

The Faith

Volume 87

10-12, 2023

Number 4

JEREMIAH 10:1-6

Hear ye the word which Yahweh speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:

Thus Saith Yahweh, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.

They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.

For as much as there is none like unto thee, O Yahweh; thou art great, and thy name is great in might.

1 CHRONICLES 16:23-26

Sing unto Yahweh, all the earth; show forth from day to day
His salvation.

Declare His reverence among the heathen; His marvelous works
among all nations.

For great is Yahweh, and greatly to be praised: He also is
to be feared above all elohim.

For all the elohim of the people are idols: but Yahweh
made the heavens.

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

VOLUME 87

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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 (Deceased)

Our motto: FORWARD WITH THE
ORIGINALLY INSPIRED
SCRIPTURES!

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The Faith

Editorial

YAHWEH'S CALENDAR

In the beginning Elohim created the heaven and the earth. Genesis 1:1. Then we see that Yahweh (Elohim) set the times and days. Genesis 1:5 - ... And the evening and the morning were the first day. The pattern continues on through Genesis 1:31 – And Elohim saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Continuing on in Genesis 2:1-4 – Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the sixth day Elohim ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which Elohim created and made. These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that Yahweh Elohim made the earth and the heavens.

We see from these scriptures that Yahweh provided the pattern and instructions for His people to know and follow. This is the first record of a divine calendar with a weekly cycle. Returning to 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 (Strong's #226, as a flag, beacon, mark), and for seasons (Strong's 4150 moed , appointment assembly), and for days (Strong's 3117, day, to be hot as a day, sunset to sunset) and years (Strong's #8141, as a revolution of time):

In this issue of The Faith are articles with information focusing on Yahweh's Calendar, Calculations for the year 2024, Beginning the Month, Calculating Time, etc. With this information we are able to determine Yahweh's Feast Days and times. Yahweh's people are to observe and celebrate His Feast days each year, three times in a year; Passover, Feast of Unleavened, Feast of Weeks, Day of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day; Exodus 12, Leviticus 23, Numbers 28, and Deuteronomy 16. Matthew 26, John 7, in the New Testament.

Remember, it is our life to keep the Commandments of Yahweh. Deuteronomy 5:29 – O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever! Matthew 19:17 – ...But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the Commandments. John 14:15 – If you love me, keep my Commandments.

Also, in this issue is an article regarding the celebrating of the holiday season which is upon us. Let us be a beacon for all those seeking to rid themselves of the trappings of this season. Remember, there is no command in the Scriptures to celebrate Yahshua's birth, but we are to commemorate his death, burial and resurrection. Ecclesiastes 7:1 – A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. 1 Corinthians 11:26 – For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Master's death till he come.

May Yahweh bless us as we continue to serve Him and His son, our Savior Yahshua the Messiah.

Samuel A. Graham

BIBLE STUDENTS - BEREANS

Yahweh's Feasts have been observed and celebrated in Michigan (Lansing, Eaton Rapids and surrounding area) since 1925. The Bereans of the past were common folks, Bible readers and were led to study the set-apart Scriptures, gathering on the seventh day Sabbath. Looking back on these ninety-eight years, Yahweh's Holy (Kodesh) Spirit had to be involved, leading these people to stay steadfast all these years.

1 Corinthians 12:7 – But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. How did that small group of Bible students profit withal? The nucleus of these believers lived long, useful and blessed lives. They all died in Faith, in The Faith once delivered to the saints. Jude, verse 3 – Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

The unseen blessings for being steadfast for all these years will come to light at the final heavenly judgment with the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant." See Matthew 25:14-34. Verse 34 – Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

This small group of believers even met on the new moon days and observed them faithfully, almost like the seventh-day Sabbath. At that time we kept the New Moon day by local sighting; some in the local congregation still watch for that small silvery crescent. The Eaton Rapids Assembly has observed the New Moon days, recognizing these 12 months (moons) as the determining factor for counting and calculating Yahweh's three great annual Feasts. We must have a starting point for the year.

These bible students looked into ancient writings, preserved through the ages for clues, hints and records of believers in the 1st and 2nd centuries, and up to our century: the writings of Flavius Josephus, Unger's Bible Dictionary, Douay Bible, the Septuagint Bible, along with the standard King James Version; also, using Strong's, Young's and Cruden's Concordances. I can remember being in the room or at the table as these bible students discussed various topics; one thing that amazed me was their memory/recall of scriptures from the bible.

The Passover date was always a challenge and the conclusion after much study was that the Passover was in the spring of the year in the month of March or the first part of April. The count begins with the visible new moon nearest to the time when day and night equal one another, that is, when the sun crosses the Equator in the spring. A record of the early believers in Yahweh calculating the new year (Abib or Nisan), was on page 314 in *A History of the True Religion* by Andrew Dugger and C. O. Dodd; and on page 413 of *The Forgotten Faith of the True Worshipers* by Haig Mardirossian V.Y.M. Another criteria was found in Josephus under *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book III, Chapter X, paragraph 5, - In the month of Nisan and the beginning of our year on the fourteenth day of the lunar month, when the sun is in Aries (for in this month it was that we were delivered from bondage under the Egyptians,) the law ordained that we should every year slay the sacrifice which I before told you we slew when we came out of Egypt and which was called the Passover.

