the barley and wheat harvests picture those being called as “first fruits” (James 1:18) in this age. They will be in the first resurrection.

Then in the Autumn, we have the great big, grand FALL harvests of all the fruits, vegetables, olives, figs, it was the grand harvest, picturing the harvesting of the rest of the people – when God begins to call the everyone, opens their eyes and minds to understand and everyone comes to conversion, in HIS time, in HIS way.

What is an OMER or “sheaf”? What was “waved” - a sheaf?

Also be aware that when we read “sheaf” it really comes from the Hebrew word “omer”. That word “omer” can be *a unit of measure* – such as “so many omers of manna”, as in Exodus 16:16, 31-34 or it *can be sheaves* and stalks of grain, as used in other scriptures.

So what they did was harvest the first fruit of barley and then grind it into very fine FLOUR – *and wave – raise-move it from side to side – raise it to God as an offering, and that sanctified the rest of the harvest.* And we know from historical records that they always lifted up, or waved, an amount of very finely ground flour from the cut stalks – *but they didn’t raise the cut stalks or sheaves themselves.* I know, I know. We keep seeing graphics of sheaves being waved. But historically that is not what happened.

As time went on, the **Jews set aside a specific field just outside Jerusalem** where barley was grown naturally and then the first ripening sheaves were carefully marked and bundled by members of the Sanhedrin – but still uncut. These were to be the firstfruit barley presented for the nation. But individual families of Israel also brought their *own* firstfruits of their own crops as well.

Interesting: For most years, the first strain of barley to ripen is a **red-strained barley**. I’ve seen it with my own eyes. A barley expert – Brian Convery – showed me some in Israel in March 2009. This particular barley has red stripes all over it and it’s the first ripen. Think about that! **Red stripes.** It was so obvious to me that this strain of barley was a picture of our Savior.

The 50-day period of time from the Wavesheaf to Pentecost was called “Counting the Omer”. *When Yeshua died, keep in mind that the priests were in charge of what went on in the temple, and so they effectively ran the calendar. They counted, correctly, from the day after the weekly Sabbath.*

What the Jews would do – and did the same year Jesus died (waiving the omer or sheaves):

At about sundown on the weekly Sabbath after Passover, 3 selected men wielding sickles would proceed to the specially selected standing barley, firstfruits that had been carefully marked. After asking several prescribed questions, they would cut down the firstfruits to release them from the earth, right at sundown.

Now think about this carefully! I got this material from several books on the subject as well as from other research.

Remember again why they’re doing this:

Leviticus 23:9-11

"And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, 10 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: *'When you come into the land which I give to you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.* 11 He shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, ***to be accepted on your behalf***; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it."

PREPARING the Omer of firstfruit barley of FINE BARLEY FLOUR

Next the barley sheaves would be brought to the temple court and threshed with rods and *then parched over an open flame and then winnowed to remove any chaff. Then they milled the grains and put them through an intensive sifting process until sifted very fine.* This was done until it was so fine that your hand could be placed in the flour without any flour sticking to your hand. Then one omer, about 5 pints, was mixed with some olive oil and some frankincense and waved (raised up high) before YHVH by the priest as the first fruits to God.

Some believe the sheaves ("omer" = "measure" remember, not necessarily "sheaf" as we westerners think of it) were standing sheaves of grain that were cut and then raised up to heaven as sheaves, but everything we can see in history and documentation says otherwise.

Extra: BARLEY bread, by the way, was thought of as "the poor man's bread". The wealthy and kings ate bread made of wheat. Yeshua was the barley!

So think of what this tells us:

- **The barley firstfruits were pre-selected**, as Christ was foreordained and as good-as-slain from before the foundation of the world (**Rev. 13:8; 1 Peter 1:20; Titus 1:2**).
- The stalks were released from the earth when the sickle was put to them, just as the sun was setting at the end of the Sabbath - - exactly 3 days and 3 nights after Jesus was entombed.
- The sheaves were then taken to the High Priest where the grains were ground into very fine flour. Some insist they stayed as sheaves. The word "omer" can refer to either.
- **early the next morning, on Sunday the first day of the week****, these first fruits of barley flour was raised up high by the priest to God to be accepted on our behalf, and of course to consecrate the rest of the harvest as well (Lev. 23:11). *The harvest of human lives could not really begin until Messiah had been released from the earth (resurrected) and lifted up to heaven to **be accepted** on our behalf.*

The words “to be accepted” – wow. Family of YHVH, the Hebrew here is rason— meaning “Pleasure, delight, desire, favor, accepted.” THROUGH YESHUA, and IN Him, you and I become a PLEASURABLE, delightfully favored and accepted child of the Highest. Amen? Hallelujah!

We now have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens – Hebrews 4:14

Ephesians 1:3-6

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed US with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places IN CHRIST**, 4 just as He chose us **in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to **adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself**, according to the **good pleasure of His will**, 6 to the praise of the glory of *His grace, by which HE MADE US ACCEPTED [HIGHLY honored and greatly favored] in the Beloved.*”

- *Once this had been done, the barley harvest could begin. Yeshua is the firstfruits, had to be accepted first, and then HE consecrates the rest of the harvest. YOU are also now accepted in the Beloved. Amen and hallelujah.*

Now keep all this in mind as we see what scripture says about Jesus. ALL of this pointed to him.

