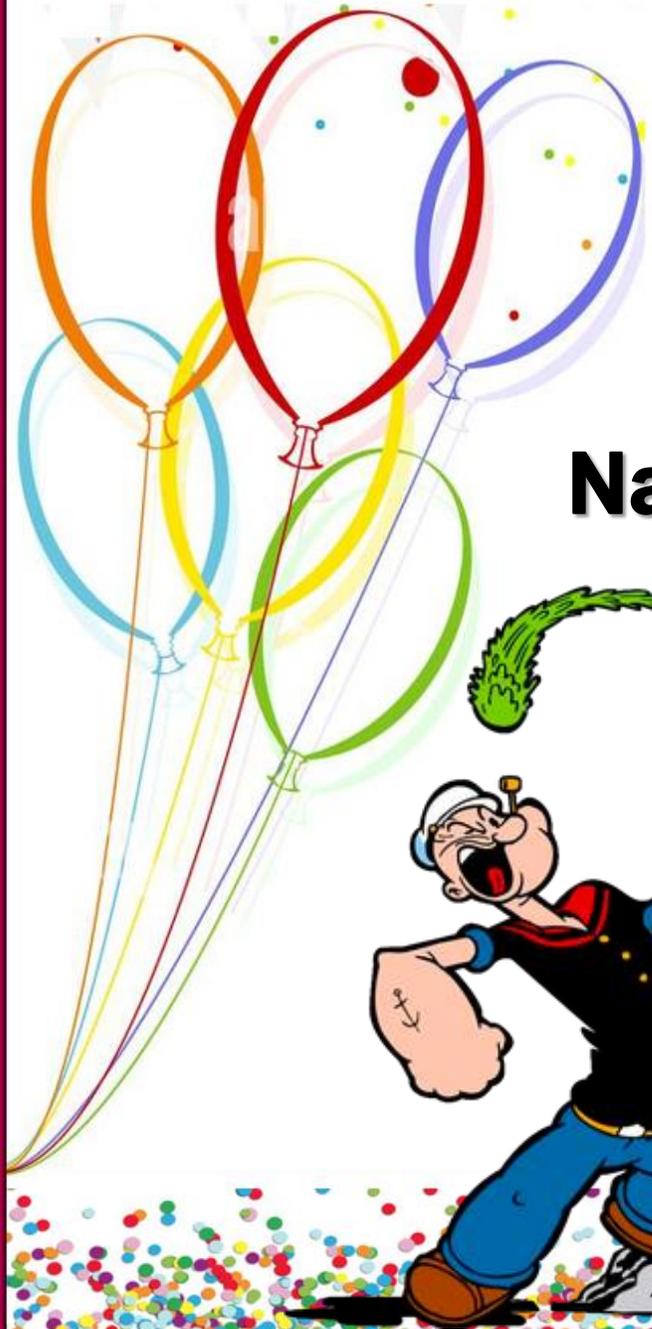


TODAY IS...