Another criteria was the 14th day (Passover) had to be on or after the day and night were equal. This Assembly calculates/observes the New Moon as first visible in Jerusalem, Israel and also looks for it locally.

Samuel A. Graham

BEGINNING THE MONTH

“ . . . in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets . . .” (Numbers 10:10). Also see Numbers 28:11. *What is the beginning of the month and its significance?* As believers of the Scriptures, let us consider some of the evidence.

In the Scriptures we find that the word “chodesh” is translated “new moon” and “month;” so when a day of the month is spoken of, such as in Exodus 12:6, we know it must be speaking of a day of the new moon, and that the new moon begins the month. For further proof that the new moon begins the month, read 1 Samuel 20, verses 24 and 27. Here we find that the day after the new moon is the 2nd day of the month.

We find by observation, almanacs, etc., that the moon is seen from day to day with varying degrees of light. It appears to us at different times either all lighted, partly lighted, or not lighted at all. At the time of the *conjunction*, when the earth, moon, and sun are in line, we see no light in it. This happens once a lunar month. This is the time almanacs, etc., give as the time of the new moon. We see the moon shortly after this time, in the west after sunset, as a thin crescent of light.

It is believed that new moon day is this day when light can first be seen. We read in Genesis 1:14 that the LIGHTS in the firmament of the heaven are for signs, seasons, days, and years; and in Psalms 104:19, He appointed the moon for seasons (“seasons” in both verses being translated from the word “moed” meaning set times or appointments). So we calculate our years, months, annual Sabbaths, and feasts in accordance with the new moon day being the first day of the month, and one new moon day being the first day of the year.

Should we observe the new moon day in some special way today? We read in Colossians the second chapter of the period of time in which we are now living. That is -- the age since the Messiah, Yahshua, has died for our sins and gone to heaven, and before He comes again to earth to receive His own. We read in the 14th verse that His death blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way; but we read in the 17th verse of some things which ARE (*present tense - -- still here --- not done away with*) a shadow of things to come. In the 16th verse we find mentioned feasts, new moons, and Sabbaths. Individually, we must decide for ourselves what we will do. Let no man defraud you of your reward . . . intruding into those things which he has not seen (18th verse). We should let no man judge us nor should we judge (16th verse and Romans 14:4, 10, and 13th verses) how others in the faith (Romans 14:1) observe; but surely we in the faith SHOULD OBSERVE Yahweh’s days and ways. It is man’s new moons, sabbaths, and feasts that Yahweh hates; not His own (Isaiah 1:13-14). Surely these rulers of Sodom and Gomorrah were not observing Yahweh’s days. We are warned of one who will *think* to change times and laws (Daniel 7:25). Man has set up his own time for when to start his years and months, and his own days to celebrate such as: Sunday, All Saints Day, New Years Day, Christmas, Valentine’s Day, and Easter. We are to observe Yahweh’s ways ---- not man’s.

If Yahweh’s people had always been faithful in observing the new moon day, they would know exactly how to calculate it today.

Calculating Time

Reprinted from The Faith, 1-2, 1989

The following letter was written in 1983 in the interest of unity concerning Yahweh's set times.

Dear Brother:

Shalom in Yahweh and Yahshua. HalleluYah.

It has come to me to write this to you concerning a point, in the interest of all Yahweh's called observing the correct days. This is in accordance with a prayer of mine about 19 years ago.

First of all, I hope you had a trip to Israel that was a beneficial blessing. Also, I want to say I preach, and desire to be known as a minister that represents the entire assembly of Yahweh – not just the local FAITH assembly in Michigan.

Since you have just been to Israel, the point I make may be quite understandable to you; however, many have apparently not been able to see it.

Thinking of yourself as being in Jerusalem and observing the weekly Sabbath, you are observing a day that is called Saturday. Thinking of me as being in Florida and observing the weekly Sabbath, I also am observing a day that is called Saturday. We each observe the same day of the week, Saturday. I begin to observe it about 7 hours after you start, and those in Japan begin to observe it before you do; but we all observe the same day of the week, Saturday, when it comes to us. Some people might reason that if I am going to keep the same Sabbath as you in Jerusalem, I should begin to do it the same hour as you do in Jerusalem. We know this reasoning is [erroneous] don't we? Wherever we are on earth, we keep the same day of the week (Saturday) for the Sabbath, when it comes to us.

