

# The Faith

Volume 72

1-3, 2008

Number 1

## **YAHSHUA OUR PASSOVER**

**For even the Messiah our Passover is sacrificed  
(offered) for us – 1 Corinthians 5:7**

**Behold the Lamb of Elohim, which taketh away the  
sin of the world. – John 1:29**

**Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed  
with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from  
your vain manner of living received by tradition  
from your fathers; But with the precious blood of  
the Messiah, as of a lamb without blemish and  
without spot: Who verily was foreordained before  
the foundation of the world, but was manifest in  
these last times for you – 1 Peter 1:18-20**

**Yahshua's Memorial (Passover)**

**April 21, 2008**

**Celebrate April 20, 2008 after sunset**

**And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the**

**Passover of Yahweh – Numbers 28:16**

# Contending for The Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. Jude 3

VOLUME 72

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This magazine is published for the sake of truth in honor of our Heavenly Father and His only begotten Son. It upholds the originally inspired Scriptures, teaching to declare all the counsel of The Almighty One. It proclaims the Father's scholarly recognized name, YAHWEH, and the Son's, YAHSHUA, rather than substitutions. It upholds the Ten Commandments, recognizing the name, Yahweh, in the third, and the seventh day Sabbath (not the first day of the week) in the fourth. It stands for baptism (immersion) in the name, Yahshua, the Messiah, according to Acts 2:38 and Matthew 28:19; the ordinance of feet washing and the commemoration of the Messiah's death, at the Passover season; the set times of Unleavened Bread, Weeks (Pentecost), Tabernacles, with all the yearly set apart convocation days of Leviticus 23. It advocates tithing and the observance of Yahweh's laws for our well being including clean foods. It teaches repentance of sin (disobeying Yahweh), and justification by faith in Yahshua, the Messiah, in whom we have redemption through His blood; making right the whole man, physically and spiritually; stressing the importance of the set apart righteous life, and the Power of Yahweh's Spirit of separation teaching the obedient to do His will. It is supported by "called out ones of Yahweh," which is the meaning of "Assembly of Yahweh." It is for those hearing and heeding the call of Revelation 18:4, and is proclaiming to the world that Yahweh reigns, Psalm 96.

Original editor, C.O. Dodd

Our motto: FORWARD WITH THE  
ORIGINALLY INSPIRED  
SCRIPTURES!

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# EDITORIAL

## Are We Caught in a Net of Hopelessness? Is There a Way Out?

The Roman year of 2008 has arrived, bringing with the new year, talk of a slow down, possibly a recession in the economic scene.

The news of the Iraq and Afghanistan war continues on for possibly 15 more years. The phantom foe Osama bin Laden who is leading certain sects of Moslems to retaliate against the U.S, Israel and other countries that support the war, has not been found.

Is this new news? No. Since Israel became a nation in 1948, the neighboring nations have wanted to push this tiny country into the sea. Israel was reborn as a nation into an atmosphere of war (not peace) from the beginning.

The United Nations voted in 1948 to reestablish a land for the Jews cast out of Europe during and after World War II. Many Bible students saw this action by the U.N. as Bible prophecy coming to pass. Israel coming back to the land promised to them by Yahweh through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Genesis 12:1, Gen 17:1-22, Psalm 105:1-45. A sign to many believers that we are living in the last days.

The ancient land of Israel and the holy city of Jerusalem have come under the flag of Israel. This is truly an historical exclusive. Ever since the U.N. voted for Israel to occupy their homeland, the Palestinians (Philistines of the Old Testament), have sworn to annihilate them, (with rocket attacks, car bombings, terrorizing and continual harassment, etc.). Who could live under such stress day in and day out? There must be a divine plan through all this turmoil. We know the three main religions of the world want their seat in Jerusalem; Judaism, Moslem and Christian.

Isaiah 2:2-3 – And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of Yahweh's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem. This is one of our greatest hopes, to be in this gathering.

Truth seekers have known for years that a one world government would rise up in the end time. A false messiah will rise up and deceive many. The mystery of iniquity in 2 Thessalonians 2:7 doth already work. Apostle Paul admonishes in Verses 1 and 2 – Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Master Yahshua the Messiah, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of the Messiah is at hand. The 8<sup>th</sup> Verse has the words or message of victory – And then shall that lawless one be revealed, whom the Master shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Yahshua's return will be glorious and will be headline news.

The two warning Books of the New Testament, Matthew 24 and Luke 21, have much to say about the days we are living in. Matthew 24:7-8 – For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Hope is not lost, no matter what we as believers have to face in the end time. Matthew 24:13 – But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. Luke 21:18-19 – But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls.

Yahweh has always taken care of his people when calamities have struck. In the Book of Exodus we read how Yahweh protected Israel in their 40 year sojourn in the wilderness. The three Hebrew children Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were saved from the burning, fiery furnace in Daniel chapter 3. They had special protection with Yahshua the Messiah in their midst (Daniel 3:25). Daniel was protected in the lions' den (Daniel 6:5-28). Jonah was protected in the great fish (Jonah 1 and 2).

