

Shadows of Things to Come: Gods Appointed Feasts

Scene 1:

Setting: Egypt, night of 10th plague and Passover.

Props: small table, costumes for Jewish women, "dough", matza, celery, bowls, plate

(Music cued, women walk up and begin lines. They take their places around a small table kneading dough and preparing bitter herbs.)

1st Woman: What a year it's been for Pharaoh and the Egyptians!

2nd Woman: All those horrible plagues God sent by the hand of Moses!

3rd Woman: The Nile waters turned to blood, the frogs everywhere!

1st Woman: And the gnats and flies, their dead horses and camels!

2nd Woman: And still Pharaoh would not let us go to serve our God!

3rd Woman: Then there were the boils and sores, and the great hail storm!

1st Woman: And those horrible locusts, eating everything that was left and filling their houses!

2nd Woman: And still Pharaoh would not let us go to serve our God!

3rd Woman: Then the three days of complete darkness! Only we, the children of Israel, had light in our homes!

1st Woman: And now, this last plague to come, is the most horrible! All the first-born in the land are to be struck down!

2nd Woman: But we don't need to be afraid. God will spare us because we have obeyed His command! The men have slain the Passover lamb and spread its blood on the doorposts and lintel.

3rd Woman: The sign for God to pass over our homes and not destroy us!

(Women get up as next line is said)

1st Woman: And now, we must hurry and prepare this unleavened bread and bitter herbs! God has told us to eat the Passover meal in haste with our sandals on.

2nd Woman: This will be a night to remember for all of Israel!

(Women exit off stage to their chairs)

Scene 2:

Setting: Wilderness at foot of Mt. Sinai, after Children of Israel have left Egypt.

Props: costumes for Jewish people, "Mt. Sinai", cloud over mt. with thunder and lightning

(Narrator **Aaron** at stage right with scroll (Torah). Moses waits in front row to come on stage. People of Israel sitting throughout audience on sides of auditorium wearing robes.)

Aaron: Ah, I remember that night well. It is all written here in the Torah. Slaughtering the unblemished Passover lamb... spreading the lamb's blood on the doorway... eating the roasted lamb and unleavened bread while holding my staff...

And oh! The cries of the Egyptians as the Lord struck down their first-born...
But the Lord God passed over our homes and spared our lives.

Pharaoh called for Moses and I that night, and finally consented in letting us leave Egypt. So, early the next morning, God led His people up out of Egypt... away from our bondage... and we did not flee as fugitives, but in an organized fashion. We ate the unleavened bread that did not have time to rise. And The Angel of the Lord was with us. He went before us as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to give us light. And so we traveled day and night.

On the third day we came to the Red Sea. The people looked back and saw that Pharaoh and his army were marching after us. They became very frightened. But Moses told them, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord!"

Then the pillar of cloud moved from before us and stood behind us - between the children of Israel and the Egyptians. And as Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, the Lord swept it back by a strong east wind all night. Early the next morning we passed through the sea on dry land.

But Pharaoh and his pursuing army were swallowed up in the waters as the Lord returned the sea to normal. The people saw the great power of their God and believed in the Lord and His servant Moses.

(Moses comes up on the stage and faces the audience.)

Moses: Children of Israel, see the mighty hand of your God. Let us all stand and sing a song of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord our God.

(Song: "I Will Sing Unto the Lord A New Song". Narrator tells audience to sit.)

Moses: Children of Israel, let us follow where The Angel of God will lead us.
(Moses walks out and comes back up around side.)

Aaron: Moses led Israel from the Red Sea to the wilderness. God provided for the grumbling people sweet water when they were thirsty. He provided bread, called manna, in the morning and quail in the evening. God set up the Sabbath as a day of rest, just as He had rested on the seventh day of creation.

In the third month after leaving Egypt, Israel camped in front of Mt. Sinai. There Moses heard God call him up the mountain.

(Music cued, Moses comes up on the stage, looks up at Mt. Sinai, lighting & thunder, smoke, he walks up.)

God's Voice: Moses, say to the children of Israel, if they will obey My voice and keep My covenant, they shall be a peculiar treasure to Me above all people. They shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.

(Moses comes down from mt, speaks to audience.)

