Reflecting on...
Why I Love the Feast of Sukkot

1. The **Feast of Sukkot** is a time to be **Thankful**.

   It gives us the ***opportunity*** to focus on **God's blessings** and **provisions** for our **basic needs—**the **plants** that give us **produce** of all kinds, the **rain** that **waters** and **refreshes** the earth, the **sunshine** that is **vital** for the **growth** of **all things** We are **thankful** for **God's goodness,** and **His bounty** towards us (The "good earth").

   Sukkot allows us to **pause** from the daily **struggles** of life, to reflect on **God's blessings**, and see the "**glass half-full** instead of **half-empty**". To see, as the **Psalmist** writes, "the "**goodness** of the **Lord** in the **land** of the **living**".

2. The **Feast of Sukkot** is a refreshing ***reminder*** of **God's faithfulness**. year after year, As the **Psalmist** writes, "**Trust** in **the Lord** and do **good**; **dwell** in the land and **feed** on **His faithfulness** (Psalm 37:3)."

   It is **He** that provides **physical food** to sustain us, and "**wine** that **gladdens** the **hearts** of men".

   He has given us **His words** and **promises** that ***nourish*** our **spirit** and **soul** with **life-giving hope** and **eternal truth**.

   He has given us **the Bread** by which a man **may eat** and receive **eternal life, Messiah Yeshua. He** is the "**Water** of **life,**" that we might not **thirst again**, and the "**Light** of **life**."

3. On the **Feast of Sukkot** we build ***temporary*** **sukkahs.** This is both **fun** and **educational**. The **sukkah** is a **reminder,** that for all of the time and investment spent in ***this*** **life**, we too are only **sojourners** dwelling in ***temporary*** **earthly tents** (our **bodies**) in this life.

   However, even as we **sojourn**, we too **celebrate God's daily provision** just as the **Israelites** did as they lived in **temporary "booths**" in the wilderness.

4. The **Feast of Sukkot**, being also the **celebration** of the **"ingathering"** of the ***final*** **crops** of fall, is a ***prophetic*** **picture** of **God's** ***final*** **spiritual harvest** of those who are **saved** during the **last days.**

   Israel's regathering in the land of **promise,** and the **nations** poised *against* her, are **signs** that **confirm** that this ***final*** **harvest** of the **redeemed** of **Israel** may be **very near** (Deuteronomy 30:1-6).

   As we spread the **gospel** to the **Jewish community** in these days, who knows, we might very well be **sowing** the **seed** of **God's word** to ***those*** who might be among the **"harvest"** of the **144, 000** among the **tribes** of **Israel.** The book of **Revelation** predicts that these will be **"sealed"** for **His gospel purposes** before the **coming** of **the Lord** (Revelation 7:4-8).

5. The **Feast of Sukkot** gives us **a little taste** of what it will be like in the **kingdom of God**. In the **kingdom**, **Jews** and **Gentiles, young** and **old** will bask in the **light** of **God's goodness** and **gracious presence**.

   It will be a time of **righteousness, peace, and joy** in the **Spirit (**Rom. 14:17). **Sukkot** gives us a **small glimpse** of the **love** and **joy** that will **characterize** our **future life** and **hope** in the **kingdom**.

   This is the hope that one day soon, a kingdom of **righteousness** and **holiness**, will **prevail** over the ***injustice, evil*** and ***corruption*** of this **present age**.

6. **Sukkot** is **God's way** of letting us know that **eternity** and **heaven** will be places of **joy** and **rejoicing.** The **Psalmist** writes that in **His presence** is "...**fullness** of **joy**, and in **Your right hand** are **pleasures** forever (Psalm 16:11)."

7. **Sukkot** is a **personal reminder God's blessings to me**.

   To be **thankful** for **life itself**—"It is **He** who has **created us**, and **not we ourselves**."

How **thankful** I am to have the **privilege** of **teaching** His **truths**, to experience the **joy** of seeing **His/our children walk** in **truth** (III John 1:4)

Thankful to experience these kinds of "**feasts of love**,
to have this kind of "**family**", uniquely **special** as each of **you are**,
to be able to have the **opportunity** as I do even now, to publicly
thank each of you for all of your **labors of love**, **works of faith**,
and **patience of hope**.
Yep, I do indeed **love Sukkot**.