February 2016 Volume 10 Issue 2

# YAIY NEWS



# Why is Passover Expected in April this Year?

The question has been asked why we will keep Passover in April instead of March as the churches are planning to observe this time. A short explanation might help. Our present calendar of the industrial world was given us by Pope Gregory and replaces the Julian calendar. It is the basic calendar of business and banking today and is based on the astronomers of Egypt and Babylon.

The calendar of today follows the signs of the Zodiac which is a manmade map of the heavens that also determines the four seasons; spring, summer, fall and winter. The seasons are marked by the spring (vernal) equinox (when the day and night are of equal hours--usually March 19, 20, or 21) and summer ends with the fall equinox, September 21. Summer starts with the summer solstice on June 21, and winter begins on December 21 (the winter solstice--longest night of the year in the northern hemisphere). These are all manmade divisions of time based on the sun which Pope Gregory has given to the world to correct the error of the previous Julian calendar.

Yahweh's calendar is based upon the crops in Israel, Yahweh told Moses the year begins with the new moon month called *Abib* which produces green ears of barley. It is as if they both were viewing the new moon and Yahweh spoke to him.



And Yahweh spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month [shall be] unto you the beginning of months: it [shall be] the first month of the year to you, Ex 12:1-2 (The American Standard Version used throughout).

The Jews have followed Rabbi Hillel's Hebrew calendar for years and it ignores the zodiac of Babylon and Egypt. Yahweh reveals that His holy days, new moons and Sabbaths foreshadow events yet to come (Col. 2:17). We keep these

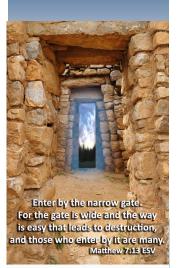
days as a rehearsal and gain better insight of their importance of the future. The body of Messiah is to teach the importance of these days for they foreshadow coming events.

Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath [days]: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Messiah, Col. 2:16-17.

# Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua

So then let us observe the festival, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of evil and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:8 TS



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### Why is Passover Expected in April this Year?...,cont.

In looking ahead to the coming Feast days of 2016, we note that some brethren are preparing for Passover to occur in March and will follow the Catholic Church in basing Passover after the Vernal Equinox just as is their rule for Easter, which is the "First Sunday following the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox." Easter is a pagan custom guided by heathen tradition. Neither the equinox nor Easter are to be observed.

The Hebrew Calendar has set Passover 2016 at the end of April, a month later than the Catholic celebration of the Resurrection. The reason for the difference is that churches rely upon the Gregorian calendar which is based on the sun, while the Jews follow the lunar Hebrew calendar based on the moon to establish the annual Feast days (*moedim*). The crops in Israel determine Yahweh's calendar which is a lunar calendar.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Since the 1970's we have been monitoring the spring crops in Israel, and it is quite apparent that Yahweh has honored the Hebrew calendar. When a leap year (*Ve-Adar*) is added which is done seven times in a 19 year Metonic cycle to keep the *Moed* in their season. If this is not done, the Feast Days would go through all seasons of the year as do the Islamic holy days. Passover, for example, would come in the spring, summer, fall and winter and back to spring in 19 years. When a leap year is added (as is the case this year) the warm thermal days are few; spring is cold and drawn out. Cold rains and snow and windy, cold temperatures delay the growth of the barley so that the appearing of "green ears" is postponed until the next new moon.



It seems that Yahweh honors the Jewish calendar. When a leap year comes, Yahweh brings on the cold spring month of *Ve-Adar* with cool temperatures that inhibit growth.

The days then are cold and windy with very few warm thermal days needed to promote the maturing barley.

A normal 12 month year brings a warm and sunny *Abib* where the barley can mature in its growth over winter. The sun does not determine the growth of the barley. It is Yahweh who controls the weather and can hasten the maturing of the barley and grain crops. The barley is not controlled by the sun and has nothing to do with the signs of the zodiac. Yahweh says He is responsible for the growth and maturing of crops:

That I will give [you] the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, Deut. 11:14.

These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give [them] their meat in due season, Psalm 104:27.

Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, Lev. 26:4.

A most compelling reason we look to the tiny nation of Israel more carefully this spring is that the Scriptures reveal Yahshua will return to Jerusalem and stand on the Mount of Olives which is before Jerusalem on the east (see Zechariah 14). Because the first two *moedim* (appointed times) were fulfilled on Yahweh's calendar (Passover season and Pentecost), we fully expect He will return on a Feast day like Trumpets.

The "dehioth" (postponements) in the current Hebrew calendar may re-position the days a bit. However, it is doubtful the Jews would be off an entire month in anticipation of Yahshua's appearance.

There are those who consistently make an annual trip to Israel to procure a bundle of barley each spring in fulfilling Yahweh's Word of the wavesheaf. This is especially significant when a March Passover is in the offing. The Karaite sect of the Jews also are helpful in determining when barley is *abib* (green ears) for the wavesheaf. The Jews were given the oracles and are certainly more in keeping with Yahweh's program than Baal or Babylon:

What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit [is there] of [the] circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of Elohim, Rom. 3:1-2.