Now let us consider another sabbath, an annual sabbath, the day of Trumpets. Again think of yourself in Jerusalem and observing the Trumpets sabbath. Let's say that the particular year you are observing this Trumpets sabbath, it falls on a Friday. The person in Japan, and I here in Florida will also observe it on Friday when it gets to us, in the same manner as we observe the weekly Sabbath, Saturday, when it gets to us. Right? Yahweh is not the author of confusion is He? I do not think He tells some on earth to observe Saturday for the weekly Sabbath – and others to observe Friday. Neither, in this case of Trumpets sabbath, do I think He tells some to observe it on a Friday, and others on a Thursday. Forgive the use of the pagan names for the days of the week, which Yahweh likely would not use; but I thought this might make it plainer. We can substitute 5th, 6th, and 7th for these days of the week in this letter.

I have probably made my point and maybe do not need to continue, however, I will elaborate a little more.

If in Jerusalem this coming day of Trumpets, I think you will find it to be on the 6th day of the week (Friday) as in the foregoing example. This is September 9, 1983 on the worldly calendar. The so-called conjunction is about 4:36 a.m., Sept. 7 Jerusalem time. The next sunset is only about 13 hours, 20 minutes later – the moonset less than 14 hours

after conjunction – not enough time from conjunction to see this new moon, you and I both believe. Therefore Sept. 8 would not be the day of Trumpets. Sept. 9 would, (Friday) the 6th day of the week. As in our foregoing examples, I also want to observe this 6th day of the week for Trumpets sabbath no matter where I may be on earth.

It so is this coming Sept. that as we go west from Jerusalem that we might begin to see the new moon in the western U.S. the night (after sunset) of Sept. 7 – and of course it would also be seen that night west to the date line east of Japan; but not at Jerusalem (or east of it to the date line) this night of Sept. 7. Do we have a right to set a date line down through the U.S. and proclaim the sabbath west of it to be Thursday, the 5th day of the week, and east of it through Jerusalem to Japan and Yahweh's date line (in the ocean), to be Friday, the 6th day of the week? I think not. I believe Yahweh's date line, where days of the week start, is out in the ocean east of Japan at the latitude where we can draw a straight vertical line from north to south pole where it crosses no land (or nearly no land). There is only one such place like this on earth. If the date line came down through the land mass, it would cause quite a disturbance with it being one day of the week on one side of it, and another day of the week on the other side.

It is orderly and good, isn't it, that we keep the same day of the week for the weekly Sabbath, no matter where we are on earth. I think it will also be good when all the true believers around the world will also keep the same day of the week for Trumpets sabbath, and all the other new moon days as well.

Anciently, the new moon was spotted around Jerusalem, and the day of month beginning was proclaimed there. Why not do the same today and end the confusion of some people beginning a month on one day of the week, and others on another day of the week? At the year beginning, we consider the barley in Palestine, don't we – not somewhere else on earth. Why not go all the way in being correct, and go to Jerusalem to determine on what day of the week a month starts so we will all be using the same day of the week, in the same manner that we all use the same day of the week for the Sabbath (and go to the date line to say where it starts)?

Sunset is, of course, the time that a day starts wherever we are; but it is at the date line that determination is made as to what day of the week it is that is starting at sunset wherever we are. At every moment, the sun is setting somewhere on earth, and a day is beginning. Let's say Sabbath is beginning. As the earth rotates, Sabbath keeps beginning later in time westward. We cannot continue to say that Friday is ending and Sabbath is starting. Eventually, as we go west, we must say at some point that it is not Sabbath starting now – it is Sunday starting now. This point is, I believe, Yahweh's date line (not man's crooked international date line). Because, in this example, it is Sabbath on one side and Sunday on the other, it is good that the date line is over water – not land where there would be confusion among the populace. Is it not significant that if we divide the earth at the date line, and spread it out as a flat map, we find Jerusalem nearly (or maybe exactly) in the center of the land mass?

This might be another reason to say that Jerusalem is the spot to say when it occurs, "We see the new moon now. It is the 6th day of the week just starting. This day of the week is the month beginning throughout the earth." Someone might say that a problem with this reasoning is that this day had already started in Japan and beyond to the date line BEFORE it was proclaimed at Jerusalem to be the new moon day; so how did those people know to observe it as new moon day? Firstly, if Yahweh indicates to determine it from

Jerusalem, we do not argue with Him. Secondly, those in Japan can calculate from Jerusalem just as we in the U.S. can. Others might say, "How can we expect people to calculate things without instruments?" I will ask a question: "It has been cloudy weather for several days. We have not seen the sun. How am I going to know when it is sunset to start the Sabbath?" The answer is obvious. By calculation. Have not Yahweh's people always been intelligent enough to figure and calculate a little bit? Another question has been, "How can we know without instruments when is the equal day and night in the spring?" If a person can count, he can simply count about 365 days from the last time. Or he can set up a couple stakes lined up east and west. When the sunset is in line with them, it is the equal day and night time of year. By the counting of days from this time, he can know ahead of time when the next such time will occur. If we were alone somewhere, such as on an island, would we not also do a little calculation to keep track of what day of the week it was? I would say calculation is not an unsurmountable problem. If it was, then we might have to say that the day of the week of the new moon should be determined by the new moon sighting at the date line. But then, who would be out there in the water to observe it?