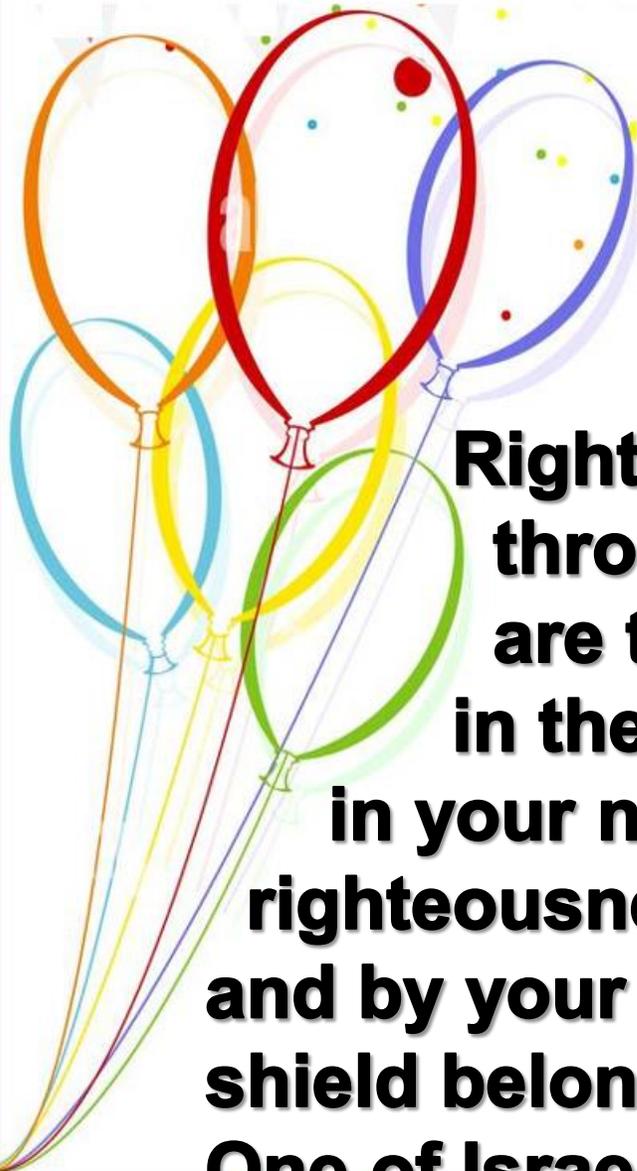
Epilepsy Awareness Day

National Nougat Day

National Spinach Day



Celebrate



CELEBRATE GOD

Psalm 89:14-18

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD. They rejoice in your name all day long; they celebrate your righteousness. For you are their glory and strength, and by your favor you exalt our horn. Indeed, our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel.



Celebrate



Celebrate



Hello Spring

For most this is time of year you begin to plant

The key to successful spring planting is knowing when and how to sow your crops



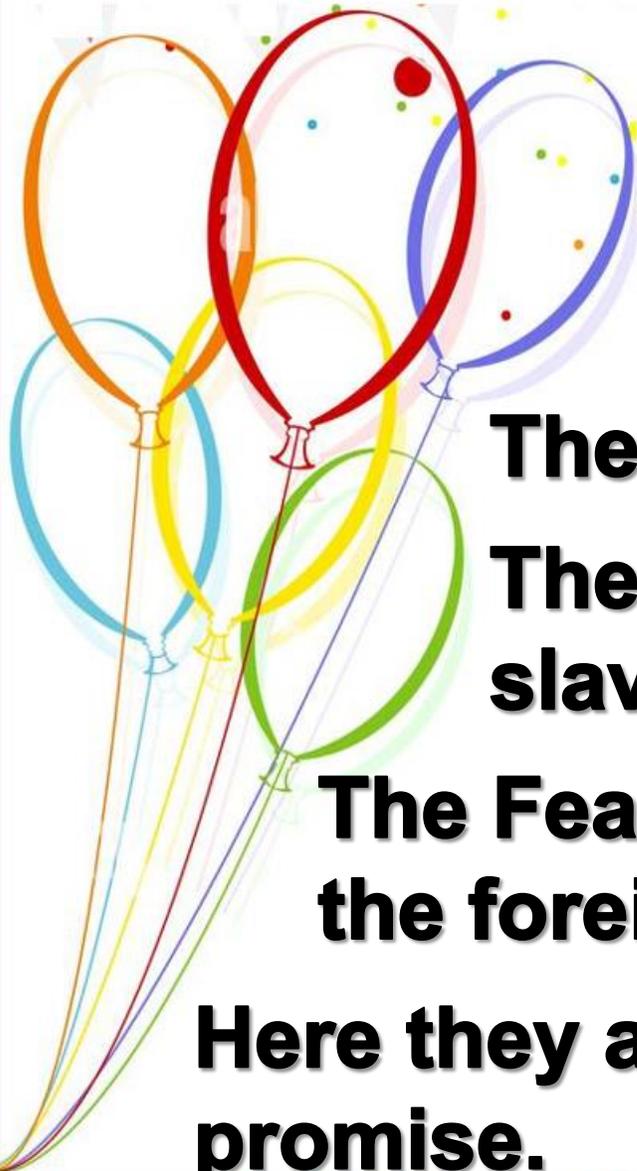
Celebrate



THE FESTIVAL OF FIRSTFRUITS



Celebrate



FIRSTFRUITS

What are the Celebrating?

