

# Leviticus 23:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.

## Analysis

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**And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.**

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

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

## Historical Context

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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. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
2. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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וּלְקַחְתֶּם יָמִים: לָכֵן הָרִאשׁוֹן פְּרִי עֵץ הָדָר  
And ye shall take <sup>H0</sup> day <sup>H3117</sup> you on the first <sup>H7223</sup> the boughs <sup>H6529</sup> trees <sup>H6086</sup> of goodly <sup>H1926</sup>

וְעֵרְבֵי עֵבֹת עֵץ וְתִמְרֵי יָם כַּפֹּת  
branches <sup>H3709</sup> of palm <sup>H8558</sup> trees and the boughs <sup>H6057</sup> trees <sup>H6086</sup> of thick <sup>H5687</sup> and willows <sup>H6155</sup>

שִׁבְעַת אֱלֹהֵיכֶם יְהוָה לִפְנֵי וּשְׂמַחְתֶּם בְּנֵי הַלָּבֶל  
of the brook <sup>H5158</sup> and ye shall rejoice <sup>H8055</sup> before <sup>H6440</sup> the LORD <sup>H3068</sup> your God <sup>H430</sup> seven <sup>H7651</sup>

יָמִים:  
day  
<sup>H3117</sup>

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 7:9** (Parallel theme): After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

**Philippians 4:4** (References Lord): Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

**Isaiah 35:10** (References Lord): And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Romans 5:11** (References God): And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

**John 16:22** (Parallel theme): And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

**John 12:13** (References Lord): Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.

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