I hope I have not digressed so much that my main point has been lost; and that point is: If we all keep the same 7th day of the week Sabbath, should we not also all keep the same day of the week for the Trumpets sabbath – and all month beginnings?

It would follow, of course, that moonsightings at various spots around the world would not necessarily all be significant in determining the beginning of the month; but have you not already indicated this a year or so ago in a newsletter, on one occasion of moonsighting, that even if they saw the moon a day earlier, it would not change the day that had been already determined? People can still observe the new moon everywhere for its interest, beauty, and educational value.

Sincerely, George Kinney

2 Chronicles 7:14 – If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

The Faith staff has determined the visible new moon crescent for the beginning of the year as follows. Take the new moon nearest to the Spring equinox (Gen. 1:14, Psalm 104:19, Jer. 31:35), and use as the starting point of the new year. This keeps the lunar year and the solar year in a closer relationship. When the sun crosses the equator whatever the minute or second, a new year begins. That is an event for the whole world, whatever time zone we are in. Equinox --- the time when the sun crosses the equator, making night and day of equal length in all parts of the earth (Webster's New World Dictionary).

The Faith staff takes the visible sighting of the new moon crescent at Jerusalem rather than local sighting and considers the green ears of barley in Israel when determining Abib the first month of the year. When Yahshua returns to this earth and sets up His Kingdom, the law will go forth out of Zion and the Word of Yahweh from Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:3, Jer. 3:17).

NEW MOON VALIDITY

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. (Genesis 1:14)

SIGNS = ('oth) Things to come

SEASONS = (mo'ed) Appointed time

THESE ARE THE FEASTS OF YAHWEH, EVEN HOLY CONVOCATIONS, WHICH YOU SHALL PROCLAIM IN THEIR SEASON. (Leviticus 23:4)

FEASTS = (mo'ed) Appointed time

SEASON = (mo'ed) Appointed time

Yahweh's festivals are determined by the sighting of the new moon crescent, for Scripture tells us that both the sun and moon were given for signs and seasons. This does not mean that we are to set Yahweh's festivals by the moon's conjunction with the sun, for at such a time the moon cannot be seen, therefore it cannot bear witness as a sign.

We are told in Isaiah 2:3 that Yahweh's law shall go forth out of Zion and his word from Jerusalem. In light of this Jerusalem becomes central in determining the festivals. The new moon crescent must first be seen in Jerusalem before considering a new moon sighting as valid. That is to say, to accept a new moon sighting in the U.S. and setting Yahweh's festivals therefrom, when it has not been first seen in Jerusalem, would nullify the importance of Jerusalem as being central, the point from which Yahweh's law proceeds....

Richard Anderson, El Dorado, Kansas

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:

Seasons – Strong's #4150 moed – an appointment, i.e. a fixed time or season; spec. a festival;

Psalm 104:19 He appointed the moon for seasons:

Leviticus 23:4 These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy [kodesh] convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Jeremiah 31:35, 36 Thus saith Yahweh, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon ... If those ordinances depart from before me, saith Yahweh, ...

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

Deuteronomy 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.

2024 CALENDAR CALCULATIONS

Local time for Jerusalem, Israel

Source of Reference – www.timeanddate.com

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

Conjunction January 11 – 1:57 p.m.

Sunset January 11 – 4:53 p.m. (1:57 p.m. to 4:53 p.m. = moon is 2 hrs 56 min old)

Sunset January 12 – 4:54 p.m. (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 26 hrs 57 min old)

Moonset January 12 – 5:58 p.m. (4:54 p.m. to 5:58 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 4 min)

***January 13, 2024 (1/13/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction February 10 – 12:59 a.m.

Sunset February 10 – 5:20 p.m. (12:59 a.m. to 5:20 p.m. = moon is 16 hrs 21 min old)

Moonset February 10 – 6:00 p.m. (5:20 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. = moon is up 40 min)

Sunset February 11 – 5:21 p.m. (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 40 hrs 22 min old)

Moonset February 11 – 7:12 p.m. (5:21 p.m. to 7:12 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 51 min)

***February 12, 2024 (2/12/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction March 10 – 11:00 a.m.

Sunset March 10 – 5:43 p.m. (11:00 a.m. to 5:43 p.m. = moon is 6 hrs 43 min old)

Sunset March 11 – 5:44 p.m. (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 30 hrs 44 min old)

Moonset March 11 – 7:07 p.m. (5:44 p.m. to 7:07 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 23 min)

***March 12, 2024 (3/12/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction April 8 – 9:20 p.m.

Sunset April 8 – 7:03 p.m. (7:03 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. = Conjunction is 2 hrs 17 min after sunset)

Sunset April 9 – 7:04 p.m. (9:20 p.m. April 8 to 7:04 p.m. April 9 = moon is 21 hrs 44 min old)

Moonset April 9 – 8:03 p.m. (7:04 p.m. to 8:03 p.m. = moon is up 59 min)

***April 10, 2024 (4/10/24) is New Moon Day (Borderline)**

Conjunction May 8 – 6:21 a.m.