Yahweh's Holy [Kodesh] Spirit is still active and with us in this age. Remember Arab/Israel tension erupted into a brief war in June 1967. Israel emerged from the war as a major regional power after destroying the neighboring air forces and marching to the doorstep of Egypt's capital city Cairo.

We should have the same testimony as King David in Psalms 78:5-7 – For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in Elohim, and not forget the works of Yahweh, but keep his commandments.

Apostle Paul addressed the Romans in Chapter 15:4 that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. And in Verse 13 – Now the Elohim of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit.

Hope is not lost. Hope is where your heart is. Our hope is in Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah.

Samuel A. Graham

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## **THE 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL UNITY CONFERENCE**

**The 2008 Unity Conference is scheduled for  
August 1, 2 and 3, 2008  
At the Assembly of Yahweh – 7<sup>th</sup> Day  
Cisco, Texas**

# THE CAUSE

Ever Dearest Fellow Humankind,

Warm Greetings and Best Wishes to everyone. May you have the very best of everything, doing well, safe and sound.

Yes, it was Yahweh's will to crush Him (Yahshua His Son) and CAUSE Him to suffer – Isaiah 53:10, the Old Testament.

In the New Testament, John 3:16 which is said to be the central theme of The Bible (Scriptures), it was written: For Yahweh so loved the world that He (Yahweh the Father) gave His one and only Son (Yahshua), that whoever believes in Him (Yahshua, the Savior) shall not perish but have eternal (everlasting) Life.

It sounds as if, Yahweh the Father (Abba) is cruel to His one and only Son Yahshua, just only to be kind to us, the sinners. The Sinless One died for the whole human race.

Because only through His sufferings; the shedding of His precious Blood; His death on the stake; is there forgiveness and remission of sins. Matthew 26:28, Hebrews 9:22.

Yahshua speaks about His death likened to: a grain of wheat dropped into the ground (planted) and dies. It does die, then it produces many grains. John 12:24. And again He said: When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me. In saying this He indicates the kind of death He is going to suffer. John 12:32-33.

## Are YOU Washed In The Cleansing BLOOD of the LAMB?

So keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock which the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit has placed in your care. Be Shepherds of the Qahal-Assembly of Yahweh which He made His own through the BLOOD of His Son. Acts 20:28.

The four (4) Living Creatures and the twenty-four (24) Elders sang a New Song: You are worthy to take the Scroll and to open its seals; because You were slain, and with Your BLOOD You purchased men (and women) for (Abba) Yahweh from every tribe and language, and people and nation. Revelation 5:9.

He bought you for a price. So use your bodies for the glory of Abba Yahweh. 1 Corinthians 6:20, and 7:23.

Into Yahweh's Kingdom; no free ride indeed! Somebody paid for your entrance. Make great use of it. Be grateful and value His sacrifice [offering]. Or maybe you despise His great kindness, tolerance and patience? Surely you know that Yahweh is kind, because He is trying to lead you to repent. Romans 2:4. You are obliged too: ...to WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION... Philippians 2:12. ...

Always for the sake of Truth,  
Samuel T. Gamino

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## A STARTING POINT TOWARDS UNITY IN THE BIBLICAL CALENDAR

(Continued from Page 12)

What can we, as a body, do to end the confusion? We can start by calculating when the first month, the month of Abib will be, but letting it be known that these calculations are contingent on the condition of the barley in the land of Israel.

# A STARTING POINT TOWARDS UNITY IN THE BIBLICAL CALENDAR

By Bob Wells

Presented at the Sacred Name Unity Conference, 2007

I'd like to talk about the Biblical calendar. I don't want to get into the finer points of the Biblical calendar, I only want to focus on the question of how do we determine the first month of a Biblical year. If we are ever going to achieve unity in the calendar we must start somewhere. It seems logical to me that this is where we need to start. How do we determine the first month of the biblical year? I can make the statement that we are now in the 5<sup>th</sup> biblical month, (this was the 1<sup>st</sup> week in August) but there is without a doubt someone here that would say that we are now in the 4<sup>th</sup> month! Why the difference? Why do some assemblies say that this is now the 5<sup>th</sup> month and others say it is now the 4<sup>th</sup> month? The answer lies in the method by which an assembly determines the 1<sup>st</sup> month of the biblical year.

This year there are at least two different calendars with respect to what month it is. So obviously there are several different methods of determining the first biblical month. **BUT WHY?** Why would we (the body of Messiah) have several different ways of determining the first month of the biblical year? Surely Yahweh gave us only one way to determine the start of the year! Yahweh is not the author of confusion.

I'd like to discuss what I think is the source of the confusion and what we can do about coming out of this confusion.

## A short history lesson

From "The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar" by Arthur Spier:

"In the early times of Israel's history the beginnings of months were determined by direct observation of the moon; the first days of the months being announced by the Sanhedrin, the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, after witnesses had testified that they had seen the new crescent and after their testimony had been thoroughly examined, confirmed by calculation and duly accepted. The communities of Israel were then notified by kindling night fires on the mountains and later by messengers...