The Eventual Entrance of the Promise Land

The Passover Celebrated the deliverance from slavery

The Feast of Unleavened Bread their Exodus from the foreign land

Here they are commemorating the fulfillment of God's promise.



Celebrate



IN NOT OF

Jesus' Death on the Cross provided our deliverance (Our Passover lamb)

Our willingness to move away from our sin through him allows us to exit the foreign land

We look forward to the day when we arrive in the presence of our risen savior



Celebrate

FIRSTFRUITS

When is it Celebrated?

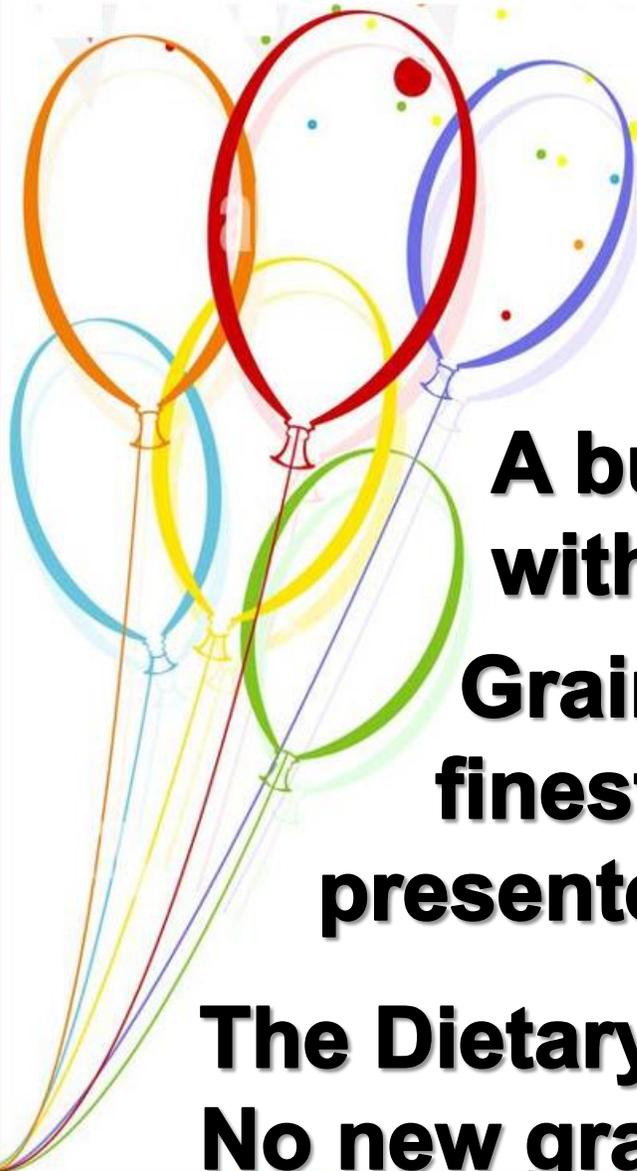
It is celebrated the day Sunday after Passover

