

**First Things First**  
**Leviticus 23.9-14**  
**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

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**Introduction:**

- Why do we celebrate?
- What do the feasts represent?
- Last week we celebrated Easter; Paul compares the resurrection of Jesus to the festival/feast of first fruits - 1Cor. 15:23-24
- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law (Matt. 5.17); so how does Jesus fulfill the festival of First fruits?

**Main Points:**

1. Jesus is the best
  - As in previous chapters, these verses anticipate life in the Promised Land (v. 10; cf. 14:33-53; 19:23-25).
  - What is more, by giving him the first fruits—considered to be the harvest's best (Num. 18:12)—they declared he was worthy of the best they could give.
  - God gave us his best... John 3.16
  - James 1.17
2. Jesus is the lamb
  - John 1.29; 36 - Jesus is represented in John as the Passover lamb
  - Jesus was handed over to be crucified at the same hour that the Passover lamb was separated for slaughter - John 19.14

- A sponge filled with sour wine was lifted up to Jesus using a hyssop branch; a hyssop branch was used to smear the blood on the doorposts on the night of the 10th plague - John 19.29; Exodus 12.22
- iii. Jesus' bones weren't broken -- John 19.36; Exodus 12.46
- Acts 8.32 quotes Isaiah 53.7
- 1Peter 1.18ff

3. Jesus is the bread

- John 6.35
- Manna? Leviticus 2? Man shall not live on bread alone... Deuteronomy 8.3; Matt. 4.4; Luke 4.4
- Joel 2.19; Matthew 5.6 - those who hunger and thirst for righteousness; the feeding of the 5000; Revelation 7.9-17

4. Jesus' blood is the wine

- Luke 22.20; 1Corinthians 11.25
- There's life in the blood
- Jeremiah 31.31-33

**Conclusion**

- As people participated in the festival they were doing so in light of a future hope.
- This was a complete meal - Jesus is everything we need
- This meal points to the banquet / feast being prepared for us in Heaven
- The implication is that if God has given us his best we are to reciprocate and make sure we always put him first