"A special committee of the Sanhedrin, with its president as chairman, had the mandate to regulate and balance the solar with the lunar years. This so-called Calendar Council (Sod Haibbur) calculated the beginnings of the seasons (Tekufot) on the basis of astronomical figures, which had been handed down as a tradition of old. Whenever, after two or three years, the annual excess of 11 days had accumulated to approximately 30 days, a thirteenth month Adar II was inserted before Nisan (Abib) in order to assure that [Abib] and Passover would occur in Spring and not retrogress toward winter. However, the astronomical calculation was not the only basis for intercalation of a thirteenth month. The delay of the actual arrival of spring was another decisive factor. The Talmudic sources report that the Council intercalated a year when the barley in the fields had not yet ripened, when the fruit on the trees had not grown properly, when the winter rains had not stopped, when the roads for Passover pilgrims had not dried up, and when the young pigeons had not become fledged. The Council on intercalation considered the astronomical facts together with the religious requirements of Passover and the natural conditions of the country.

"This method of observation and intercalation was in use throughout the period of the second Temple (516 BC - 70 AD) and about three centuries after its destruction as

long as there was an independent Sanhedrin. In the fourth century, however, when oppression and persecution threatened the continued existence of the Sanhedrin, the patriarch Hillel II took an extraordinary step to preserve the unity of Israel. In order to prevent the Jews scattered all over the surface of the earth from celebrating their New Moons, Festivals and holidays at different times he made public the system of calendar calculation which up till then had been a closely guarded secret. It had been used in the past only to check the observations and testimonies of witnesses, and to determine the beginning of the spring season.

“In accordance with this system Hillel II formally sanctified all moons in advance and intercalated future leap years until such time as a new Sanhedrin would be established in Israel. This is the permanent calendar according to which the New Moons and Festivals are calculated and celebrated today by the Jews all over the world. It also applies certain rules by which the astronomical facts are combined with the religious requirements into an admirable calendar system.”

The motives of the patriarch Hillel were, without a doubt, admirable because he wanted to preserve the unity of Israel; and for subsequent centuries Jewish communities around the world derived great gain from his work. Nevertheless locked into his system of calendar calculation lay FOUR ERRORS which in certain years clash with the requirements of astronomy and the law of the Most High. It is these four errors which periodically result in the wrong days being celebrated as Yahweh's festivals. What are these four errors?

#### **Four Errors in Hillel's calendar**

##### **1. Incorrect Equinox Dates**

The first error is a purely mathematical one concerning the length of the solar year; a seemingly insignificant matter of 16.5 minutes a year. But which now, 1700 years later, has resulted in wrong Equinox dates being used in the selection of the 1st and 7th months of the year.

##### **2. The Metonic Cycle**

The second error is the association of the Jewish calendar with the Lunar Cycle of Meton, a cycle borrowed from the pagan calendar-makers of Greece.

##### **3. Rule for Beginning 1st Tishri**

The third error is the adoption of a man-made rule which dictates that the festival month of Ethanim (Tishri, the 7<sup>th</sup> month) must begin on the day of a conjunction. When applied, this rule directly conflicts with the ancient practice of literally 'looking out' for the new moon each month. The new moon, incidentally, is never visible at the time of a conjunction.

##### **4. Human Traditions**

The fourth error is the adoption of several human traditions, which do not allow the festival month of Ethanim (Tishri) to start on a Sunday, Wednesday or Friday; and the festival month of Abib (Nisan) starting on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Concerning these traditions the Jewish Year Book says this:

\* “The chief disturbing influence in the arrangement of the Jewish Calendar is to prevent the Day of Atonement from immediately preceding or immediately succeeding the Sabbath,

\* And Hoshana Raba (Tishri 21<sup>st</sup> – the 7<sup>th</sup> day of FOT) from falling on the Sabbath.”

For the sake of brevity I only want to discuss the first two errors in Hillel's calendar. I don't think that there is a whole lot of debate amongst the body of Messiah concerning

traditions of men. Yahshua made it crystal clear that we are to avoid traditions of men. Therefore, in my mind anyway, errors three and four of the Hillel calendar are a no-brainer. We don't even need to discuss these points in depth.

### **1. INCORRECT EQUINOX DATES**

The first error is the use of incorrect equinox dates. Let me explain. There lived in the third century a Talmud scholar and astronomer by the name of Samuel Yarhinai. According to Samuel the length of the tropical year, that is the length of time that it takes the earth to go around the sun, is approximately 365 days 6 hours. Yarhinai divided this time by 4 and assigned 91 days 7 hours and 30 minutes to each of the four seasons. Then by successively adding this time to any given equinox or solstice, Yarhinai reasoned that all the equinoxes or solstices of the following years could be arrived at. And once the date and time of the autumnal equinox was established for any given year, it would be a simple matter to select the new moon nearest it to begin Tishri (the 7<sup>th</sup> month). Having selected Tishri's new moon it would then be a simple matter to count to Abib, which in ordinary years is the seventh month from Tishri. That, basically, was the method adopted and published by the patriarch Hillel.

