

Parashat Emor:

Leviticus

Chapter 23:

1-3;5-7;15-17;23-28;39-43

(Produced by the Sisterhood

Temple Adas Shalom-Harford Jewish Center,

Havre de Grace, Maryland)

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There are 6 holidays named in the 5 Books of Moses. This week's parasha includes all 6 of the Biblical holidays:

1. Shabbat
2. Rosh Hashanah
3. Yom Kippur
4. Passover
5. Shavuot
6. Sukkot

(Chanukah, Purim, Tisha b'av, Tu b'shvat, etc are not included in the 5 books of Moses)

The first day of every Jewish month is a new moon, and the 14th day is always a full moon

The first month of the Jewish calendar occurs in the spring.

Shavuot starts 50 days after the second day of
Passover.

Rosh Hashanah starts on the first day of the 7th
month (it is known as the birthday of the world, but
Biblically is not considered the first day of the Jewish
year)

Yom Kippur starts on the 10th day of the 7th month

Sukkot starts on the 14th day of the 7th month.

Passover, Shavuot, and Sukkot are the 3 pilgrimage holidays. Prior to the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in the year 70 CE, Jews were expected to make a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem on these 3 holidays.

Each of the pilgrimages have an agricultural and a historical significance:

Passover: time of the first planting, time of freedom from Egypt.

Shavuot: time of the wheat harvest, time for the receiving of the Torah

Sukkot: time of the fall harvest, time of the wandering in the wilderness

There were specific animal and other sacrifices associated with each of the 6 Biblical holidays.

First Aliyah: Shabbat

וַיִּדְבֹר יְהוָה אֶל-מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר

23:1 And God spoke to Moses saying:

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