

Sermon Text – Lev. 23:1-4, 23-25 – Theme: Feast of Trumpets – Our Relationship with the Lord Leads to Repentance

September 13, 2015 (Series: Encountering God)

As we begin our story today I would like you to think about a couple of questions as I tell the story:

- What did you like about the story?
- Is there anything in the story that you found difficult to grasp?
- What did you learn about God in the story?
- What did you learn about mankind in the story?

The Story: When God created Adam and Eve as it is recorded in Genesis it was day six of creation. It goes on to say in chapter 2:2-3 of Genesis *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.* Adam and Eve's first full day on earth was that of rest. In a real sense they were resting in the Lord...the first day of the week would be a Sabbath...a holy day.

When God finished creating the world He created rested. God desired fellowship...a relationship with Adam and Eve. So in Genesis 2:3 God declared the Sabbath holy and blessed, for in it God wants to relate to you.

The LORD said to Moses in Lev. 23:1-4 "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'These are my appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies. 3 "There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a Sabbath to the LORD. 4 "These are

the LORD's appointed feasts, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times.

It says about the Feasts of Trumpets in Lev. 23:23-25 – *Again the LORD spoke to Moses saying, "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'in the seventh month on the first of the month you shall have a rest, a reminder by blowing the trumpet, a holy convocation. You shall not do any laborious work, but you shall present an offering by fire to the Lord.*

1. Why was the Sabbath day and the Jewish feasts so important in our relationship with God? Why was the Feast of Trumpets so important?

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2. **Biblical truth – When we encounter the living God in a relationship it changes how we see repentance from I don't want to...Lord you are so kind and I have been so...forgive me Lord and help me follow you.** *Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? Romans 2:4*
 3. *Hebrews 4:14-16 NIV Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,^[a] Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.* What does these verses tell us about our Lord Jesus?
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