**It would be the near the beginning of the
Festival of Unleavened Bread**

**In case you are interested; it would
be the same day Jesus rose**



Celebrate



FIRSTFRUITS

How is it Celebrated? Sacrifice

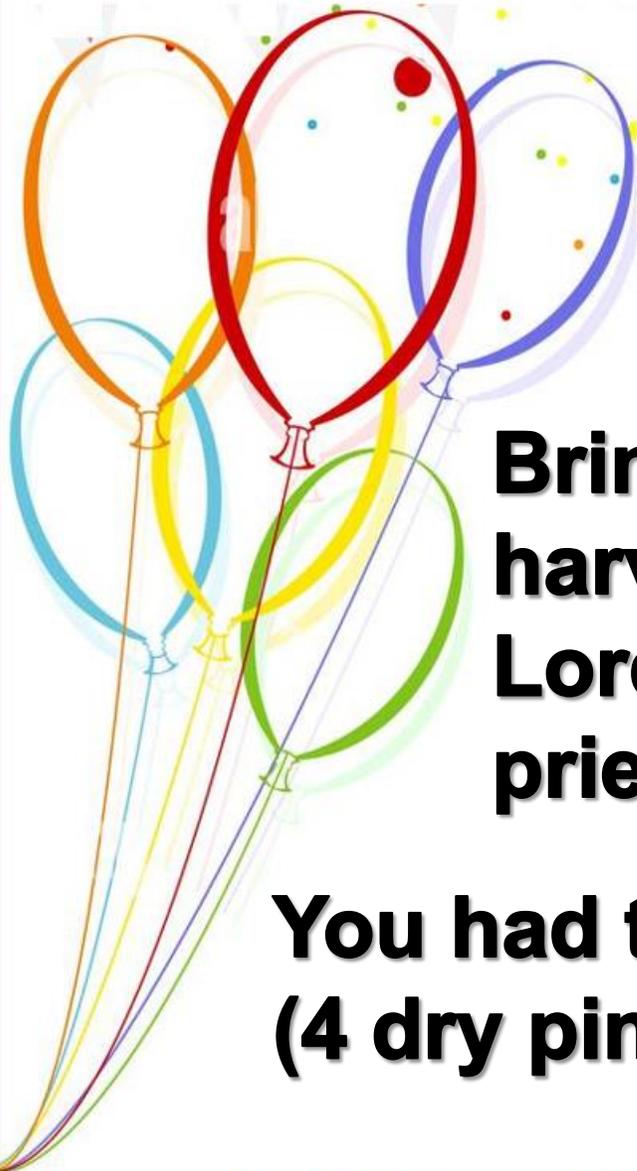
A burnt offering to the Lord a lamb a year old without defect

Grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of the finest flour mixed with olive oil—a food offering presented to the Lord