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#### Isn't Easter in the Bible?

...pascha (πάσχα, 3957), mistranslated "Easter" in Acts 12:4, KJV, denotes the Passover (RV). The phrase "after the Passover" signifies after the whole festival was at an end. The term "Easter" is not of Christian origin. It is another form of Astarte, one of the titles of the Chaldean goddess, the queen of heaven. The festival of Pasch held by Christians in post-apostolic times was a continuation of the Jewish feast, but was not instituted by Christ, nor was it connected with Lent. From this Pasch the pagan festival of "Easter" was quite distinct and was introduced into the apostate Western religion, as part of the attempt to adapt pagan festivals to Christianity. See PASSOVER. — Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (Vol. 2, p. 192). Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.

Besides the above unedited quote speaking of the wrong tradition of Easter, it also points to the Seder as practiced by some Messianic believers to-day, as a tradition related to the original Passover, but not instituted by the Messiah. When the Apostle Paul addresses what is of utmost importance, he points to the emblems instituted by Yahshua (1 Cor. 11:23-31).

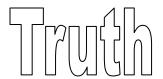


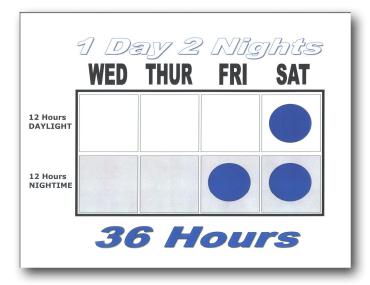
Paul, furthermore, tells the brethren if anyone is hungry they are to eat at home (1 Cor. 11:34). Yahshua also spoke of serving one another and gave the example of foot washing. As an example (John 13:14-15) and blessing (John 13:17), foot washing is performed at the memorial service pointing to Yahshua's service to us and how we should be to each other.

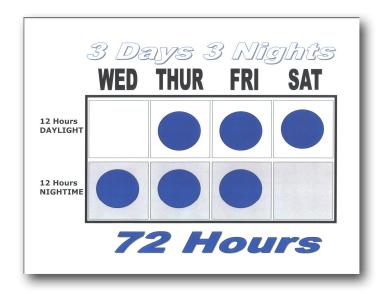
#### **Tradition or Truth?**

Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth," Matthew 12:38–40 NIV.









## New Sabbath Service Background

A special thanks to Elder David Brett and his mom, Sandra Lightle, for putting up a new background for the Sabbath Services held each week.

Much appreciated, it will serve to be a nice background for both the

DVD video recipients and the brethren, along with visitors locally at the assembly building.

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Yahweh your Elohim gives you."

Exodus 20:12 NASB





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## The Intercalary Month Rule (a month added)

An Intercalary month should be inserted to ensure Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread fall after March 21st (spring equinox). The new moon may not always fall after the equinox, but history shows the Passover should always fall after the equinox. The pattern has been that when Abib shows late then it is in line with the intercalary month rule, and visa versa, it is then inline with the timing of when Abib shows. It has been this way for at least the last 4000 years.

# **Prayer List**

Elder Dick Vaow, Hap Tew, Michelle Love and Family, Dolores Parker, 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, Karen van Schalkwyk, Diana Abbot, Robert Creech, Cindy Gustke, Elder George J. Baptiste, Patrick Roether, Elder Lionel and Sandra Gets, Rina van der Merwe, Charmaine Potgieter, Maria Barnard, Jaco van der Merwe, Julian Aguero, Michael Potgieter, Carroll Isdell and Family, Ivenia Wayland and Family, Juan Castaneda and Family, Diana Murphy, Rina van Schalkwyk,



Annari van der Merwe, Michael Johnson, Samuel Snyder and Family, Hartwig Fleischmann and Family, Melanie Coetzee, David Butts, Lance Bullock and Family, Katherine Donias, Melanie Killiebrew, David Wilson, Sheila Hurtado, Eric Perkins, Deborah Brock, Leonardo Drisdel, Sherrie Abril and Family, Brandon Newton and Family, Barnard van der Merwe, Byron Lamar, Lorraine Schimpf, Hoshea Stanton, Albert Craig, Craig Knudsen and Family, Jordan Vira and Family, Lawrence Wayne Atkins, Gary Deerwester, Brian Huck and Family, Nicole Replogle and Family, Maxwell Lamb and Family, Bongani Mgwenya, David Andrews, Frances Domingues, David Flores, Henry Sunderman, Moses Kamau, Kareem Greene and Family, Danny O'Connor and Family, Kenneth Falkner Jr., Victor Karanja, Susan Malm, Deberorah Grouwstra, Nombulelo Precious Mabele, Patricia Calhoun, Alan Guzman, Katie Higgins and family, Joseph Oganga Ontita, Paul Washington, Amelia Roberts, G. Kwasnica, Stella Rogers, Sean Rogers and Family, Loretta Reyes and Family, Michael Hutchinson, Georgiana Greene and Family, Skip and Linda Franchino. Pray also for the peace and protection of Jerusalem.