

YAIY NEWS



Biblical Timekeeping

The proper biblical calendar, in part, is given to us, Genesis 1:14: *“And Elohim said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.’”* These heavenly lights—the sun and the stars, specifically—divide night from day. (The moon rises approximately an hour later every day and is out during daytime part of the month.) A day ends at sunset, when a new day begins (Ex. 12:18; Lev. 22:6-7; 23:32; Judges 14:18; Eph. 4:26). (Request our booklets, *When does the Scriptural Day Begin?* And, *Biblical vs. Jewish Calendar*).

Heavenly “lights” also set the seasons. The Hebrew word for seasons is *moedim*, meaning appointed time, festivals or by implication, assemblies or gatherings of Yahweh’s people.



The scriptural calendar employs both sun and moon to establish the holy days of Yahweh as well. Isaiah 66:23 shows that in the millennial Kingdom Yahweh’s people will worship Him from one new moon to another, meaning from month to month determined by the moon. It will be no different then from what it is now, Numbers 28:11.

“Month” comes from the principal word in Hebrew: *chodesh*, meaning to be new. The moon sets Yahweh’s special monthly times. The new moon is the “rebuilding” phase of the moon.

We know in which month is found the first special observance of the year by the following—Deuteronomy 16:1: *“Observe the moon (month) of Abib*, and keep the Passover unto Yahweh your Elohim Who brought you forth out of Egypt by night.”*

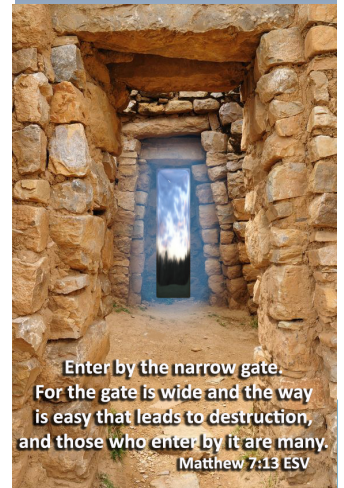
This Calendar’s Features

“Abib” means month of “green (early) ears” of grain. From Exodus 9:31-32 we see that the grain is barley. When barley is in the ear and yet green, we know that we are in the first month (whose new moon we had observed). Plants depend on the sun for growing, and the sun determines the seasons. Therefore, by observing the new moon for the month, and agriculture for the



“...You shall rejoice before Yahweh your Elohim seven days.”

Leviticus 23:40b ESV



Enter by the narrow gate.
For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction,
and those who enter by it are many.
Matthew 7:13 ESV

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Biblical Timekeeping ...,cont.

season, we know when the first month begins.

David knew when the new moon would occur before it appeared. David was a shepherd who saw the moon every night when it was visible. David also knew it was approximately 30 days from new moon to new moon. He knew when the full moon occurred because he observed the moon almost every night. David also knew that the first feast day of Unleavened Bread and the Feast of Tabernacles occurred when the moon was full and wrote it into Scripture in Psalm 81:1-3. *Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day.* We can also confirm that Yahweh fixed the order of the sun, moon and stars from Scripture in Jeremiah 31:35-36 (NASU):

Thus says Yahweh, Who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; Yahweh of hosts is His Name: "If this fixed order departs from before Me," declares Yahweh, "Then the offspring of Israel also will cease from being a nation before Me forever."

The times of the new moons and full moons can be calculated by using some very complex formulas because they are fixed by Yahweh. So we like David, can know that each month is approximately 30 days from new moon to new moon.

We have also restored the proper weekly Sabbath, Biblical observances, and the Holy Days by highlighting them (see our calendar). Today's Roman-Gregorian months do not correspond precisely to the more ancient months because the Roman calendar ignores the moon and is based on the sun's 365 ¼ day year.

Today's Secular Calendar

The calendar in use in the Western world today is the Gregorian calendar, a Roman (Julian) calendar modified by Pope Gregory XIII. It was designed to correct the errors of the Julian calendar. Yet, this calendar is solar and not based on the new moons, as Scripture commands. Julius Caesar had long before ordered the Romans to disregard the moons in determining the calendar.

The modern year begins and ends in the dead of winter, not in the spring as Scripture tells us it should. The names of eight of the months in today's secular calendar have various pagan origins. The names of the last four are close to the biblical months. September means seventh month, October means eighth month, November means ninth month and December means tenth month.

The Bible does not name the days of the week except for the seventh, the Sabbath. The others are merely numbered. In other calendars and languages around the world, the 7th day is specifically referred to by a word that is related to the Hebrew word Shabbat (English: Sabbath). For example, Armenian: Shabat, Greek: Savvato, Latin: Sabbatum, Russian: Subbuta, Spanish: Sabado, etc. Even though Saturday may be listed on the calendar (in English), the underlining word in many languages is Sabbath.

In all the calendar manipulations done through the centuries, the order of the days has not been altered since Yahweh first rested on the seventh day at creation and thus created the Sabbath. The sequence has remained constant, and at no time has the Sabbath been lost. Praise Yahweh for preserving the weekly Sabbath so that we might have a day of rest and time to enjoy His beautiful creation.

**Abib* is not the name of the first month. Originally all the months were numbered. They did not have names. In the Hebrew it says, "in the month of the *abib*." In other words, in the month when the barley is an certain stage of ripeness.