Why did he choose the 7<sup>th</sup> month as the focal point in this calendar system? I believe it was because of Exodus 34:22 "And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the turn of the year." (WOY 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. not yet published) The feast of ingathering, tabernacles, should be at the turn of the year. The word that is translated turn is the Hebrew word tekufah. This particular tekufah is the autumnal equinox. From this scripture we can discern that if we are keeping the feast of tabernacles before the autumnal equinox or too long after the equinox we are out of season. So Hillel used the autumnal equinox as his focal point and calculated the start of the following year from that point.

Believe it or not, Samuel Yarhinai's simplified method would have worked well enough if the year was exactly 365 days and 6 hours in length. The fact is that it is not! The correct length of a year is 365 days 5 hours 46.069 minutes: which is about 14 minutes less than Yarhinai's approximation of 365 days and 6 hours. As a result, the times of Samuel's equinoxes began to drift away from the true equinox times at the rate of about 14 minutes a year. This seemingly insignificant annual discrepancy of a few minutes added up to about one day in every century. And today, 17 centuries later, Yarhinai's equinox dates have moved some 16.5 days away from the true equinox dates of March 20/21 and September 22. According to Yarhinai's calculations the equinox dates are now April 7/8th and October 7/8th: which any high school student knows is a long way adrift from the true equinox times.

When Yarhinai's formula was first used in determining the autumn and spring equinox dates, it was useful enough; because the 14 minute discrepancy really made no difference at all to the selection of new moons of the 7<sup>th</sup> month and the 1<sup>st</sup> month. In those early years the correct new moon was selected to begin the 7<sup>th</sup> month and all the sacred festivals were in step with the agricultural seasons. But now, 17 centuries later, that 14 minute annual discrepancy has accumulated to about 16.5 days; and in the calendar of Hillel the autumnal equinox supposedly occurs on October 7/8th and the spring equinox on April 7/8th. As a result the wrong new moons (those closest to these incorrect equinox dates) are chosen to begin the Festival month of Tishri and by effect, Abib. When this happens all the Festival dates in the Jewish calendar in that particular year are celebrated a month late! They are all out of step with the agricultural seasons and crops in Israel.

The Jews, of course, know all about Yarhinai's formula and its ill effect on the sacred calendar. What is Israel doing about this? I quote again from Spier's book, page 227:



“The Tekufot of Samuel, (Yarhinai) which are based on the length of 365.25 days for the solar year, deviate considerably from the true astronomical time. They are 17 days later than the astronomical equinoxes and solstices in our century, a difference which grows by 1 day almost every 100 years. The rebirth of the State of Israel rekindles in us the hope that a new Sanhedrin, recognized by the whole people of Israel, will be established again in our time. It will be the task of the Sanhedrin to make a decision as to when and how the sanctified calendar of Hillel II is to be modified in accordance with the requirements of astronomy and the Torah.”

## **2. THE METONIC CYCLE**

The second error in Hillel II's calendar concerns the use of the Metonic cycle. About the year 433 BC the Greek astronomer Meton of Athens discovered that after a lapse of 19 years (235 lunar months) the phases of the moon recurred on the same day of the same month, within a few hours. For example if a new moon occurred on the 1st of January at 9 a.m. in one year, then 20 years later when the next cycle began a new moon would again occur on 1st of January within a few hours of 9 a.m. Meton concluded, that if the dates of the new moons are known in any one 19 year cycle, they are known for all subsequent cycles. In the course of time Jewish calendar makers began to use the Metonic cycle to regulate the sacred calendar and after a few changes the following seven years in the cycle were declared to be leap years with 13 months each: the 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th and 19th years. Ordinary years would have 12 months. Leap years would have 13 months. This inflexible pattern of years and leap years was not used prior to the Dispersion, simply because at that time leap years were determined by the Sanhedrin on the evidence of natural conditions.

Some time after the Dispersion of Israel from the Promised Land, Hillel's new system, which was regulated by the Metonic cycle, superseded the age-old practice of assessing the natural conditions. Hillel and his associates can hardly be condemned for making use of the Metonic cycle and the formula of Samuel Yarhinai while the Dispersion lasted. The scattered Jews had no other choice but to use a calendar based on the best calculations available at the time. But the circumstances have now changed. Israel is back in the Promised Land and the continued use of the Metonic cycle in the sacred calendar is being challenged. The time has come to unhitch the sacred calendar from the Metonic cycle. Nor should we program ourselves into thinking that the sacred calendar must of necessity continue to be governed by the Metonic cycle. It need not be, for three very good reasons.

1. The 19 year Metonic cycle is not absolutely accurate. New moons in corresponding cycles do not occur exactly on time! Were you to compare conjunction times in one cycle with those of subsequent cycles you will see how that, like Yarhinai's formula, there is a growing time difference, which in years to come will distort the calendar.

