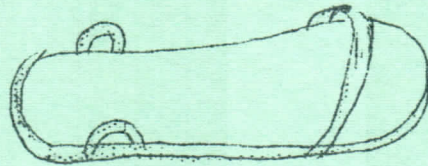


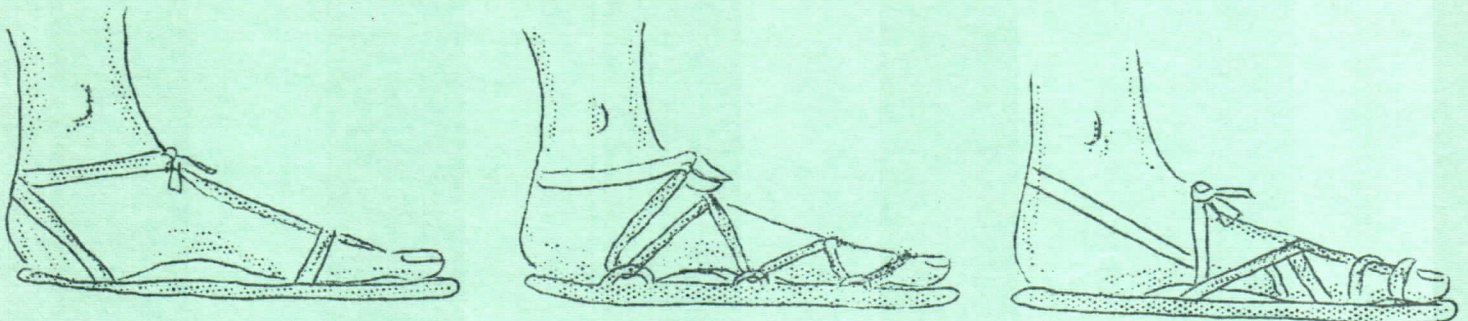
People in the land of Jesus wore sandals when they were outside. The sandals were cool in this hot land.

These sandals might be made of wool or dried grass. Usually they were made of leather. Leather is strong and wears a long time.

To make the sandals a man cut out a piece of leather the size of his foot. He fastened loops of leather on the side. He put leather thongs through the loops and around his ankle. This held the sandals on his foot.



The sandals were tied onto the feet in many different ways.



If the sandals got very dirty, a man would take them off and slap the sandals against a stone or wall. A person's feet got very dusty and dirty, too. When a man went into a home he took off his sandals. The host had a basin of water ready for washing the feet. If there was a servant in the house, he washed the feet of the guest. A host would wash the feet of someone he respected or loved.

TURN CARD OVER

Jesus wore sandals. He took them off when He came to a home. Read about 2 times when Jesus took off His sandals in a home -

John 13:4-9

Luke 7:36-50

A man also took off his sandals when he felt he was talking to God or God was talking to him. (See Exodus 3:5 and Joshua 3:15)

What special way do we show respect when we are in God's house?

The leather thongs that were used to fasten the sandal to the foot is called a latchet. Sometimes this word is connected with hard work, lowly service. Usually the latchet of a man's sandal became soiled. When a man came into a home, someone who wanted to serve him loosened the latchet, took off the sandals, and washed the feet. John the Baptist preached telling the people that another man was coming who was greater than he was. John said -

"The latchet of His shoes I am not
worthy to stoop down and unloose."
(See Mark 1:7)

When Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and taken to prison for preaching about Christ, we read in the Bible that -

"they bound him with thongs "
(Acts 22:24-25)

as they got ready to beat him. (This was the leather thong from sandals)

Leather thongs are used today for lacing boots.