

Sukkot

- Shalosh Regalim
- Passover, Shavuot, Sukkot
- 3 mythic events
- 3 agricultural festivals
- Important communal gatherings

3 Pilgrimage Festivals

- Passover: FREEDOM
- Shavuot: WISDOM
- Sukkot: GRATITUDE

Modern Day Meanings

- *You shall dwell in Sukkot seven days, every citizen in Israel shall dwell in Sukkot, so that your descendants shall know that in sukkot I caused the Children of Israel to dwell when I brought them out of the land of Egypt.*
-- Leviticus, 23:42, 43

Sukkot in the Torah

- The term *sukkot* refers to the Clouds of Glory that encompassed the Jewish people and provided them with shade so that they would not be smitten by scorching heat and sun.
- In emulation of this, God commanded us to make *sukkot* that are made for shade so that we will recall God's wondrous and awesome deeds.

Sukkot and the Rabbis

EXAMPLES OF RABBINIC LAWS RELATED TO THE SUKKAH

- A *sukkah* must be under the open sky, as were the Clouds of Glory.
- A *sukkah* must have at least two and a half walls covered with a material that will not blow away in the wind.
- The "walls" of the *sukkah* do not have to be solid; canvas covering tied or nailed down is acceptable and quite common in the United States.
- A *sukkah* may be any size, so long as it is large enough for you to fulfill the commandment of dwelling in it. The roof of the *sukkah* must be made of material referred to as *sekhakh* (literally, covering).
- *Sekhakh* must be something that grew from the ground and was cut off, such as tree branches, corn stalks, bamboo reeds, sticks, or two-by-fours. *Sekhakh* must be left loose, not tied together or tied down.
- *Sekhakh* must be placed sparsely enough that rain can get in, and preferably sparsely enough that the stars can be seen, but not so sparsely that more than ten inches is open at any point or that there is more light than shade.

- There are 5 Megillot/Scrolls in the Tanakh. Each is assigned to a holiday:
- Song of Songs: Passover
- Ruth: Shavuot
- Ecclesiastes: Sukkot
- Lamentations: Tisha B'Av
- Esther: Purim

Holidays and Megillot



Modern Day Sukkot



New York City Sukkah Competition







