

Festival Report from Omak

“Dancing Feet”

God’s people exploded with a surge of joy this year, at the Feast of Tabernacles, in Omak, Washington, as the spiritual lessons of the Feast seemed to really “hit home.”

There was more joy, more enthusiasm, more excitement, more love and empathy, as God’s people celebrated God’s Festival, “The Feast,” with resounding joy, spontaneously “dancing before the Lord,” and “dancing feet,” with singing, marching around the sukkahs in the Dankenbring’s back yard, waving the lulavs – the “four species” of Israel, composed of an etrog (citron), young palm branch, 3 myrtle branches, and 2 willows, and blowing the vibrant sounds of the shofarim, and even a bugle!

It was no doubt a spiritual “breakthrough.” God’s people that I have known tend to be somewhat conservative, avoid much display of emotions, hold back, and not prone to much demonstration of emotions or feelings.

This year, however, was exuberantly different! a barrier was passed – leaped over, as it were, as we jumped up and down, twirled, hopped, and formed a circle chain to do the Jewish “hora,” and danced till our feet would hardly move – dancing, and praising God, as Messiah-glorifying music boomed out of our “boom box” on the patio.

When God delivered Israel at the Red Sea, in a glorious display of His power and divine intervention, “Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and dances” (Exo.15:20).

When David the king of Israel brought the Ark of God up to Jerusalem, David was “leaping and dancing before the Lord” (II Sam.6:16). He was showing his great JOY in God’s blessings by dancing and leaping before the Ark of God!

In fact, God commands His people – you and me and ALL His people – “Let Israel rejoice in Him that made him: Let the children of Zion be JOYFUL in their King. Let them PRAISE HIS NAME *IN THE DANCE*: Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp” (Psalm 149:2-3).

God says, “Praise ye the LORD [Yahveh] . . . Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet [shofar]: praise Him with the psaltery and harp. PRAISE HIM WITH THE TIMBREL *AND DANCE*: Praise Him with the stringed instruments and organs. Praise Him with the loud cymbals: praise Him with the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath, praise the LORD [Yahveh]. PRAISE YE THE LORD!” (Psalm 150). The following pictures will give you a snapshot, a glimpse, of the radiant JOY we had as we celebrated God’s Feast of Tabernacles in Omak, Washington, this year!

Rejoicing at the Feast Omak, 2007



Handstands and Shofar Blowing





“Praise You the Lord . . .



... in the Dance!”



William F. Dankenbring expounds God's Message



"I'm *REALLY* going to Rejoice!"

Sitting in the Sukkah and



Waving the Lulav



Feast of Tabernacles 2007

“And the joy of the Lord shall be your strength.”

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