Without Christ and his resurrection, our hope would be pointless.

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (CITED ONLY – BUT PUT ON SCREEN)

“Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 *But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty, and your faith is also empty.*

17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!
18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.”

God does call people to salvation in a sequence. YOUR time is right now. Don’t blow it.

1 Corinthians 15:20-21

“**But now Christ is risen from the dead and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, **even so in Christ all shall be made alive**".

1 Corinthians 15:23-28

"But each one IN HIS OWN ORDER: Christ the firstfruits, AFTERWARDS those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all."

In the end, Christ also surrenders everything to HIS/our father - as God the Father is God supreme, God Most High, and is the head of Christ (1 Cor. 11:3)

So Wavesheaf Day, always on a Sunday, is not a feast day, is not a holyday, but in fact pictures the start of the barley harvest. Picturing the calling of the first fruits now. It is a workday.

Having said that, what my wife and I customarily do is to have a quiet and joyful prayer of thanksgiving together, thanking God for the resurrection of Messiah and asking Him to give us perfect faith in His sacrifice, in His life, and His saving sinless righteous life which we claim now by faith.

So what did Christ ACTUALLY DO on this Wavesheaf day? **What was Jesus WAITING FOR? He was waiting to fulfill the meaning of the Wavesheaf at the exact moment when the High Priest raises the firstfruits omer of barley.**

He did show himself to Mary Magdalene probably well before 9 a.m. He asks her not to cling to him, as he had to go to his father and her father, his God and her God (**John 20:17**) to be accepted in our behalf, sanctifying the harvest of souls. Hallelujah.

He was waiting to be the fulfillment, the reality of the High Priest's morning ritual service that pointed to Christ -- when the High priest would wave, or raise, the fine refined barley omer of flour to heaven – and then he lowered his arms back down.

Yeshua went to FATHER sometime after 9 am - - as or after the High Priest waved the omer/sheaf of fine flour -- and then he came back the same day, at evening (**John 20:19**) – and saw 10 of the 11 (minus Thomas) who were assembled in a locked door for fear of the Jews. He appeared as flesh and blood. (More on video) **Read Luke 24:36-43 on your own.**

When Yeshua appeared to them, he appeared as a flesh/blood man who could be touched, who could eat food. But keep in mind, somehow, he just suddenly appeared through locked doors and through walls. And the afterwards, just disappeared. He was of course resurrected as a spirit being but could manifest himself however he chose – as a human or go through walls as a spirit. So he could suddenly appear – and proclaim "Peace" to terrified witnesses! Ha, ha.

John 20:19-20

Then, the same day (Sunday) at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When he had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

Spirit beings like angels can travel through time - as the one in Daniel 9 – or instantly appear where they wish to be in the universe somehow.

YESHUA IS RISEN, Yeshua LIVES!!!

IMAGINE with me what the scene was in heavenly Jerusalem when OUR KING went home ON WAVESHEAF DAY. It was a long 30+ years, or 33, and each day seemed like a thousand years when you had been together all the time.

Yeshua, the son of Man, the Son of God – Yeshua **the WORD** of God who spoke everything into existence except for mankind – whom he formed with his hands, Yeshua the **Lion** of Judah, the Lamb of God,

Yeshua your and my brother, my king, our Prince of peace, our FRIEND

The One who loved ME, who loved you – was now entering victoriously into the area of the shimmering SEA of GLASS before the throne of God Most High -- AND all that dazzling brightness, with thunders, fires, lightnings, rainbows and majesty – coming to his ABBA, His Daddy. The Son of God had arrived home again, finally. Finally home in victory, 100% successful... now resurrected to spirit and fully the SON OF GOD (Romans 1:3-4).

What was that like?

The heavenly choirs, the processional parade of millions of angels applauding, bowing, praising, singing victory -- , the cherubim, the 6-winged majestic seraphim, the 24 elders all casting their crowns before Him – and praising Him in song and reverent worship. This was undoubtedly the scene. God, the Son of God the Father, had come back home finally to Abba, his DADDY.

**God the son of the Father had come home. We hurt him pretty badly, bruised and cut him and killed him--- but the Father raised him from the dead!
(MORE on video)**

And what was it like between Abba and our Yeshua!? WOW! Did Father sit there in total formality – or did he run out to greet and hug and accept his awesome Son? Either way, God knows best, and I accept it. Either way, how moving this must have been.

All the victory recognition parades and White House presentations would pale in comparison. What you see in movies, would pale in comparison. The greatest battles, the greatest contests and wars had been fought, and Yeshua – though battle scarred – had crushed the Serpent’s head.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!! I’m celebrating that on wavesheaf day! Join me in joyful worship and prayers of gratitude to our AWESOME KING and *hero* – *He’s our god, he’s our king, he’s our friend – and brother. And he’s not ashamed of us, even after all we have done.*

Accept it, brethren. Receive it. Love the message. Focus on Him, not on yourself. **Part of the meaning of this day is that Yeshua has made you ACCEPTED in him, in the beloved (Eph 1:6).**

YES, we’re remembering his RESURRECTION – but not as EASTER, but as WAVESHEAF DAY, the Biblical way. And we’re accepted now because of him: meaning Highly favored, loved, cherished and a source of joy for God – in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen? Hallelujah!