2. Extremely accurate computer printouts of the moon's movements renders dependence on the Metonic cycle obsolete.

3. The Metonic cycle was first used in the pagan calendar of ancient Greece. On that score alone it is unacceptable in the sacred calendar.

Hillel II's calendar was started in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Another significant event relative to the Biblical calendar also occurred in the 4<sup>th</sup> century: the Nicean Council of the Roman Catholic Church in the year 325. This is when the church declared that they wanted nothing to do with the Jewish way of doing things.

### **A quote from Eusebius:**

From the Letter of the Emperor (Constantine) to all those not present at the Council.

(Found in Eusebius, Vita Const., Lib. iii, 18-20.)

“When the question relative to the sacred festival of Easter arose, it was universally thought that it would be convenient that all should keep the feast on one day; for what could be more beautiful and more desirable, than to see this festival, through which we receive the hope of immortality, celebrated by all with one accord, and in the same manner? It was declared to be particularly unworthy for this, the holiest of all festivals, to follow the custom [the calculation] of the Jews, who had soiled their hands with the most fearful of crimes, and whose minds were blinded. In rejecting their custom, we may transmit to our descendants the legitimate mode of celebrating Easter, which we have observed from the time of the Saviour's Passion to the present day [according to the day of the week]. We ought not, therefore, to have anything in common with the Jews, for the Saviour has shown us another way; our worship follows a more legitimate and more convenient course (the order of the days of the week); and consequently, in unanimously adopting this mode, we desire, dearest brethren, to separate ourselves from the detestable company of the Jews, for it is truly shameful for us to hear them boast that without their direction we could not keep this feast. How can they be in the right, they who, after the death of the Saviour, have no longer been led by reason but by wild violence, as their delusion may urge them? They do not possess the truth in this Easter question; for, in their blindness and repugnance to all improvements, they frequently celebrate two passovers in the same year. We could not imitate those who are openly in error. How, then, could we follow these Jews, who are most certainly blinded by error?”

In the Gregorian calendar, the date of Easter is defined to occur on the Sunday following the ecclesiastical Full Moon that falls on or next after March 21. In 2008 this will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The ecclesiastical Full Moon is defined as the fourteenth day of a tabular lunation, where day 1 corresponds to the ecclesiastical New Moon. The tables are based on the Metonic cycle, in which 235 mean synodic months occur in 6939.688 days.

So there you have it! Two different calendars that deviated from the original biblical calendar, both created in the fourth century, and both used the Metonic cycle, a system derived from pagan astronomers.

Originally Hillel's calendar put the start of the year as the new moon nearest to the vernal equinox. The calendar of the R.C. church was set up to have Easter fall on the Sunday following the ecclesiastical Full Moon that falls on or next after March 21. This is what I think is the source of confusion in the calendar – our tendency to rely solely on calculated calendars. One leader wants to calculate it this way and another leader wants to calculate it that way.

### **Some Relevant Scriptures**

Gen 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 appointed times, and for days, and years: (WOY 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. not yet published)

Psalms 104:19 He made the moon for appointed times: the sun knoweth his going down. (WOY 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. not yet published)

Exodus 9:31 And the flax and the barley were ruined: for the barley *was* in the ear, and the flax *was* balled.

Exodus 12:2 This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Deut. 16:1 Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for in the month of Abib Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

**Bishops' Bible, 1568: Deu 16:1** Obserue the moneth of newe corne, that thou mayest offer the Passouer vnto ye Lord thy God: For in the moneth when corne begynneth to rype, the Lorde thy God brought thee out of Egypt by nyght.

Bishop's Bible, De 16:1 using the same words, but with more modern spelling of those words: "Observe the month of new corn, that thou mayest offer the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: For in the month when corn beginneth to ripe, Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee out of Egypt by night."

You don't have to study the scriptures very long to realize that when you see the word "corn" in an old English translation, such as the Bishop's Bible, it means simply grain, and not corn.

Bishop's Bible, De 16:1, putting in the word grain instead of corn: "Observe the month of new grain, that thou mayest offer the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: For in the month when grain begins to ripen Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee out of Egypt by night."

Now, we know that the grain in question is barley. There is no debate about that. So, now let's put in the word barley instead of grain for a paraphrase translation of this verse.

"Observe (watch for) the month of new barley, that thou mayest offer the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: For in the month when barley begins to ripen Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee out of Egypt by night."

This verse makes it clear that we are to start the new year based on the condition of barley in the land of Israel.

At this point I think that a discussion of Abib is in order.

#### **What is Abib?**

Abib indicates a stage in the development of the barley crops. This is clear from Ex 9:31-32 which describes the devastation caused by the plague of hail:

"And the flax and the barley were ruined: for the barley *was* in the ear (Abib), and the flax *was* balled. But the wheat and the spelt were not ruined: for they *were* not grown up."