Moses: Children of Israel, will you obey the voice of the Almighty God, and keep His covenant; so He may call you His holy nation?

(People stand up and shout, some start heading for stage)

People: All the Lord has spoken, we will do!

Aaron: On the third day, at morning, there was a loud trumpet blast. Moses brought all the people to the foot of Mt. Sinai to meet God.

(Music cued, thunder and lightning, smoke, loud trumpet blast. People act afraid. Louder trumpet blasts.)

Moses: Your people are here, Lord.

God's Voice: Moses, come to the mountain. Warn the people not to touch the mountain.

Moses: (to people) Beware that you do not go up on the mountain, or you shall be put to death.

(More thunder and lightning, smoke. Moses goes to bottom of mt.)

God's Voice: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt and slavery.
You shall have no other gods before Me.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not make idols to worship.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
(Thunder and lightning.)

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
(Thunder and lightning.)

Honor your father and your mother.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not murder.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not commit adultery.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not steal.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
(Thunder and lightning.)

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
I am the Lord your God!
(Thunder and lightning.)

People: (Looking afraid) Moses, if you speak to us, we will listen! But, don't let God speak to us, or we shall surely die!

Moses: Don't be afraid; God has come to test you. The fear of Him will remind you to not sin.

(Moses walks up mountain. More thunder and lightning, smoke. People sit down on stage.)

God's Voice: These are My appointed times... In the first month, on the 14th day at twilight is the Lord's Passover. Keep it as I have told you. On the 15th day, is the Feast of Unleavened Bread. On the day after the sabbath, the priest shall wave the sheaf of the First Fruits of your harvest. You shall count seven complete sabbaths from this day, and on the next day, you shall bring in two loaves of bread, baked with leaven for a wave offering. This is the Feast of Weeks.

In the seventh month on the first, you shall rest, a reminder by blowing of Trumpets. On the 10th of this month, is the Day of Atonement. It is to be a sabbath of complete rest to you, and you shall humble your souls. On the 15th of this month is the Feast of Tabernacles. You shall live in booths for seven days as a reminder that I had you live in booths when I brought you out of Egypt.

I am the Lord your God!

(Thunder and lightning.)

Aaron: Moses was up on the mountain with God for 40 days and nights. During that time, the people sinned greatly by making a golden calf and calling it their god. I helped them make it and worship it. It was a horrible sin against the One True God. Moses broke the two tablets of stone, written on by God's finger. God punished our sin and Moses went back up the mountain for another 40 days and nights. God wrote His law on two new tablets of stone.

(Moses, with white beard on, comes back down mt. with the two tablets of stone, people stand up)

Moses: Children of Israel, the Lord God has renewed His covenant with us. He has given me explicit instructions on building His tabernacle and all that goes in it. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him contribute.

People: I will help spin cloth... I will give my gold bracelets... I will help build with wood.

Moses: Every person in whom the Lord has put skill and knowledge in the construction of the tabernacle, shall build it as the Lord has commanded.

Aaron: The people gave willingly and worked skillfully to finish the tabernacle of the Lord and all its furnishings. It was completed the 1st day of the 1st month in the 2nd year

Moses: When the cloud covers the tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord fills it, we are not to journey. But when the cloud goes up, we will set out where the Lord will lead us.

Aaron: And so, the children of Israel stayed in the wilderness for 40 years. There, God instructed them in all His commandments and ordinances. And God's great mercy and lovingkindness was shown to His people even when time after time they rebelled against Him.

Moses was the only one allowed to meet with God and he received God's words and told them to the people. Because the people told Moses at the foot of Mt. Sinai, that they were afraid to hear the voice of the Lord, God prophesied through Moses – "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your countrymen, you shall listen to Him."

This was a prophesy of the Messiah, and throughout the generations, the children of God waited for His arrival.

(Light goes dim, kids rearrange themselves, light up.)

Scene 3:

Setting: Early church.

Props: Items that go with each Feast day- lamb, matza, sheaf, 2 loaves, shofar, curtain, tent

(Small children, lamps, wait to come up. Teens line up in order of Feasts, collect props.)

NT Saint: The Messiah has been revealed to us, Jesus, the Son of God! Now it is clear that He is the one Moses spoke of... "the Lord will raise up a prophet like me"...

