

**7-19-23 Tabernacle Meetings**  
**PATTERN OF ASSEMBLING OURSELVES TOGETHER**

Intro: We just finished up a one week of meetings. As you know the word church comes from the Greek word Ecclesia.. which means assembly. In essence the most predominant characteristic of the church is that it is a group of people that choose to associate together and assemble to serve and worship Jesus Christ.

Now the Bible says..

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some [is]; but exhorting [one another]: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

There is power in a group of people gathering together and assembling together for a common purpose. People have gathered together for good and some gather together for bad.

***I. THERE ARE THOSE WHO ASSEMBLE THEMSELVES TOGETHER FOR EVIL..***

There is a church of the world. It always seems to be assembling for evil..

The first instance we see of a group of people gathering together for bad is seen in Genesis..

Remember when I went to the Gathard Seminar Basic Youth Conflicts, it drew a crowd of thousands. Thought this was something, left there and there was a football game.. it drew tens of thousands...

***1. THE FIRST INSTANCE OF A LARGE ASSEMBLING TOGETHER FOR WAS EVIL..***

After the Noah's flood, we read this..

Genesis 8:20 And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Genesis 8:21 And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart [is] evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

Genesis 8:22 While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

Notice the command.. be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth..

TO REPLENISH MEANS TO FILL... Over flow, basically the only way to do this was to spread out...

male', maw-lay'; or mala' (Esth. 7:5), maw-law'; a prim. root, to fill or (intrans.) be full of, in a wide application (lit. and fig.):- accomplish, confirm, + consecrate, be at an end, be expired, be fenced, fill, fulfil, (be, become, X draw, give in, go) full (-ly, -lyset, tale), [over-] flow, fulness, furnish, gather (selves, together), presume, replenish, satisfy, set, space, take a [hand-] full, + have wholly.

So the Lord says to spread out.. and in Genesis 11 we read how the people decided to do just the opposite. Instead they wanted to stick together and assemble together.

You will notice the assemblies of this world seem to get together in larger crowds than the children of God.

In Genesis 11 we read of how the world.. Assembled themselves together for evil..

Genesis 11:3 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

Genesis 11:4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top [may reach] unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

Genesis 11:5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

Genesis 11:6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people [is] one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

Genesis 11:7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

Genesis 11:8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

The Lord said, if he had not confounded the languages of the world then the people of this world would have united as one great big Mega church and promoted wickedness..

## **2. THE CHILDREN OF GOD SEEM ANXIOUS OGT ASSEMBLE THEMSELVES FOR WRONG REASONS**

In Exodus 32 the Children of Israel Assembled themselves together for evil..

When Moses went up to the mount to receive the law, the children of Israel assembled themselves together to do evil..

Exodus 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for [as for] this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

Exodus 32:2 And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which [are] in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring [them] unto me.

Exodus 32:3 And all the people brake off the golden earrings which [were] in their ears, and brought [them] unto Aaron.

Exodus 32:4 And he received [them] at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These [be] thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Exodus 32:5 And when Aaron saw [it], he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow [is] a feast to the LORD.

Exodus 32:6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

Exodus 32:7 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted [themselves]:

Exodus 32:8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These [be] thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Exodus 32:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it [is] a stiffnecked people:

Exodus 32:10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.

Exodus 32:11 And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?

Exodus 32:12 Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people.

Exodus 32:13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit [it] for ever.

Exodus 32:14 And the LORD repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

Exodus 32:15 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony [were] in his hand: the tables [were] written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other [were] they written.

Exodus 32:16 And the tables [were] the work of God, and the writing [was] the writing of God, graven upon the tables.

Exodus 32:17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, [There is] a noise of war in the camp.

Exodus 32:18 And he said, [It is] not the voice of [them that] shout for mastery, neither [is it] the voice of [them that] cry for being overcome: [but] the noise of [them that] sing do I hear.

Exodus 32:19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

Exodus 32:20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt [it] in the fire, and ground [it] to powder, and strawed [it] upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink [of it].

Exodus 32:21 And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them?

Exodus 32:22 And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they [are set] on mischief.

Exodus 32:23 For they said unto me, Make us gods, which shall go before us: for [as for] this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

Exodus 32:24 And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break [it] off. So they gave [it] me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.

Exodus 32:25 And when Moses saw that the people [were] naked; (for Aaron had made them naked unto [their] shame among their enemies:)

Exodus 32:26 Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who [is] on the LORD'S side? [let him come] unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.

Exodus 32:27 And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, [and] go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.

Exodus 32:28 And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.

So it is that God's people in their carnal nature seem anxious to assemble themselves together to follow the world. God is not pleased when we do this..

They had the wrong kind of music..

They had sensual activities.. dancing eating drinking.. made themselves naked..

They had the wrong god...

They were out of the will of God..

### **3. Other Examples of wrong assemblies**

The people assembled themselves together in opposition to Christ.. so they do so today..

Acts 4:25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

Acts 4:26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

Acts 4:27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

The largest assembly in the history of the United States was the the 2016 Cubs world series.. The Hindus and Buddhist gatherings far out shine Christian gatherings..

Kumbh Mela or Kumbha Mela (/ˈkʊmb ˈmeɪ/) is a major pilgrimage and festival in Hinduism.[1] It is celebrated in a cycle of approximately 12 years, to celebrate every revolution Brihaspati (Jupiter) completes, at four river-bank pilgrimage sites: Prayagraj (Ganges-Yamuna-Sarasvati rivers confluence), Haridwar (Ganges), Nashik (Godavari), and Ujjain (Shipra).[1][2] The festival is marked by a ritual dip in the waters, but it is also a celebration of community commerce with numerous fairs, education, religious discourses by saints, mass gatherings of monks, and entertainment.[3][4] The seekers believe that bathing in these rivers is a means to prayascitta (atonement, penance) for past mistakes,[5] and that it cleanses them of their sins.[6]

The football games, the baseball games, the rock concerts.. the assemblies of this world.. draw more people than the assembly of Christ's church..