The above passage relates that the barley crops were destroyed by the hail while the wheat and spelt were not damaged. To understand the reason for this we must look at how grain develops. When grains are early in their development they are flexible and have a dark green color. As they become ripe they take on a light yellowish hue and become more brittle. The reason that the barley was destroyed and the wheat was not is that the barley had reached the stage in its development called Abib and as a result had become brittle enough to be damaged by the hail. In contrast, the wheat and spelt were still early in their development, at a stage when they were flexible and not susceptible to being damaged by hail. The description of the wheat and spelt as "not grown up" (Afilot) indicates that they were still in the stage when they were deep green and had not yet begun to lighten into the light yellowish hue which characterizes ripe grains. In contrast, the barley had reached the stage of Abib at which time it was no longer "dark" and at this point it probably had begun to develop golden streaks.

#### **Parched Abib**

We know from several passages that barley which is in the state of Abib has not completely ripened, but has ripened enough so that its seeds can be eaten parched in fire. Parched barley was a commonly eaten food in ancient Israel and is mentioned in numerous passages in the Hebrew Bible as either "Abib parched in fire" (Lev 2:14) or in the abbreviated form "parched" (Lev 23:14; Jos 5:11; 1Sam 17:17; 1Sam 25:18; 2Sam 17:28; Ruth 2:14).

While still early in its development, barley has not yet produced large enough and firm enough seeds to produce food through parching. In this early stage in its development, when the "head" has just come out of the shaft, the seeds are not substantial enough to produce any food. At a later stage, the seeds have grown in size and have filled with liquid. At this point the seeds will shrivel up when parched and will only produce empty skins. Over time the liquid is replaced with dry material and when enough dry material has amassed the seeds will be able to yield "barley parched in fire".

### **Abib and the Harvest**

The month of the Abib is the month which commences after the barley has reached the stage of Abib. Two to three weeks after the beginning of the month the barley has moved beyond the stage of Abib and is ready to be brought as the "wave-sheaf offering". The "wave-sheaf offering" is a sacrifice brought from the first stalks cut in the harvest. ... This is described in Lev 23:10-11:

"Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it."

From this it is clear that the barley, which was Abib at the beginning of the month, has become harvest-ready 15-21 days later. ... Therefore, the month of Abib can not begin unless the barley has reached a stage where it will be harvest-ready 2 weeks later.

That the barley must be harvest-ready 2 weeks into the month of the Abib is also clear from Deut 16:9 which states:

"Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from *such time as* thou beginnest to put the sickle to the grain."

From Lev 23:15 we know that the seven weeks between the feast of Unleavened Bread and Pentecost begin on the day when the wave-sheaf offering is brought.

"And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete:"

Therefore, the "sickle commences on the standing grain" 2-3 weeks after the beginning of the month of the Abib. If the barley is not developed enough so that it will be ready for the sickle 2-3 weeks later, then the month of the Abib can not begin and we must wait till the following month.

It should be noted that not all the barley ripens in the Land of Israel at the same time. The wave-sheaf offering is a national sacrifice brought from the first fields to become harvest-ready. However, the first-fruit offerings brought by individual farmers can vary in ripeness anywhere from "Abib parched in fire" to fully ripe grain which may be brought "crushed" or "coarsely ground". This is what is meant in Lev 2:14:

"And if thou offer a meal offering of thy firstfruits unto Yahweh, thou shalt offer for the meal offering of thy firstfruits green ears (Abib) of grain dried by the fire, *even* grain beaten out of full ears." ("Full ears" is the Hebrew word *Imrk*, karmel. Karmel is grain which has hardened beyond Abib to the point where it can be "crushed" or "coarsely ground").

So barley which is in the state of Abib has 3 characteristics:

1. It is brittle enough to be destroyed by hail and has begun to lighten in color.
2. The seeds have produced enough dry material so it can be eaten parched.
3. It has developed enough so that it will be harvest-ready 2-3 weeks later.

(Continued on Page 5)

# HALLELUYAH!

Let everything that hath breath praise Yah. HalleluYah. Psalm 150:6

Behold, El is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for Yah Yahweh is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.... And in that day shall you say, Praise Yahweh (HalleluYah!), call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Isaiah 12:2-4

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of Yah. John 3:18

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, ... Isaiah 58:1-2

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shall be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy [kodesh] day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of Yahweh, honourable; and shall honour him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words: Then shall you delight yourself in Yahweh; ... Isaiah 58:12-14

Sing unto Elohim, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name YAH, and rejoice before him. Psalm 68:4

This name “Yah” is the short form of our heavenly Father’s Name. We hear it in “HalleluYah” (Praise ye Yah). Transliterated (sound for sound) to all languages in the earth, manifesting the family unity in the earth: the oneness of his name. Ephesians 3:14-15

That they all may be one; as you Father, art in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me. John 17:21

But sanctify [separate – give him his right place] the Messiah as Sovereign in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and reverence. 1 Peter 3:15

Those in the Body of Messiah (ekklesia) and subscribing to The Faith magazine have this knowledge of the Sacred [set apart, separated] Name, and appointed times to meet in his presence and be refreshed. Leviticus 23:1-36

We are each committed to sharing this wonderful news of the kingdom which Yahshua said must be proclaimed in all the world. Matthew 24:14. Yahweh’s gift of life, through the sacrifice [offering] of his Son Yahshua – Yah’s Salvation – is life free of all the pain, sorrow, tears, and fears; to one of rejoicing forever more. HalleluYah! ...