Newly Baptized

We are very happy to welcome Sister Loretta Reyes to the body of Messiah. She had traveled from Hawaii to be baptized, which is what her sister did (Sister Carrie Brett) 15 years ago. What are we willing to give up? What a great prize that awaits those who commit their lives to Yahweh through His precious Son, overcoming to the end with the help of His Spirit and Word abiding within.

"...the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is a merchant seeking goodly pearls: and having found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it," Matthew 13:45-46 ASV.



Loretta Reyes & Carrie Brett



Elder Brett presenting Loretta to the congregation



Preparing



Immersion/baptism



Elders Fisher & Brett laying on of hands with prayer



Welcoming to the body of Messiah

Question & Answer

Q: How do we handle conversations with others who believe differently than us and claim "G-d" speaks to their heart?

A: It's very common in Christianity for people to say, "the L-rd told me ..." this and such. Ultimately, if they are not honoring the Sabbaths of Yahweh (Isa. 58:13), then we can pretty much assume that they're speaking falsely, 1 John 2:4. However, who is to say that Yahweh is not leading them to the truth? (2 Tim. 1:9-10). Most of us have believed lies in the past, but here we are. Acceptance doesn't mean we approve or even agree with others, 1 Cor. 5:13. However, accepting others often leads to trust (Rom. 12:18; Heb. 12:14), which then allows others to hear what we have to say. It is said that "time is the ally of deceit"; however, time is also the ally of long-suffering, mercy, understanding and forgiveness. This is, we believe, the essence of loving your enemy, Matt. 5:43.

Feast of Tabernacles, Don't Drift Away

Get ready, the Feast of Tabernacles will be here before you know it! We are encouraged by those who are able to make it. We do feel that if one has good health and is financially able, they will indeed be blessed when they come. Yahweh does not take His days lightly (Ex. 16:28), and neither should we. We find those who do not come for the feast in the coming Kingdom, for example, will be under a curse, Zech 14:16-19. Could this not even apply today in our spiritual lives? We are to have a healthy fear (respect) even today for Yahweh and His ways. His desire is for an obedient people, Deut. 5:29; John 4:23. We are to be a shining example today (Matt. 5:16), whereas ancient Israel was not, 1 Cor. 10:6.

Don't fall under a curse when you are able to be at a sojourning Feast of Yahweh, Ex. 23:14-17. We are admonished in Scripture to not neglect gathering ourselves together, Heb 10:25. Time is often limited, by regular work and daily living, so we focus on Yahweh's appointed times that He sets apart, Lev. 23. We encourage you to set the time aside, as well, Ex. 31:13-14. In unity we strive to please our Father, but it's not pleasing for Him if we refuse to join in these holy convocation for unwarranted reasons, Luke 14:16-24. Even our properties, when we sojourn to the feasts, are promised to be protected, Ex. 34:24.

Drifting away is not always immediately known (Heb. 2:1-3) as many times it happens when one is not aware of it. A little neglecting here and a little neglecting there, can soon add up to stagnant growth and eventually spiritual death in the end, Prov. 6:10-11; Matt. 25:14-30. We encourage you to not drift but to stay in the body of Messiah by doing those things pleasing to the Father. There's still time, so don't delay. Eternity is a long time to miss out on. Make your calling and election sure, 2 Pet. 1:10; 1 Pet. 1:3-7.

Please also note, this year we will be staying at the Feast campgrounds an extra day since it is a weekly Sabbath. Brother Dewey Moore is also planning on teaching American Sign Language for those interested.

Prayer List

Elder Dick Vaow, Hap Tew, Michelle Love and Family, Dolores Parker, Maxine Conrad, Terrell Frasure, Lois McDonald, David & Barbara Creel, David Jones Jr. and Family, Charlie Pelton, Robert Dorchester, R.C. Fernald Family/Friends, Gary and Lanai DuBois, Donnie and Roland Miller, Paul Oliver, Dan & Geri O'leary, Karen van Schalkwyk, Frances Rodgers and Family, Diana Abbot, Stella and Sean Rogers, Loretta Reyes and Family, Robert Creech, Jill Smith and Family, Trellis Naples, Ellen Marnhohz, Cindy Gustke, Elder George J. Baptiste, Kelly Miller, Johnny Seymour, Byron Bolan, Patrick Roether, Earl Braxton III, Elder Lionel and Sandra Gets, Harry Sharod James, Danny O'Connor and Family, Deborah Grouwstra, Rina van der Merwe, Charmaine Potgieter, Maria Barnard, Jaco van der Merwe, Julian Aguero, Michael Potgieter, Jordan Vira and Family, Marilyn Taylor and Family, Ezmae Monroe, Lola Reedy, Lance Bullock and Family, Carroll Isdell and Family, Ivenia Wayland and Family, Juan Castaneda and Family, Diana Murphy, Bennie Hollingshead, Agnes McKitrick, Rina van Schalkwyk, Annari van der Merwe, Michael Johnson, Rhonda Gunther, Kyle Jones, Steve Easley, Tammy Hendrix, Sheila Hurtado, Marilynn White, *Revealing The Truth* broadcast, Jerusalem and all of Israel.

YAIY NEWS

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