Showing the truth .. that..

Matthew 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Matthew 7:14 Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

## ***II. JESUS WANTS US TO ASSEMBLE TOGETHER IN HIS NAME..***

### ***1. JESUS IS NOT IMPRESSED WITH A CROWD... HE WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO ASSEMBLE***

Matthew 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

A crowd of two or three is a pretty big place in the mind of Christ..

- 2. GOD TOLD MOSES HE WAS WILLING TO DESTROY A MILLION PEOPLE AND START OVER WITH JUST HIM..**

God is not impressed with how many but he is more interested in what Kind..

- 3. GOD CALLED OUT A GROUP OF PEOPLE CALLED ISRAEL TO BE HIS ASSEMBLY ON EARTH..**

The first thing that God did was establish a pattern of assembling for the nation.

All of life is filled with spiritual pictures and patterns..

### **SEVEN FEASTS OF ISRAEL FOLLOW PATTERN OF 7 IN THE BIBLE..**

INTRO: NOTE THE PATTERN OF SEVENS

- 1. THE SEVENTH DAY GOD'S PEOPLE CELEBRATE SABBATH**
- 2. THE SEVENTH MONTH or 7th NEW MOON CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS: IN THIS MONTH THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL CELEBRATED:**

THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS  
THE DAY OF ATONEMENT  
THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

- 3. THE SEVENTH YEAR or Sabbath year**  
This is a time when God commanded that the land would rest.....

- 4. THE YEAR OF JUBILEE The end of 7 x 7 years**

At the end of the seventh Sabbath year there would be a year of release, all slaves were liberated, all debts forgiven, all land returned to divine owners

- 5. THE SEVENTH THOUSANDTH YEAR**

The millennial kingdom... Jews always believed it to be so....

## THE SEVEN FEASTS OF ISRAEL

### 1. THE PASSOVER

14TH DAY OF NISSAN, OR THE FIRST MONTH OF THE ISRAELITE CALENDAR YEAR

### 2. FEAST OF UNLEAVED BREAD

7 days following the Passover, commemorates children of Israel's separation from Egypt!

### 3. FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS

Waving of the first fruits of the harvest

### 4. FEAST OF PENTECOST

Counted 49 days after Passover, the 50th day was Pentecost

### 5. FEAST OF TRUMPETS

Blowing of the trumpet on the New Moon of the seventh month

### 6. DAY OF ATONEMENT

10th day of the seventh month, a day when a sacrificial lamb was offered for the sins of the nation

### 7. FEAST OF TABERNACLES

15th day of the seventh month for 7 days all Israel were to live in booths (temporary dwellings made of branches). This reminded them of their wilderness journeys

This is the only feast that someday God will require of the gentiles in the millennial kingdom

Zechariah 14:16 And it shall come to pass, [that] every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Zechariah 14:17 And it shall be, [that] whoso will not come up of [all] the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

Zechariah 14:18 And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that [have] no [rain]; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Zechariah 14:19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Zechariah 14:20 In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

Zechariah 14:21 Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and see the therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

#### **4. UNDER THE NEW COVENANT GOD HAS CALLED HIS NEW COVENANT PEOPLE**

***"THE ASSEMBLY" OR "THE CHURCH" I assume the most important aspect and attribute of Christ's Church is that we assemble together..***

#### **1. THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE ASSEMBLY IS THAT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING..**

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added [unto them] about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

Acts 2:44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

Acts 2:45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all [men], as every man had need.

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Notice the activities of this NT Assembly

They baptized believers

They associated together.. unto them were added..

They continued in in teaching and doctrine..

They continued having fellowship..

They continued in celebrating the Lord's table.. and eating together..

They continued in times of praying together..

They gave financially to this group.. they had all things in common..



## **2. AT FIRST THE EARLY CHURCH DISCIPLES WERE JEWS AND THEY KEPT THE JEWISH FEASTS..**

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, [being] the ninth [hour].

### ***Paul took a vow and worshipped in the temple***

Acts 20:16 For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.

Acts 21:22 What is it therefore? the multitude must needs come together: for they will hear that thou art come.

Acts 21:23 Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them;

Acts 21:24 Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave [their] heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but [that] thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law.

Acts 21:25 As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written [and] concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from [things] offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.

Acts 21:26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that an offering should be offered for every one of them.

Acts 21:27 And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him,

Acts 21:28 Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all [men] every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.

## **3. HOW OFTEN DID THE EARLY CHURCH ASSEMBLE**

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Acts 2:47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, [being] the ninth [hour].

Their main day to celebrate communion was on the first day of the week

Acts 20:7 And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

I Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first [day] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [God] hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Paul was clear that the church should assemble when it was convenient for them to do so..

Romans 14:4 Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day [alike]. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

Romans 14:6 He that regardeth the day, regardeth [it] unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard [it]. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.

Romans 14:7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

Romans 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

#### ***4. I BELIEVE THAT THE CHURCH SHOULD ASSEMBLE WHEN THE LEADERSHIP DETERMINES IT SHOULD ASSEMBLE***

We should keep the pattern of the bible...

Israel Assembled each week

The Early Church assembled every day..

Israel had three mandatory feasts where all the men where commanded to attend.. two of those feasts they assembled a whole week

So I think we follow this pattern pretty closely..

Yearly we have a calendar meeting to determine when we assemble..

Weekly we meet..

Bi-weekly we meet..

We have a one week meeting Tabernacle meeting..

We have a partial week of Missions conference..

We have special meetings.. through the year..