Submitted by: M. Preston

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Contact Information: First Assembly of Yahvah, 806 RSCR 3330, Emory, TX 75440, (903) 473-6268, [www.assemblyofyahvah.com](http://www.assemblyofyahvah.com).

# THE WORD OF YAHWEH

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

The Word of Yahweh (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) is now available with three cover choices: Bonded Leather; Hard Cover; and Soft Cover (Lexotone Perfect Bound). If you have not placed your order yet, please fill in the order form below to order your copy now. Make check or money order payable to: Assembly of Yahweh, 1017 N. Gunnell Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 (USA). Michigan residents add 6% sales tax.

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# 2008 CALENDAR CALCULATIONS

Military time – in Jerusalem, Israel (LST)

LST (Local Standard Time) equals GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) plus two hours

Source of Reference – Photographer's Almanac of the Sun and Moon

“New Moon is generally not visible until at least 15 minutes after sunset.” (Robert Victor)

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Conjunction January 8 – 11:37 GMT plus 2 hours equals 13:37 LST (p.m.)

Sunset January 8 – 16:51 (13:37 to 16:51 = moon is 3 hrs 14 min old)

Sunset January 9 – 16:52 (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 27 hrs 15 min old)

Moonset January 9 – 17:48 (16:52 to 17:48 = moon is up 56 min)

**\*January 10, 2008 (1/10/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction February 7 – 03:44 GMT plus 2 hours equals 05:44 LST (a.m.)

Sunset February 7 – 17:18 (05:44 to 17:18 = moon is 11 hrs 34 min old)

Sunset February 8 – 17:19 (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 35 hrs 35 min old)

Moonset February 8 – 18:46 (17:19 to 18:46 = moon is up 1 hr 27 min)

**\*February 9, 2008 (2/09/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction March 7 – 17:14 GMT plus 2 hours equals 19:14 LST (p.m.)

Sunset March 7 – 17:42 (17:42 to 19:14 – Conjunction is 1 hr 32 min after sunset)

Sunset March 8 – 17:42 (19:14 March 7 to 17:42 March 8 = moon is 22 hrs 28 min old)

Moonset March 8 – 18:40 (17:42 to 18:40 = moon is up 58 min)

**\*March 9, 2008 (3/09/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction April 6 – 03:55 GMT plus 2 hours equals 05:55 LST (a.m.)

Sunset April 6 – 18:02 (05:55 to 18:02 = moon is 12 hrs 7 min old)

Sunset April 7 – 18:03 (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 36 hrs 8 min old)

Moonset April 7 – 19:49 (18:03 to 19:49 = moon is up 1 hr 46 min)

**\*April 8, 2008 (4/08/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction May 5 – 12:18 GMT plus 2 hours equals 14:18 LST (p.m.)

Sunset May 5 – 18:22 (14:18 to 18:22 = moon is 4 hrs 4 min old)

Sunset May 6 – 18:23 (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 28 hrs 5 min old)

Moonset May 6 – 19:53 (18:23 to 19:53 = moon is up 1 hr 30 min)

**\*May 7, 2008 (5/07/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction June 3 – 19:23 GMT plus 2 hours equals 21:23 LST (p.m.)

Sunset June 3 – 18:41 (18:41 to 21:23 – Conjunction is 2 hrs 42 min after sunset)

Sunset June 4 – 18:41 (21:23 June 3 to 18:41 June 4 = moon is 21 hrs 18 min old)

Moonset June 4 – 19:49 (18:41 to 19:49 = moon is up 1 hr 8 min)

**\*June 5, 2008 (6/05/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction July 3 – 02:19 GMT plus 2 hours equals 04:19 LST (a.m.)

Sunset July 3 – 18:48 (04:19 to 18:48 = moon is 14 hrs 29 min old)

Sunset July 4 – 18:48 (plus 24 hrs = moon is 38 hrs 29 min old)

Moonset July 4 – 20:12 (18:48 to 20:12 = moon is up 1 hr 24 min)

**\*July 5, 2008 (7/05/08) is New Moon Day**



Conjunction August 1 – 10:13 GMT plus 2 hours equals 12:13 LST (p.m.)

Sunset August 1 – 18:35 (12:13 to 18:35 = moon is 6 hrs 22 min old)

Sunset August 2 – 18:35 (plus 24 hrs = moon is 30 hrs 22 min old)

Moonset August 2 – 19:20 (18:35 to 19:20 = moon is up 45 min)

**\*August 3, 2008 (8/03/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction August 30 – 19:58 GMT plus 2 hours equals 21:58 LST (p.m.)