Sunset May 8 – 7:24 p.m. (6:21 a.m. to 7:24 p.m. = moon is 13 hrs 3 min old)

Sunset May 9 – 7:25 p.m. (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 37 hrs 4 min old)

Moonset May 9 – 9:13 p.m. (7:25 p.m. to 9:13 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 48 min)

***May 10, 2024 (5/10/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction June 6 – 3:37 p.m.

Sunset June 6 – 7:42 p.m. (3:37 p.m. to 7:42 p.m. = moon is 4 hrs 5 min old)

Sunset June 7 – 7:43 p.m. (plus 24 hrs 1 min = moon is 28 hrs 6 min old)

Moonset June 7 – 9:03 p.m. (7:43 p.m. to 9:03 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 20 min)

***June 8, 2024 (6/08/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction July 6 – 1:57 a.m.

Sunset July 6 – 7:48 p.m. (1:57 a.m. to 7:48 p.m. = moon is 17 hrs 51 min old)

Moonset July 6 – 8:37 p.m. (7:48 p.m. to 8:37 p.m. = moon is up 49 min)

Sunset July 7 – 7:47 p.m. (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 41 hrs 50 min old)

Moonset July 7 – 9:18 p.m. (7:47 p.m. to 9:18 p.m. = moon is up 1 hr 31 min)

***July 8, 2024 (7/08/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction August 4 – 2:13 p.m.

Sunset August 4 – 7:32 p.m. (2:13 p.m. to 7:32 p.m. = moon is 5 hrs 19 min old)

Sunset August 5 – 7:32 p.m. (plus 24 hrs = moon is 29 hrs 19 min old)

Moonset August 5 – 8:23 p.m. (7:32 p.m. to 8:23 p.m. = moon is up 51 min)

***August 6, 2024 (8/06/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction September 3 – 4:55 a.m.

Sunset September 3 – 7:00 p.m. (4:55 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. = moon is 14 hrs 5 min old)

Sunset September 4 – 6:58 p.m. (plus 23 hrs 58 min = moon is 38 hrs 3 min old)

Moonset September 4 – 7:44 p.m. (6:58 p.m. to 7:44 p.m. = moon is up 46 min)

***September 5, 2024 (9/05/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction October 2 – 9:49 p.m.

Sunset October 2 – 6:22 p.m. (6:22 p.m. to 9:49 p.m. = Conjunction is 3 hrs 27 min after sunset)

Sunset October 3 – 6:21 p.m. (9:49 p.m. Oct. 2 to 6:21 p.m. Oct. 3 = moon is 20 hrs 32 min old)

Moonset October 3 – 6:37 p.m. (6:21 p.m. to 6:37 p.m. = moon is up 16 min) ??

Sunset October 4 – 6:19 p.m. (plus 23 hrs 58 min = moon is 44 hrs 30 min old)

Moonset October 4 – 7:03 p.m. (6:19 p.m. to 7:03 p.m. = moon is up 44 min)

***October 5, 2024 (10/05/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction November 1 – 2:47 p.m.

Sunset November 1 – 4:49 p.m. (2:47 p.m. to 4:49 p.m. = moon is 2 hrs 2 min old)

Sunset November 2 – 4:48 p.m. (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 26 hrs 1 min old)

Moonset November 2 – 5:08 p.m. (4:48 p.m. to 5:08 p.m. = moon is up 20 min) ??

Sunset November 3 – 4:47 p.m. (plus 23 hrs 59 min = moon is 50 hrs 00 min old)

Moonset November 3 – 5:46 p.m. (4:47 p.m. to 5:46 p.m. = moon is up 59 min)

***November 4, 2024 (11/04/24) is New Moon Day**

Conjunction December 1 – 8:21 a.m.

Sunset December 1 – 4:34 p.m. (8:21 a.m. to 4:34 p.m. = moon is 8 hrs 13 min old)

Sunset December 2 – 4:34 p.m. (plus 24 hours = moon is 32 hrs 13 min old)

Moonset December 2 – 5:18 p.m. (4:34 p.m. to 5:18 p.m. = moon is up 44 min)

***December 3, 2024 (12/03/24) is New Moon Day**

(New Moon possibly visible?? – October, moon is up 16 minutes – November, moon is up 20 minutes.)

CHRISTMAS, BIBLICAL HOLY DAY OR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY?

