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THE BIBLICAL FALL FEASTS – PART 24

SUKKOT – FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Today is the seventh day of Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, or Feast of Rejoicing. Sundown today begins the eighth and final day, which is a holy sabbath.

One of the most joyous and beautiful celebrations was the Simchat Bet Hasho' Ayva which featured an impressive light ceremony each evening of the second through eighth (final) night of Sukkot.

The celebration of lights was reminiscent of the descent of God's shekinah Glory in Solomon's day. They looked forward to the return of the Shekinah glory in the future days of the coming Messiah. It ascribed "light" to Messiah who was referred to in scripture as the "Star out of Jacob (Israel)," the "light of Israel," the "light of the (gentile) nations," a "refiner's fire," a "burning lamp," and the "Sun of righteousness." It was a magnificent, elaborate ceremony.

John recorded that it was on the eighth day of Tabernacles, that holy Sabbath, that Jesus entered the Temple. He loudly declared to the vast crowd that had gathered for the convocation (John 8:12), "***I am the light of the world.***" Everyone that was present knew exactly what that meant. He was publicly declaring himself to be Messiah. It was appropriate that this came on the final day of the ceremony of lights. He had just released an adulterous woman from her sins. Jewish custom places the event during Tabernacles.

It again affirms that all scripture and Jewish customs, observances, and celebrations are fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth, Messiah, Yeshua, our Salvation. All praise is to God for the fulfillment of the plan of salvation.