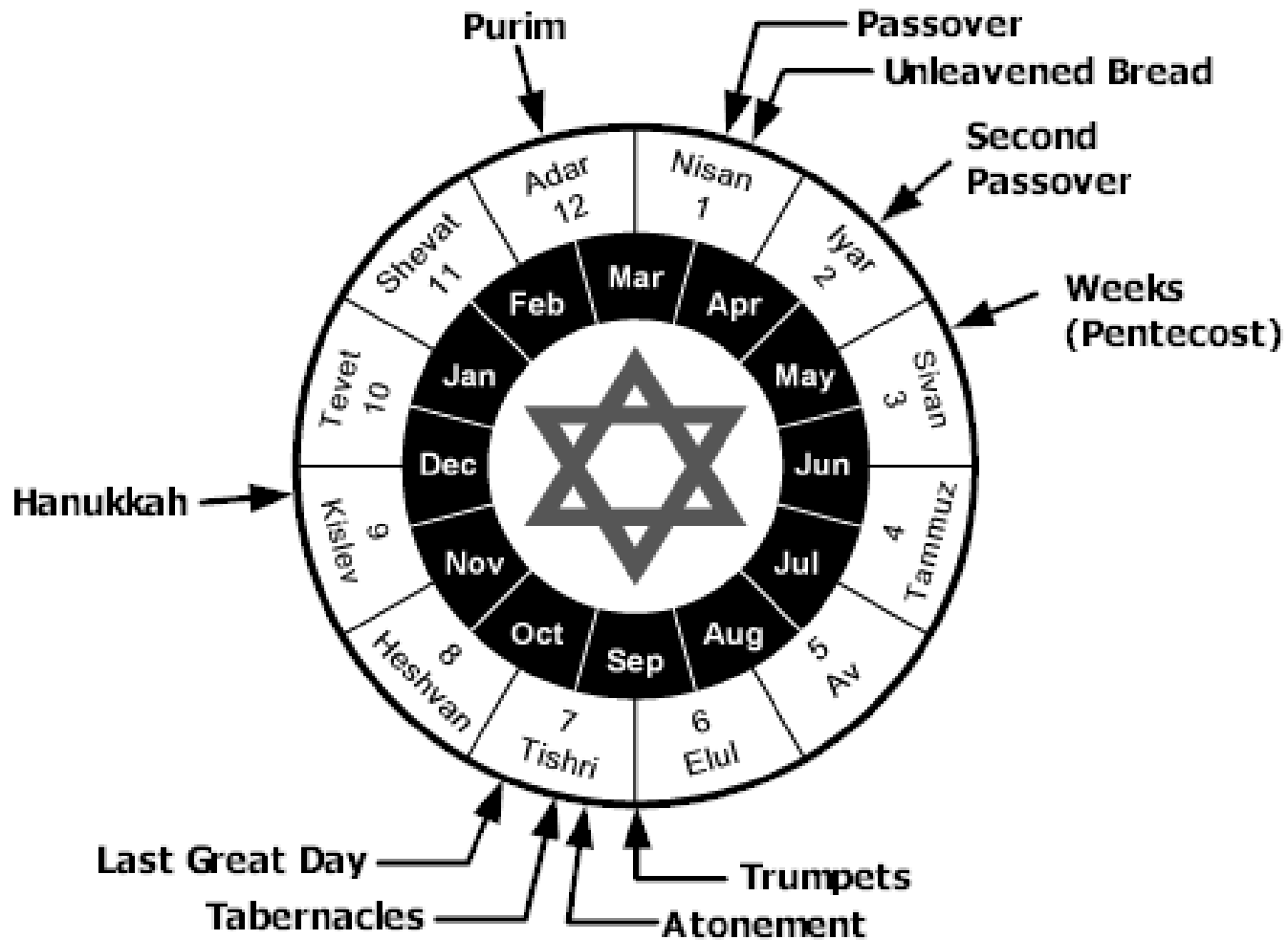


18-19 Bible Study #11

11/27/18

Reminder

- Our incimate weather decision is based on the Fairfax County Public School decision



Exodus 13

The Eighth Plague: Locusts

Exodus 13

- **Exodus 13:1-2**

- When the people of *Israel* left *Egypt* God gave them a commandment in which:
 - He told them that their first-borns were to be (consecrated) given to Him
 - He was not requiring a human sacrifice, but the consecration of the first-born to Him
- Additional details will be provided in **Exodus 13:11-16***

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- **Exodus 13:3-10**

- This section contains a part of Moses' catechetical instructions to the people (**Exodus 12:26**)
- He reminded them of the perpetual Passover requirements that will need to be continued after they arrive in the "Promised Land"
- They were to:
 - Eat unleavened bread for **seven days** and eliminate all leaven in the community during that time
 - Keep this as a perpetual "sign" of what God had done for the people of Israel when He freed them from their bondage in Egypt

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- This sign was the requirement of the people to remember this memorial on their “**hand**” and “**between their eyes**”
- A more detailed explanation of the sign can be seen in **Deuteronomy 6:1-15*** which required that the people teach their children that this was their reason for their Faith in the God
- Some mistakenly believe that this requirement sounds like the sign in **Revelation 13:16-17*** related to the “mark of the beast”

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- In fact, this is just the opposite of what is presented in **Revelation**
 - Revelation is all about the persecution of early church by the Roman Caesars
 - The question it asked the Christians was, “who would they worship, Caesar” (with the mark of the beast on their forehead) or “the God of Israel by placing law of God on their hand and forehead”
 - It is through Baptism that a Christian is marked with the sign of the cross on their forehead
 - By the way, Father indicated that the Book of Revelation has nothing to do with the end of the world and everything to do with the persecution of the early Church

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- Father provided the following explanation of the sign on one's hand and forehead
 - Your hand is the image of your actions, while your forehead (between your eyes) refers to the image of your thoughts
 - This means that the Israelites were to keep the law in their hearts (mind) and their flesh (actions)
 - This indicated that the law was to be kept as an inward and outward sign

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- Jesus manifests this concept in the *Sermon on the Mount* when he tells his followers:
 - “You have heard that it said to men of old, You shall not kill;.... But I say to that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment” (**Matthew 5:21-22**)
 - “You have heard that it was said, You should not commit adultery. But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (**Matthew 5:27-28**)*

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- To comply with this requirement, the Jews have continued to wear “**phylacteries**”
 - These are a little box of the Law, rolled up and placed in a small leather box, connected with leather straps to permit them to be worn on their arm and forehead when they pray
 - This is obviously not what the passage is about, but it has become a pious way of physically complying with the text similar to our use of sacramentals

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- **Exodus 13:11-16**

- Here we see a more detailed explanation of what was required to fulfill what was said in **Exodus 11:1-2**
- This is all about the **consecration of the first-born son** and the reason for this practice
- The sacrifice of the first-born males was also to be remembered by a sign (on the hand and forehead) of how God brought Israel out of Egypt by His strong hand
- We will see this consecration being played out in the life of Jesus in **Luke 2:21-24***

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- **Exodus 13:17-22**

- This section gives us an explanation of why the *Israelites* took a very circular route to the “Promised Land”
- Even though they were moving in a military formation and ready for battle, God did not want to discourage them from the beginning with a fight that might encourage them to return to *Egypt**

Exodus 13 (Cont)

- This statement fulfilled the promise requested to *Joseph* that when the people left *Egypt* for the “Promised Land” they would take his remains with them
- We are also introduced to the presence of God in the “Glory Cloud” (*Shekinah*) which will play a major role in the rest of Salvation History*