**The Dietary Restrictions: No bread, No roasted grain
No new grain**



Celebrate



FIRSTFRUITS

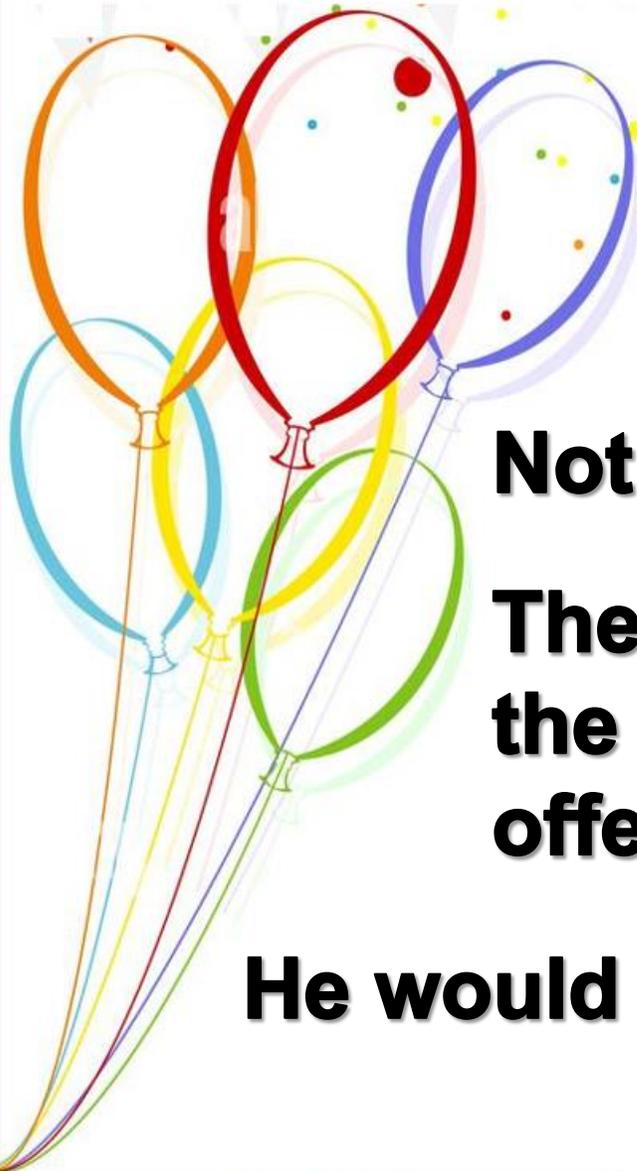
The Unique Ceremony

Bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest. He is to wave the sheaf before the Lord so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the day after the Sabbath

**You had to bring a sheaf of Grain to the priest
(4 dry pints)**



Celebrate



FIRSTFRUITS

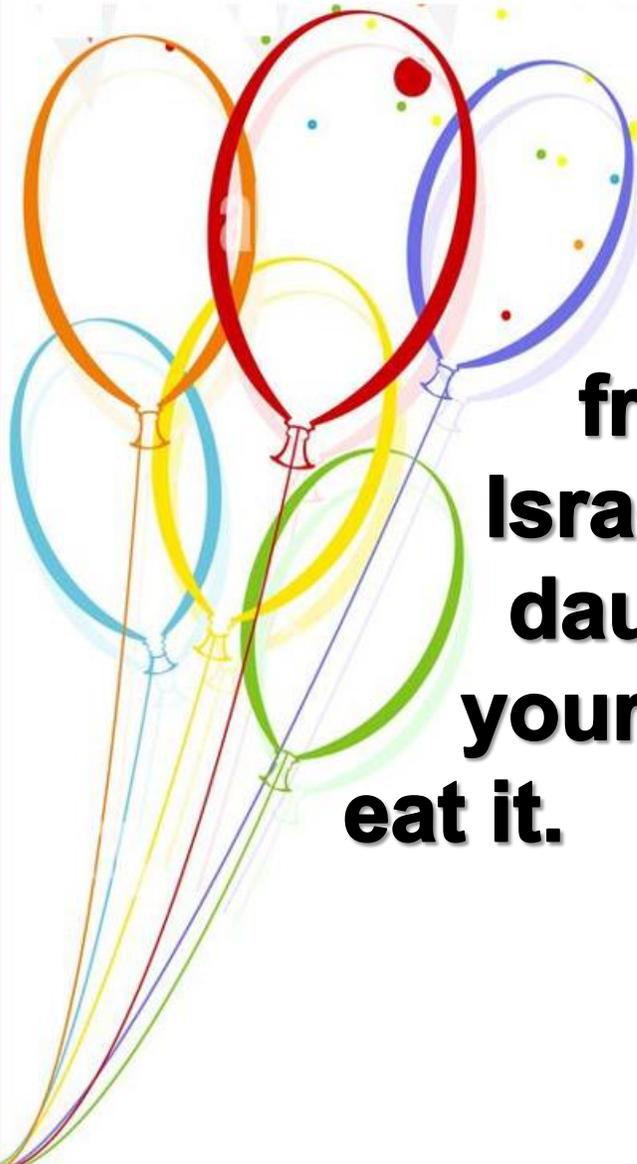
The Unique Ceremony

Not just any grain, but the first grain you took

The Priest would take the grain hold in high in the air so everybody could see what you were offering