In Hebrews, the scripture says "Now Moses was faithful... as a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later... for Jesus... has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses."

The Feast Days of the Lord were a shadow of what was to come. The lampstand, or menorah, that was in the tabernacle is a pattern of these feasts.

(1st child comes up. Says, "I am the 1st lamp.")

Passover: The Feast of Passover. (Hold up lamb.)
Jesus is our sinless Passover Lamb.

(2nd child comes up. Says, "I am the 2nd lamp." Teen holds up matza.)

Unleavened Bread: The Feast of Unleavened Bread. (Hold up matza.)
Leaven is a symbol of sin. Jesus broke the UNleavened bread of the Passover meal and said, "Take, eat, this is my body."

Unleavened bread is striped and pierced. Isaiah said the Messiah would be pierced for our sins and by His stripes we would be healed.

(3rd child comes up. Says, "I am the 3rd lamp.")

First Fruits: The Feast of First Fruits. (Wave barley slowly)
A sheaf of barley was waved as an offering of thanks to God for the first of the fruits of their harvest.

Jesus rose from the dead on the Feast of First Fruits. He said, "I AM the resurrection and the life; he that believes in Me will live." Jesus is the firstfruit of the resurrected.

(4th child comes up. Says, "I am the 4th lamp, the servant lamp.")

Weeks: The Feast of Weeks.
Two loaves of leavened bread were brought for a wave offering.

(Show 1st loaf) The one loaf represents the wife of Jehovah – when the children of Israel said, "We will" in answer to God at Mt. Sinai.

(Show 2nd loaf) The other loaf represents the bride of Christ – the church was begun when the Holy Spirit came down from heaven to dwell in Christ's followers on the Feast of Weeks.

We are in sin now, but Jesus Christ, the servant lamp, makes atonement for us.

(5th child comes up. Says, "I am the 5th lamp.")

Trumpets: The Feast of Trumpets. (Show shofar)
This day was remembered with a blast of trumpets. (BLOW!)

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound (BLOW) and the dead will be raised... and we will be changed... the law was given through Moses; but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ, who IS the resurrection and the life."

(6th child comes up. Says, "I am the 6th lamp.")

Atonement: The Day of Atonement. (Show curtain)
This was the only day the High Priest could go behind the curtain into the Holy of Holies where God was, with a blood sacrifice for the sins of the nation of Israel.

On the day Jesus was crucified, there was a great earthquake and darkness at midday. The Holy of Holies' curtain was torn in two from top to bottom.

"We now have confidence to enter the Most Holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body. "

(7th child comes up. Says, "I am the 7th lamp.")

Tabernacles: The Feast of Tabernacles. (Show tent)

After the last harvest, the people went to Jerusalem to praise and thank the Lord.

We lived in booths or tents for a week, to remember when Israel stayed in tents in the wilderness and how God was with them in the Tabernacle.

Now, God the Spirit lives in us. At the end of the tribulation, Jesus will live as King on earth for 1,000 years.

NT Saint: In Hebrews, it says... "Do not harden your hearts, as when they provoked Me in the wilderness... they saw My works for forty years and they did not know My ways."

"We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God... let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All Bow Down

- VERSE 1 You're arriving with the sound of thunder and rain
 You're arriving in the calm of the wind and the waves
 You're arriving in the glow of a burning flame – A burning flame
- VERSE 2 Praise awaits You at the dawn when the world comes alive
 Praise awaits You in the darkness and shines in the light
 Praise awaits You with a song of love and desire – love and desire
- CHORUS Here comes the King - All bow down
 Lift up your voices unto the Lamb
 He is the King - All bow down - All bow down
- VERSE 3 You are coming again like a thief in the night
 You are coming again with a shout from the sky
 You are coming again to take away Your Bride – to take away Your bride
- CHORUS Here comes the King - All bow down
 Lift up your voices unto the Lamb
 He is the King - All bow down - All bow down
- ENDING Je - sus, You are the King — Je - sus, You are the King
 You are the King - All bow down
 We lift up our voices unto the Lamb
 You are the King - All bow down – All bow down
- You are the King - All bow down
 We lift up our voices unto the Lamb
 You are the King - All bow down – YOU ARE THE KING!