Sunset August 30 – 18:05 (18:05 to 21:58 – Conjunction is 3 hrs 53 min after sunset)

Sunset August 31 – 18:04 (21:58 August 30 to 18:04 August 31 = moon is 20 hrs 6 min old)

Moonset August 31 – 18:18 (18:04 to 18:18 = moon is up 14 min)

Sunset September 1 – 18:03 (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 44 hrs 5 min old)

Moonset September 1 – 18:47 (18:03 to 18:47 = moon is up 44 min)

**\*September 2, 2008 (9/02/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction September 29 – 08:12 GMT plus 2 hours equals 10:12 LST (a.m.)

Sunset September 29 – 17:26 (10:12 to 17:26 = moon is 7 hrs 14 min old)

Sunset September 30 – 17:25 (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 31 hrs 13 min old)

Moonset September 30 – 17:45 (17:25 to 17:45 = moon is up 20 min)

Sunset October 1 – 17:24 (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 55 hrs 12 min old)

Moonset October 1 – 18:17 (17:24 to 18:17 – moon is up 53 min)

**\*October 2, 2008 (10/02/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction October 28 – 23:14 plus 2 hours equals 01:14 LST (a.m.) on October 29

Sunset October 29 – 16:52 (01:14 to 16:52 = moon is 15 hrs 38 min old)

Sunset October 30 – 16:51 (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 39 hrs 37 min old)

Moonset October 30 – 17:28 (16:51 to 17:28 = moon is up 37 min)

**\*October 21, 2008 (10/31/08) is New Moon Day (Borderline)**

Conjunction November 27 – 16:55 GMT plus 2 hours equals 18:55 LST (p.m.)

Sunset November 27 – 16:35 (16:35 to 18:55 – Conjunction is 2 hrs 20 min after sunset)

Sunset November 28 – 16:35 (18:55 Nov.27 to 16:35 Nov. 28 = moon is 21 hrs 40 min old)

Moonset November 28 – 16:54 (16:35 to 16:54 = moon is up 19 min)

Sunset November 29 – 16:35 (plus 24 hrs = moon is 45 hrs 40 min old)

Moonset November 29 – 17:45 (16:35 to 17:45 = moon is up 1 hr 10 min)

**\*November 30, 2008 (11/30/08) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction December 27 – 12:22 GMT plus 2 hrs equals 14:22 LST (p.m.)

Sunset December 27 – 16:43 (14:22 to 16:43 = moon is 2 hrs 21 min old)

Sunset December 28 – 16:44 (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 26 hrs 22 min old)

Moonset December 28 – 17:31 (16:44 to 17:31 = moon is up 47 min)

**\*December 29, 2008 (12/29/08) is New Moon Day**

**Yahshua's Memorial (Passover)**

**April 21, 2008**

**Celebrate April 20, 2008 after sunset**

**And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the  
Passover of Yahweh – Numbers 28:16**

# Yahweh's

2008 Calendar

New Moon Days	YAHSHUA'S MEMORIAL (Passover) APRIL 21 Celebrate APRIL 20 after sunset	Annual Convocation Days
	FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD APRIL 22 through APRIL 28	
Jan. 10		April 22
Feb. 9		April 28
Mar. 9	FEAST (appointment) OF WEEKS JUNE 11	June 11
Apr. 8	See Leviticus 23:10, 11, 15, 16, 21	Oct. 2
May 7		Oct. 11
June 5	FEAST (appointment) OF TRUMPETS OCTOBER 2	Oct. 16
July 5		Oct. 23
Aug. 3		
Sept. 2	DAY (appointment) OF ATONEMENT OCTOBER 11	7 days in all – the number of completeness
Oct. 2		
Oct. 31 (Borderline)	FEAST OF TABERNACLES (Booths or Huts) OCTOBER 16 through OCTOBER 22	
Nov. 30		
Dec. 29	LAST GREAT DAY OCTOBER 23	

Begin YAHWEH's days with the sunset preceding the indicated Roman days lasting till the next sunset.

## Aviv Search 2008

(Day 3) Wednesday, March 5, 2008

It was a beautiful sunny day in Israel today and we covered a lot of miles of ground. Our inspections started in the Jordan Valley, north of Jericho. We traveled some of our normal route (90) and some roads located east of it, closer to the Jordan River itself.

As has been the case the past two days, we encountered very young barley. Our inspections took us north of Beit She'an, to the upper heights of the Golan. We covered the Gilboa Mountains and Jezreel Valley, as well as the coastal areas north to Ra'anana.

The most advanced barley we found today would be the early stages of milk development, being #7 as figured by the Zadok scale. Nothing we have inspected comes close to the minimum standard of Leviticus 2:14 for a first fruits grain offering. Our next report will be following our looking for the New Moon at the close of Sabbath, on Saturday evening, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

We have concluded the field inspection portion of the trip, unless anyone has a special request for us to look at some specific fields.

Thanks for your prayers.

Rick Andrews, Brian Hoeck, Zach Boettner, and Brian Convery

## Important News from Israel!

The Barley Is Not Aviv! [www.michaelroodministries.com](http://www.michaelroodministries.com)

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