BY JAMES L. OBI

The Encyclopedia Britannica 15th edition, Vol. 16, page 383 says, “The word Christmas is derived from the old English, cristes maesse, ‘Christ Mass’.” It continues by saying that, “There is no certain tradition of the date of Christ’s birth.” Again, it went further to say that, “The first notice of a feast of the nativity of Christ occurs in a Roman almanac (the chronographer of 354, or Philocalian calendar), which indicates that the festival was observed by the church in Rome by the year 336 CE.” It is commonly supposed that the Emperor Constantine was influential in the institution of a Christian feast of “the birth day of the sun of righteousness” (Mal. 4:2) as a rival to the popular pagan festival of the unconquered sun at the winter solstice. The Britannica again confirms that “the exact circumstance of the beginning of Christmas Day at Rome remain obscure.” It sheds further light by affirming that, “From Rome the feast spread to other churches of the West and East, the last to adopt it being the church of Jerusalem in the time of Bishop Juvenal (424–458).”

From all indications so far some undisputable facts have emerged which must be considered with all seriousness. Now, let us consider the following details together.

*The word Christmas is native to the English people and not the Jews who gave the true Messiah to the world. “Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.” John 4:22.

*The word Christmas is not found in any credible version of the Holy Scriptures.

*Nobody knows the exact date of the birth of the Messiah hence December 25th or any other date in any month of the year cannot be accepted by Seekers of the Truth as the birth day of our Saviour. However, from Biblical proofs the month of October appears to be the actual month of the birth of the Messiah. No commemoration was however commanded.

*The first Christmas was celebrated in 336 CE, i.e., more than three centuries after the birth of the Messiah. So, what happened between 1–335 CE?

*It is very certain that modern day Christmas originated from Rome and not Bethlehem, Jerusalem or indeed any part of Israel, the nation where the Messiah was born.

*Christmas evidently was instituted by man and not by the Heavenly Father hence it is not found in the inspired word of the Almighty Creator but rather in the traditions of men as contained in their records. This is confirmed by the celebration of the Messiah’s birth day by some Christian organizations in October, the larger world of Christendom on December 25, and by the Eastern orthodox churches on January 6 of every year. A bundle of confusion!

*Christmas is nothing but an ancient Roman pagan festival that should not be touched with a long pole by true Bible Believers and those who love the truth.

***Therefore, no true Believer of the true Messiah will celebrate Christmas and abandon the Biblical and the Divinely ordained feasts of Passover/Unleavened bread, Pentecost and Tabernacles, which are still binding scripturally till the end of time.**

Now what is Christmas? Let me quickly answer by saying that Christmas is nothing but a social and religious festival at the end of the Roman calendar year generally accepted to be a world-wide Christian feast to commemorate the birth of Jesus the Christ (real name, Yahshua Meshiyach). Its historical background dates back to the 4th century. The church world-wide acknowledges that nobody knows the exact date of the Messiah's birth. One thing that is not in doubt is that he was born in a Middle East town of Bethlehem and not in Rome more than 2,000 years ago. And that is the truth!

Let me ask another question. Why celebrate his birthday in December? From all available and incontrovertible historical and Biblical evidences, it is obvious that the Creator of heaven and earth or any heavenly being did not command Christmas observance. Some human beings who apparently decided to take over the role of the father of the Messiah fixed a date in December to celebrate his birth, some thing nobody asked them to do. To justify their action they are very quick to cite Matthew 16:19 which says, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." And John 21:25 where it is recorded as follows, "And there are also many other things which Yahshua did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written." However, unknown to them, they are fulfilling to the letter Mark 7:6-9, 13 where the Master said, "Well hath E-sai-as prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of Yahweh, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such things (like Christmas, New Year, Easter, etc., emphasis mine) ye do. And he said unto them, full well ye reject the commandments of Yahweh, that ye may keep your own tradition. Making the word of Yahweh of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye," e.g., setting aside a date in December to celebrate the birth of the Messiah. They like King Saul of old were clearly told in the scriptures what they should do but they have chosen to do their own will which they claim is to the glory of Yahweh just like King Saul of old. Hear what the Almighty Father through Prophet Samuel told King Saul and those he led to disobey the voice of Yahweh in I Samuel 15:22-23, "And Samuel said, Hath Yahweh as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Yahweh? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of Yahweh, He hath also rejected thee from being king."

If I may ask again, did Miriam, otherwise called Mary, ever celebrate her child's birthday? Did the early Apostles observe it? What of the rest of the disciples? Does the bible encourage the celebration of birthdays generally? The answer to all the questions is NO! I make bold to say that from Genesis to Revelation there is no account of any man/woman of the Almighty who celebrated his/her Birthday. The only two accounts found in both the old and new testaments had to do with the

pagan rulers of Egypt and Israel respectively. On both occasions a life was lost including that of John the Baptist. This is as contained in Genesis 40:20–22 which reads as follows, “And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh’s birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants: and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants. And he restored the butler unto his butlership again: and he gave the cup into Pharaoh’s hand: but he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them.” This is supported by Mark 6:21–28, which reads thus, “And when a convenient day was come, that Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee; And when the daughter of the said Herodias came in, and danced, and pleased Herod and them that sat with him, the king said unto the damsel, Ask of me whatsoever thou wilt, and I will give it thee. And he swore unto her, whatsoever thou shalt ask of me, I will give it thee, unto half of my kingdom. And she went forth, and said unto her mother, What shall I ask? And she said, The head of John the Baptist. And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked, saying, I will that thou give me by and by in a charger the head of John the Baptist. And the king was exceeding sorry; yet for his oath’s sake, and for their sakes, which sat with him, he would not reject her. And immediately the king sent an executioner, and commanded his head to be brought: and he went and beheaded him in the prison. And brought his head in a charger and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother.”

