



THE SUKKAH

A sukkah is a temporary dwelling built during the Jewish holiday of ***Sukkot***, also known as ***The Feast of Tabernacles*** and/or ***The Feast of Booths***.

The sukkah represents the temporary shelters in which the Jewish people lived while wandering in the desert for 40 years.

(Leviticus 23:42-43) “Live in booths for seven days: All native-born Israelites are to live in booths so your descendants will know that I had the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.”

Today, during Sukkot, most traditional Jews, Messianic Jews and some Christians build a sukkah. Do they all actually live in it? No, especially those who live in places of colder weather. But most do spend time in their sukkah and eat meals in it.

The sukkah is a powerful image to the Jewish people!

- It helps them to define their past.
- It reminds them that they are descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- It reminds them that God delivered them from Egypt and they lived in booths as they traveled to their promised land.
- It reminds them of their unconditional covenant relationship with God through Abraham.
- It reminds them of God's protection and provision.
- It reminds them that God does NOT have any favorites because ALL were to live in a sukkah.

To the Body of Christ, the sukkah is also a powerful image:

- The sukkah is to remind us of the ancient Jewish roots of Christian faith.
- It reminds us that when a Gentile receives Jesus (Yeshua) as their Messiah, they become a child of Abraham, and part of the commonwealth of Israel.
(Galatians 3:7-9 and Ephesians 2:11-13)
- Seeing the sukkah is a testimony of God's faithfulness to keep His promises. If God did not keep His promises to Israel, how could we trust God to keep His promises to us?
- Seeing the sukkah is a reminder of God's presence and provision. God will always supply what is needed for His will to come to pass.
- Seeing the sukkah reminds us of our glorious future when all Christians from all nations will come together to celebrate Sukkot.

(Zechariah 14:16-19) Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles. If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, they will have no rain. If the Egyptian do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The Lord will bring on them the plague he inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles.

- Seeing the sukkah is a reminder from God, and the fact that nothing can separate us from the love of our Messiah. **(Romans 8:28-39)**

When we see the sukkah on the festival of Sukkot, its image reminds us to proclaim God's greatness to the next generation.

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