He would then wave it back and forth



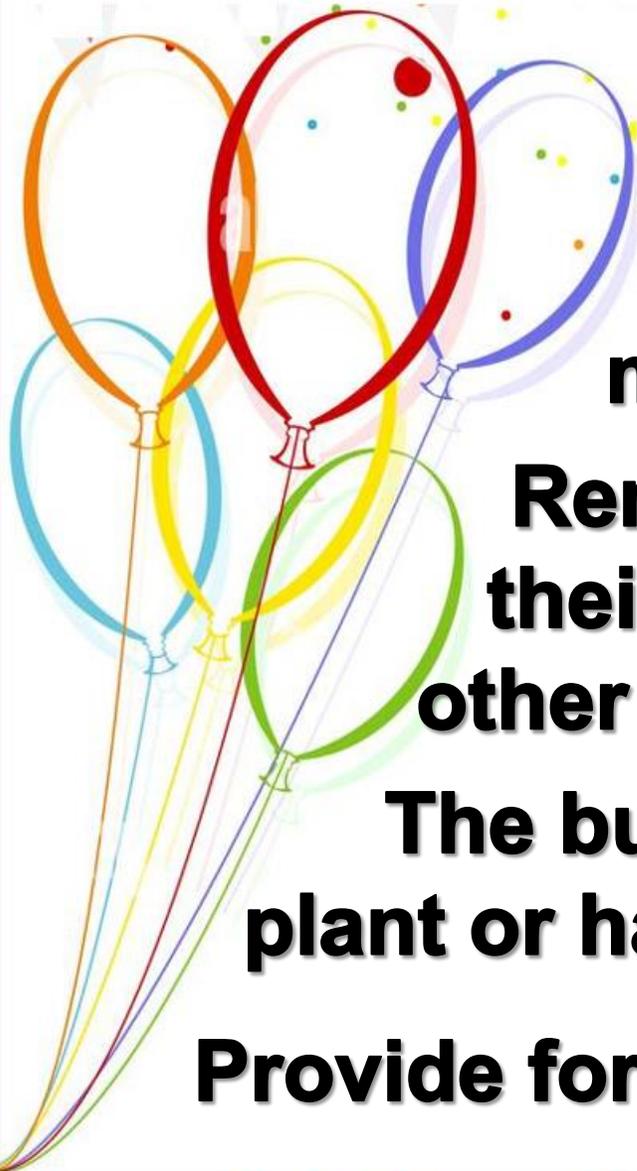
A cluster of colorful balloons in shades of orange, red, blue, yellow, and green, with thin black outlines. The balloons are tied together and float upwards. The background is white with scattered colorful confetti dots.

PRACTICAL PROVISION

“This also is yours: whatever is set aside from the gifts of all the wave offerings of the Israelites. I give this to you and your sons and daughters as your perpetual share. Everyone in your household who is ceremonially clean may eat it.

Numbers 18:11

Celebrate



PRACTICAL PROVISION

This is not the only "wave" offering mentioned

Remember the Levites received no "land" for their tribe instead they got cities amongst the other tribes

The busy priest would have no time to plant or harvest for his family

Provide for the Priesthood.



Celebrate





SPIRITUAL PURPOSE

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9-10

The command was to bring the first sheaf

Acknowledging God as the source of your harvest

Seeking his blessing on your life



Celebrate



PERFECT PICTURE

He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created.

James 1:18

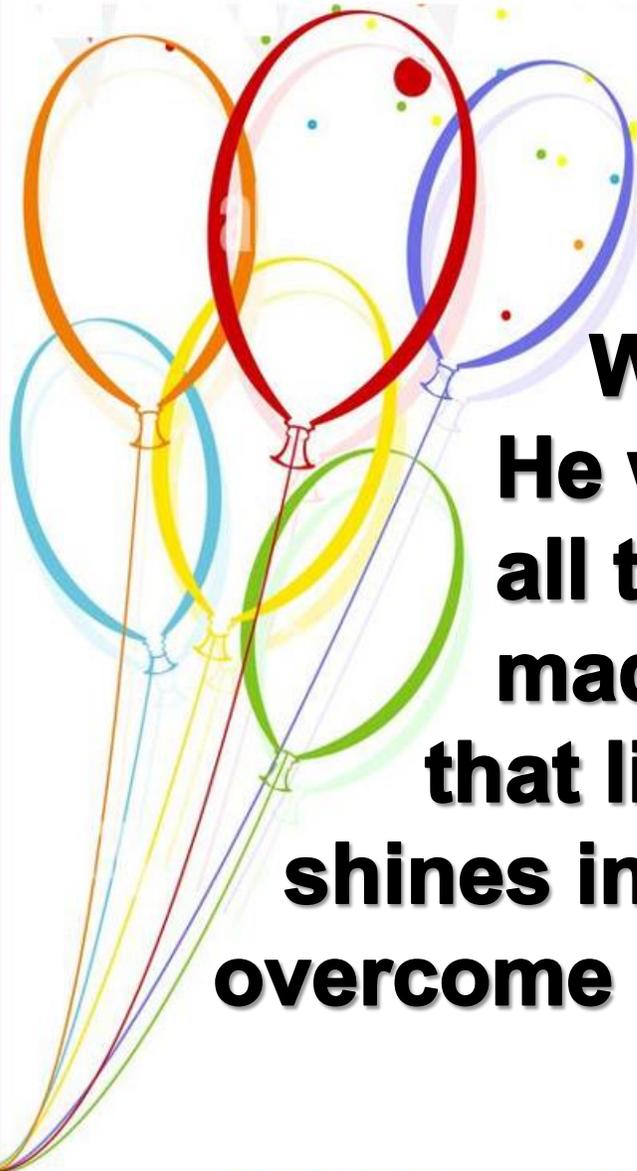
Before harvest there must be preparation