So why then did the church introduce Christmas? The church I believe is in a better position to answer that question. What I know and is true is that Christmas came to the church through the Romans who used to celebrate a feast in honour of their god and characterized by wild parties, orgies, drunkenness, and exchange of gifts that is typical of modern day Christmas.

It is sad to note that people have been deceived into celebrating an unbiblical feast not commanded by the Almighty Father. One thing however stands out clear and that is the heavenly Father has His own appointed feasts of Passover/unleavened bread, Pentecost and Tabernacles clearly stated in the Bible. The months, dates and duration are all stated for proper guidance. You may wish to check out some of the details in Exodus 23:15–17, Leviticus 23:1–44, Deut. 16:16, Luke 2:41–42, John 7:1–37, Acts 20:16.

Remember that as a free moral agent you are at liberty to believe and practice whatsoever you may wish. The choice is entirely yours.

Before I conclude, let me state some basic facts which I challenge any clergyman or organization to disprove.

1. That Christmas is derived from the Roman pagan festival of saturnalia which was normally celebrated on December 17 before it was converted by the Roman church as a Christian feast in the 4th century CE.
2. From all available historical records it was not the church in Jerusalem, Israel, that took over the Roman pagan feast of saturnalia but the Romans through Emperor Constantine who used his executive power by employing the instrument of a decree to bring it to pass for his subjects to observe. If in doubt go to Israel to clarify issues for yourself.
3. That since that enactment the church has not been able to wrestle any of the numerous pagan festivals that abound in all parts of Nigeria and the outside

world. If the church thinks she can do that I challenge them to try and see the result.

4. That part of the commission by the Messiah to the church was not to go and take over pagan religious festivals but to win lost souls for the soon coming kingdom of the Heavenly Father. However, if we must keep feasts the divinely ordained festivals are clearly stated in the Bible for us. Hear what the Bible has to say, “Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year. Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread, (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out of Egypt; and none shall appear before me empty:) And the feast of harvest, the first fruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.” Exodus 23:14–16.
5. That the Christmas tree comes from medieval German mystery plays centered in representations of the tree of paradise (Genesis 2:9). *
6. That the origin of Father Christmas is traceable to one St. Nicholas of Myra – Italy (34 CE) who was believed to visit children with admonition and gifts in preparation for the gift of the Child Christ which is still being practiced in a commercial way today. The word Santa Claus which is a transliteration of St. Nicholas was introduced into the feast by the Dutch.
7. That the sending of greeting cards at Christmas began in Britain in the 1840s and was introduced to the United States in the 1870s several centuries after the birth of the Messiah.
8. That Boxing Day was never a part of the birth of the true Messiah.

In the face of the overwhelming evidence adduced so far, is Christmas still worth celebrating? I am not in a position to judge anybody because I was not sent to do that. After reading this piece you may decide to ignore it or consider the points raised seriously and comply accordingly. However, hear what the Master has to say in John 12:47–48, “And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejected me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the words that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.” The Messiah wraps it up with the following thought provoking statement in Revelation 22:11 where he said, “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he that is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

James L. Obi (Delta State, Nigeria), A servant of Yahshua the Messiah

***JEREMIAH 10:1-5**

Hear ye the word which Yahweh speaketh unto you, O house of Israel: Thus Saith Yahweh, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.

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YAHSHUA'S JEWELS



Yahshua's Young People

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." (1 Tim 4:12)

H A T E !

For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son (John 3:16a). **Note: Yahweh loves the world (everyone).** He does not hate. He only hates our wicked ways. Hate is evil. Hate destroys. Love heals. Do not hate the person, just their wicked ways. Remember Yahweh will judge us all. Be careful.

Here are some tips to help us avoid hate:

L - Learn to forgive; leave vengeance to Yahweh.

O - Overcome evil with good. Be kind even to the enemy.

