



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA**

**MISSION AND EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT**

**GREEN HARVESTSUNDAY SERMON OUTLINE**

**27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022.**

**2022 THEME: ALL ONE IN CHRIST-JOHN 17:21**

**SUB-THEME. THE LAND IS FOR HARVEST**

**TEXT: LEVITICUS 23:9-14 AND PROVERBS 3:9-10**

**INTRODUCTION.**

In the Old Testament, the feast of Pentecost is called the feast of Harvest, the Feast of the first fruit of your labour, sworn in the field” Exodus 23:16. Lev: 23:10-14.

This harvest culminated into a grain harvest that began with the “Feast of first fruits” which we know as the day of the wave sheaf. As the first fruits of the barley harvest were offered before the Lord. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ fulfilled the wave sheaf offering, being the first of the first fruits of God’s spiritual harvest, which ultimately includes those He calls into his Church (1Cor 15:23).

Therefore, green harvest is the time when the first fruits are to be tasted by the farmer. But before the farmers can go on and have it tasted or eaten, they first had to take it to the temple for the Priest to offer it to the Lord as a sacrifice.

Bible Explanation: Leviticus 23:9-14.

The scripture brings to light the instructions which the Lord God gave to Moses the leader of the Hebrew Nation regarding the land and the harvest.

The Lord instructs the children of Israel to bring the first fruits from the land to the Lord through Moses. From the scripture it is evident that the Priest is the one to offer it at the altar on behalf of every one.

The text further describes the type and quality of offering to be offered to the Lord. The first lamb without blemish (clean). This implies that our first fruit (green harvest) must be clean.

The children of Israel were further forbidden not to eat until they had offered it to the Lord. And this ordinance was to stand in all generations. Perhaps this is why we are part and parcel of this celebration today.

## **APPLICATION**

### **POINTS FOR REFLECTION**

1. **Remember the Lord your God in your Harvest (The first fruit is for God).**

The scripture tells that we are to take to the Lord our first fruits. However, most people and even Christians forget that what we have is from the land and that this land is from God in which He has deposited natural resources and causes our crops to grow and was freely given to us by our Lord.

It is for this reason that we are to remember, the Lord in our harvest. Majority of Christian think that we only give harvest because they planted different seeds crops; however, it's not just about crops but any harvest from the land that the Lord gives to us. It could be that you've got the land and you have put a structure that is producing something for your living or someone is renting that apartment. Remember that the buildings you have are not suspended in the air but on the land. Anything that we get from the land must first and foremost be a harvest to the Lord.

2. **The Quality of your first fruit.**

What type of first fruits do we offer to God? Is it something that we value most at the beginning? Is it that big matured maize cob or is it those small less valued maize cobs, or is it those smaller apartment rentals or salaries that we offer to the God? It's up to us to think. But the text describes the kind of the first fruit that we need to offer to the Lord our God.

Check the quality of your first fruit, is it blemish or clean, is it an offering that can produce a sweet smell to God. Let's offer our first fruits that can produce a sweet aroma to the Lord our God. Let our offering be blemish free to the Lord our God.

Don't just give anything to God as the first fruit but check it first, if it is fit to be offered to the Lord our God. Our first fruit in this green harvest must be an offering that will be a sweet smell and acceptable to the Lord our God.

## **CONCLUSION**

Finally brethren, let's know that our Lord and savior Jesus Christ was offered as the first of the first fruits of God's spiritual harvest. Jesus Christ being a blameless man was fit to be the land an offering to the Lord. (1Cor 15:23). Before we can taste of our harvest, let God be the one first to taste it and bless the rest of our harvest  
God bless you all.

Amen!

**THE MISSION AND EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO  
THANK REV. MILLAN MUSUNGA- MINISTER IN CHARGE OF ST PAUL'S  
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2022 GREEN HARVEST SUNDAY  
SERMON OUTLINE.**