

TUESDAY PRAYER GUIDE | FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS (Leviticus 23:9-14)

On the Feast of First Fruits, the Israelites presented a sheaf of the first grain of barley (23:9–11). The presentation of the first sheaf was representative of the entire crop, acknowledging that the yield came from the hand of God. God was to be honored with the harvest's first fruits to acknowledge that he graciously bestows blessings on the human race.¹ This feast would be celebrated the day after a Sabbath during the Festival of Unleavened Bread, a Sunday. Jesus rose from the dead on that day. In 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul refers to Jesus as the first fruits of the dead. He represents the first of the great harvest of souls — all those who put their faith in Him – who will also rise to eternal life. He is the first fruits; we are the harvest that comes after Him.²

"We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, concerning those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in the same way, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For we say this to you by a word from the Lord: We who are still alive at the Lord's coming will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the archangel's voice, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are still alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words."

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 -

PRAYER POINTS: GRATEFUL FOR THE RESURRECTION TO COME

- 1. Praise the Lord that he draws near the broken-hearted and saves thoe who are crushed in spirit. Give thanks to God for the eternal security we have in Christ.
- Ask the Lord to show you opportunities to share the hope of salvation with those still lost around you.
 Pray that God would resurrect passion, zeal, hunger, and a obedient heart to follow as He leads us.
- 3. **Pray** for the comfort of those who have lost loved ones. **Pray** that they find rest in the hope of the resurrection.
- 4. **Pray** for the global church that we remain steadfast and resilient in our mission to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom, being God's instruments in bringing healing to those afflicted.

*Write down one thing you want God to do in and through you in 2023 Pray over it during 2023 and see what God does

¹ Mark F. Rooker, Leviticus, vol. 3A, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 286. ² Allan Moseley, Exalting Jesus in Leviticus, ed. David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2015), Le 23:1–44.