

# Leviticus 23:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them,  
Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to  
be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

## Analysis

**Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.**

This verse falls within the section on **Appointed Feasts**. God's sacred calendar including Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, marking redemption and agricultural blessings.

The central theme of Leviticus is God's holiness and the call for His people to be holy. The Hebrew word qadosh (קָדוֹשׁ) means 'set apart' or 'sacred,' emphasizing both separation from sin and consecration to God's purposes.

The New Testament reveals that Christ's sacrifice accomplishes what the Levitical system could only symbolize—complete forgiveness and restoration of relationship with God.

## Historical Context

God's sacred calendar including Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, marking redemption and agricultural blessings. Chapters 17-27, often called the 'Holiness Code,' expand covenant obligations beyond ritual to encompass all of life—sexuality, economics, justice, and relationships. The repeated refrain 'I am the LORD' grounds these laws in God's character and covenant relationship with

Israel. Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple. Ancient texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's holiness, as revealed in this verse, shape your understanding of worship, obedience, and daily living?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

## Interlinear Text

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אָלָּה מִצְמְרָתָּה אָלָּה דָּבָר  
Speak unto the children of Israel and say

Speak

H413

unto the children

H1696

אָלָּה מִצְמְרָתָּה אָלָּה דָּבָר  
and say

H413

H559

אֲשֶׁר יְהִי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ תְּקַרְאָ אֶת־  
even these are my feasts of the LORD which ye shall proclaim

even these are my feasts

H4150

אֲשֶׁר יְהִי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ תְּקַרְאָ אֶת־  
of the LORD which ye shall proclaim

H3068

which ye shall proclaim

H853

H7121

מִזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר יְהִי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ תְּקַרְאָ אֶת־  
convocations to be holy even these are my feasts

convocations

H4744

to be holy

H6944

אֲשֶׁר יְהִי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ תְּקַרְאָ אֶת־  
H428

H1992

מִזְבֵּחַ

H4150

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 23:37** (Holy): These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day:

**Leviticus 23:4** (Holy): These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

**Psalms 81:3** (Parallel theme): Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

**Joel 2:15** (Parallel theme): Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

**Hosea 2:11** (Parallel theme): I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

**Numbers 10:10** (References Lord): Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the LORD your God.

**Numbers 29:39** (References Lord): These things ye shall do unto the LORD in your set feasts, beside your vows, and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your meat offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings.

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