Get excited about this day. We get excited over mere football games or baseball or other games. Get excited about this! Make it real!

People who saw Yeshua after his resurrection were willing to die for him because they knew who he was, they met him, they saw the future in Him and with him. Some rough times are coming; let’s start “Seeing” Him better too. Look at John’s recollection of meeting up with the Christ in his glorious form....

Revelation 1:17-18

"And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. **18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen.** And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

THE MESSAGE of the RISEN Christ was CENTRAL to the APOSTLES' TEACHING

This message about the death and resurrection of the Son of God became a part of the complete true gospel, the good news, of God.

There are those who believe Jesus preached only the kingdom of God and not about Himself. But you cannot read especially the gospel of John without seeing how much Yeshua spoke of himself. The 7 "I Am" statements of the Messiah. You will see He said A TON about himself.

For HE is the Way, HE is the Door, He is the Life, HE is the portal to the kingdom of God. Without Him, there is no kingdom, no future, no resurrection, no life, no nothing! HE is our Salvation. HE is our Savior. Without being saved we won't be in God's kingdom.

And what do we find the apostles preaching? They preached Christ (see Peter's first sermon in Acts 2). Remember they were told to preach the gospel and they did, but they sure did not leave out the message about the kingdom's king. See these verses also – how they "**preached Christ**" -- Acts 8:5; Acts 5:42; Acts 9:20-22; 18:5, 28; Acts 26:21-23; Acts 28:31; 1 Cor. 1:23; Phil 1:15-16.

Now Paul in a couple places makes clear that the gospel HE preached was centrally based around the king of the kingdom – Yeshua, Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:1-4 (especially verse 3) the gospel of God concerning Jesus

"Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, **separated to the GOSPEL OF GOD** 2 which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, 3 **CONCERNING His Son Jesus Christ our Lord**, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, 4 and *declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead*"

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Paul's DESCRIPTION OF HIS GOSPEL

"Moreover, brethren, **I declare to you THE GOSPEL which I preached to you**, which also you received and in which you stand, **2 by which also you are saved**, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you -- unless you believed in vain.
3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,..." -- all in context of verse 1: defining the very gospel Paul preached."

SO I'm very excited about this day – WAVESHEAF day.

Yeshua should be walking the earth now by the thousands, in all of us who are letting him live in us, changing us, washing us, transforming us to be more and more like him. But still, the life God sees is the life of His perfect son, since we are in Him. WE no longer live, but the life we live is Christ (Galatians 2:20-21; Romans 6:3-6).

He goes on now in Col 3:3-4 to explain how we are in God himself.

Colossians 3:3-4

"For **you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.**
4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

NO wonder Paul said in **Philippians 3:9-11** that what he wanted more than anything else was to "KNOW HIM, and the power of *HIS* resurrection". WOW! Knowing the power of HIS resurrection in us. Now that's really living. That's real righteousness. That's real power.

We do have to obey – those who love me keep my Commandments, Yeshua had said in John 14 and 15. Those who continue in a lifestyle of sin – adulterers, drunkards, thieving – won't be in the kingdom (1 Cor. 6:9-11), so we must change. Our changing lives are proof Christ is living anew in us.

But everything we are doing won't be good enough to save us. Gal 2:21 makes that clear – that if righteousness can be attained by the law, then Christ died in vain.

Let's praise God for this resurrection. (NOTE: there's much more in the video version)

Christ is now our life. All because of wavesheaf Sunday! That's the life Paul wanted – the life of the risen Christ living again in him. All he wanted was to

know Christ and the power of HIS resurrection. That must be our goal too: to come into an extremely close BOND to our Master.

Philippians 3:9-11

“and be found IN HIM, *not having my own righteousness, which is from the law*, but that which is through faith in Christ, **the righteousness which is FROM GOD BY FAITH;**

10 *that I may know HIM* and the *power of HIS resurrection*, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.”

He wanted the righteousness of God by faith. Not his own righteousness. Paul is saying that was what he was all about – CHRIST and his righteousness given to us by faith. Do you remember the purpose of the Wavesheaf Day? That the rest of the harvest could be accepted. That is about you and me.

This is about my Yeshua and yours. And on Wavesheaf Day he ROSE into the heavens to be accepted on our behalf by God MOST High, God the Father. **Take time on Wavesheaf Day – and forever thereafter – to acknowledge the meaning of this day.** So even though it’s not a holy day, don’t forget it.

Til next time, this is your brother Philip, saying walk with God and praise Him for Yeshua, THE first fruit, the first of the first fruits. May our loving Father grant you to receive Yeshua as your personal Savior, your KING to obey, your Husband to love, and your LIFE to live in you.

[Closing prayer. On the video. We laud God and Christ; we seek to obey and seek you and submit to him. Change us, help us overcome and be truly new... and intercede for God’s mercy on the whole world.]

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