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THE SUKKOT

The Feast of Tabernacles is the last of the three fall feasts established in Numbers 29:12. To the Jews, it represented God's presence with them in the "tabernacle of the congregation" while they were in the wilderness. It was a portable tabernacle (tent) that travelled with them wherever God led them. They lived in temporary huts called a sukkot so that they could pack it up and move when God said move. It served as a temporary dwelling place, their own personal "tabernacle" (tent) where they could live during their wilderness journey. This continued through the days of Joshua's leadership into Canaan, then it ceased because they settled permanently in their new homeland.

About one thousand years later (a millennium), Nehemiah found out about this in the newly rediscovered scriptures and saw God's instruction to observe living in tabernacles annually, known as the Feast of Tabernacles. He reinstated this practice, including the construction of personal individual tabernacles, the sukkot, which are put together with branches from trees. They were to live in this sukkot for seven days. The eighth day would then be celebrated with a glorious feast which represented the transition from the sukkot to a permanent tabernacle (home) for everyone. (Nehemiah 8:14-18.)

We, as born-again believers, are presently living in our "sukkot", our temporary tabernacle called our physical body. In the epistles, it is called our temple wherein the Holy Spirit dwells. In 1 Corinthians 3:16 and 6:19 it tells us we (our bodies) are the temple of God by the indwelling Holy Spirit sent from Father. Our body is our "sukkot" or temporary dwelling place as we journey through this wilderness we call "earth" for our "seven" days here. On our "eighth" day, we celebrate the arrival to our new home as we partake in that great feast called the "marriage supper of the Lamb."

Yes, Jesus will tabernacle on the earth during the millennial reign, but we will first tabernacle in our new heavenly home.

As I journey these "seven wilderness days" in my earthly "sukkot," I await the transition to my eighth day heavenly temple, my glorified body on high.