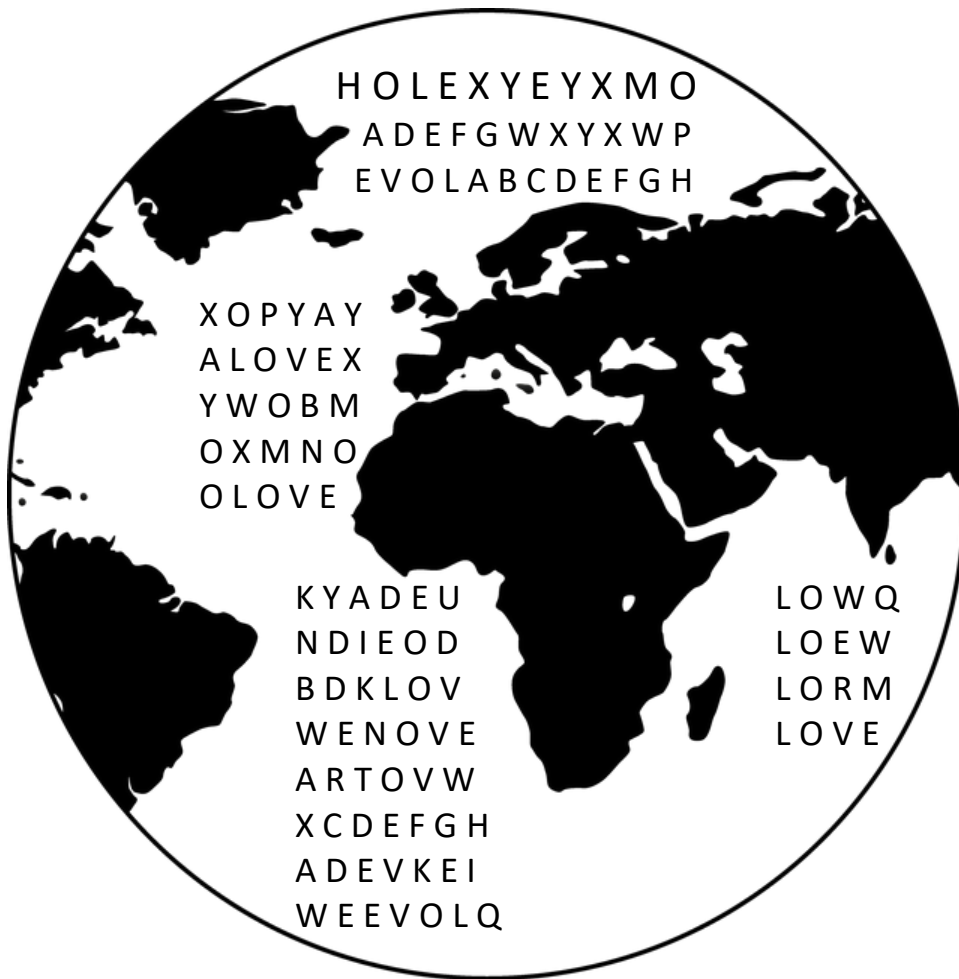
V - Victory can be won by showing love.

E - Evil leads to destruction. Avoid it.

Let the peace of the Messiah rule in your hearts (Col 3:15a).



LOVE IS MISSING IN THE WORLD. CAN YOU FIND IT?



Hint: It appears five times (also appears backwards).

SHARE LOVE WITH OTHERS NOT HATE.

WE ARE OF YAHWEH NOT SATAN.

CHECK OUT ALL EDITIONS OF YAHSHUA'S JEWELS:

<http://assemblyofyahweh.com/youth>

REMEMBER TO PASS IT ON TO YOUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Yahweh's 2024 Calendar

| New Moon Days | YAHSHUA'S MEMORIAL (Passover) MARCH 25 Celebrate MARCH 24 after sunset | Annual Convocation Days |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jan. 13 | FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD MARCH 26 through APRIL 1 | March 26 |
| Feb. 12 | | April 1 |
| Mar. 12 | FEAST (appointment) OF WEEKS MAY 15 See Leviticus 23:10, 11, 15, 16, 21 | May 15 |
| Apr. 10 (Borderline) | | Sept. 5 |
| May 10 | FEAST (appointment) OF TRUMPETS SEPTEMBER 5 | Sept. 14 |
| June 8 | | Sept. 19 |
| July 8 | DAY (appointment) OF ATONEMENT SEPTEMBER 14 | Sept. 26 |
| Aug. 6 | | |
| Sept. 5 | FEAST OF TABERNACLES (Booths or Huts) SEPTEMBER 19 through SEPTEMBER 25 | |
| Oct. 5 | | |
| Nov. 4 | LAST GREAT DAY SEPTEMBER 26 | |
| Dec. 3 | | |

7 days
in all – the
number
of
completeness

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

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"Will you please help us provide a simple Passover gift to our brothers and sisters behind bars this year? Please join with Sabbath Keepers Fellowship by donating to our 2024 Passover Package Program. Each Passover Package contains one box of matzah, two 8-ounce bottles of grape juice, 1 packet of horseradish, and one Passover Haggadah. These are the very bare essentials necessary to observe a Scriptural Passover, and so much less than most of us will enjoy at our own Passover tables. We cannot provide Passover to our brothers and sisters in prison and we are all depending on your help! Please mail your check or money order to: Sabbath Keepers Fellowship, P.O. Box 972, Malakoff, Texas 75148 or make a donation through PayPal on our website at:

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