Before harvest there must be planting

Before harvest there must be persistent work



Celebrate



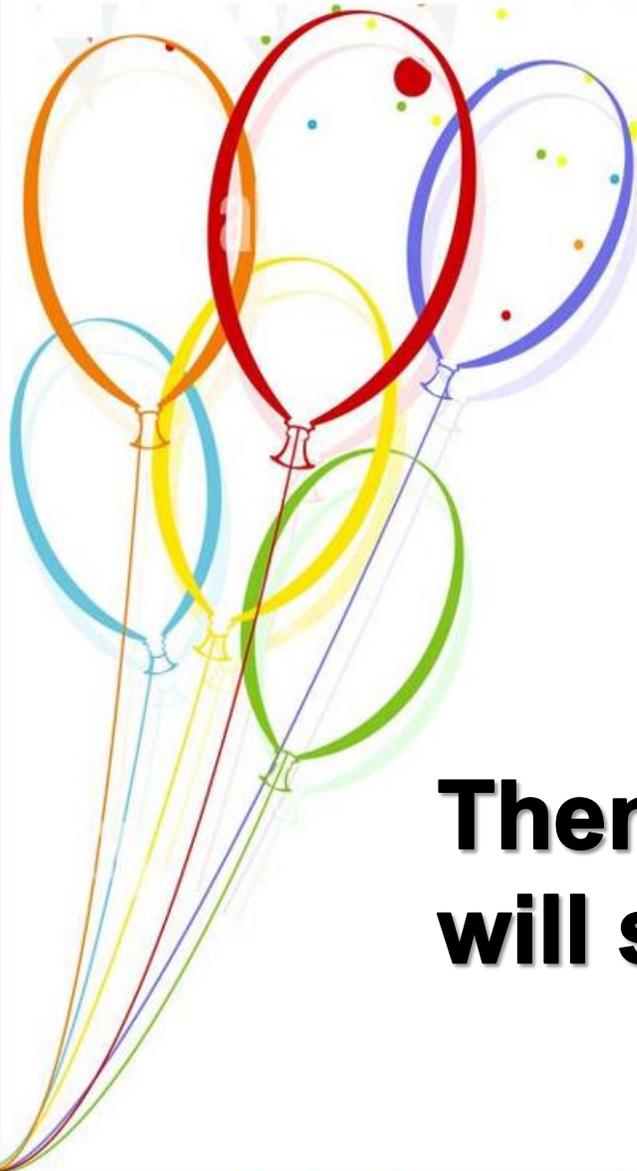
THE WORD

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:1-5



Celebrate



THE TRUTH

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

John 8:32



Celebrate

PRODUCE A HARVEST

Parable of the 4 Soils

Our soil must be prepared

Our soil must be planted with seed

**Our soil must be
persistently worked**

FIRSTFRUITS



Celebrate



BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES

**What is God harvesting
from your life?**



Celebrate