

2023 HOLY DAYS AND NEW MOONS CALENDAR

by Avram Yehoshua

The Seed of Abraham

The dates listed are the actual *days* of the event. The biblical, as well as the Israeli events, begin the evening before at darkness, which is when a biblical day begins, not at dusk as is commonly thought.¹ The words below in **bold** speak of holy days (e.g. #6, The Passover Meal, which is eaten on the first day of The Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is the first annual Sabbath of the year; Ex. 12:16).

1. Judah Maccabee's miraculous victory over NicanorMonday, March 6, 2023
 - *Adar 13*—In the Book of Maccabees 13 *Adar* is the day of celebration of Judah Maccabee over the Syrian army of Nicanor (163 BC), who vowed to destroy the Jews and the Temple in Jerusalem (1st Mac. 7, esp. v. 50). It's a day acclamation for our (Jewish and Gentile) Family (cf. Jn. 10:16; Rom. 11:11f.; Eph. 2:11f.) because God gave the victory to Judah (read chapter seven, pp. 12-12 at [Hanuka—The 1st Book of Maccabees](#)). Israel's history is part of every Christian's Family History. How to celebrate? Thank Yeshua for His deliverance of His people Israel and feast! It's a celebration!
2. PurimTuesday and Wednesday, March 7-8, 2023
 - *Adar 14-15*—Purim is not a holy time, but a two day holiday that commemorates God's deliverance of the Jewish people in the Persian Empire through Mordecai and Esther, about 470 BC (see the Book of Esther for the full story and to have the proper biblical attitude to celebrate it).
 - Purim begins on Monday night, March 6 at dark and ends on Wednesday night at dark, March 8.
3. The Vernal EquinoxMonday, March 20, 2023
 - It's the New Moon on or after the Vernal (Spring) Equinox that determines the first New Moon for the biblical year.
4. The First Day of the First Biblical Month of the New YearThursday, March 23, 2023
 - *Aviv 1*—The first day of the first Hebrew month of the biblical New Year (Exodus 12:2; 13:4; 23:15). It begins the night before at dark, on Wednesday night, March 22, with the first New Moon of the biblical year in Israel. This is *not* an annual Sabbath.
5. The Sacrifice of the Passover LambWednesday, April 5, 2023
 - *Aviv 14*—In ancient times the Passover lamb was sacrificed at the end of 14 *Aviv*, “between the two evenings” (sunset to darkness). This year it will be on Wednesday about sunset. 14 *Aviv* is *not* an annual Sabbath. Interestingly enough, it's not the day Yeshua was crucified.²
6. **The Passover Meal & the First Nite/Day of Unleavened BreadWednesday night, April 5, 2023**
 - *Aviv 15*—At darkness on Wednesday night the biblical day changes from *Aviv 14* to *Aviv 15*. The Passover Meal is eaten in the evening of Wednesday night, April 5, which is the beginning of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This holy day lasts to Thursday night at dark, April 6. It's the **1st annual (yearly) Sabbath of the year** (Lev. 23:7).³
7. First SheafSunday, April 9, 2023

¹ See Genesis 1:3-5f. Also, read [When Does The Sabbath Begin?](#), for why the biblical day ends at darkness, and not sunset (which is Jewish tradition).

² See [Passover and the Apostle John](#).

³ See [Passover and Jesus](#), [Passover](#), [The Passover Ceremony](#), [Passover—How to Prepare](#), [First Sheaf](#) and [The Feast of Unleavened Bread](#) for its symbolism and how and why we keep Passover, etc.

- *Aviv* 18—First Sheaf (also known as First Fruits) is *not* an annual Sabbath, but the Sunday *within* Passover Week.⁴ In Yeshua’s time the High Priest of Israel lifted up a handful of “first fruits” of the spring harvest (barley grain) to Yahveh (Lev. 23:9-11). In 30 AD it was also the day when Yeshua rose from the dead and was first seen alive. Consequently, it was also the day of His first ascension into Heaven (Jn. 20:17; cf. Acts 1:1-12). Yeshua is the *First Fruits* to rise from the dead, glorified, never to die again (1st Cor. 15:20, 23). The 50 day Counting of the Omer begins today and ends in Pentecost.

8. The 7th day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread Wednesday, April 12, 2023

- *Aviv* 21—The 7th day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Lev. 23:9) is the **2nd annual Sabbath**. It begins the evening before at darkness on Thursday night, April 11.

9. *Yom HaShoah* (The Day of Destruction, also known as The Holocaust) Tuesday, April 18, 2023

- The commemoration for *Yom HaShoah* begins the night before, Monday night, April 17 and commemorates the brutal annihilation of more than six million European Jews; one and a half million of which were children, from newborn babies to 10 year olds. At 10:00 AM Israeli time sirens blow and everything stops and everyone is silent for two minutes as Israelis remember the tragedy. Let’s do the same in our time zones.
- The day was established in Israel in 1959 on 27 *Nissan (Aviv)* and hence, every year (like the biblical holy days), it’s a different Gregorian date.

10. *Yom HaZikaron* (The Day of Remembrance) Tuesday, April 25, 2023

- *Yom HaZikaron* begins the night before, Monday night, April 24. It remembers and honors all who have fallen in battle for Israel, and all Jews who have been murdered in Arab and Palestinian terrorist attacks anywhere in the world. On this day too, everything stops at 10:00 AM in Israel for two minutes out of respect and remembrance for the dead. Let’s do that too, in our times zones.
- The day was established in Israel in 1963 and it’s always on 4 *Iyar (Ziv)* in the rabbinic calendar.

11. *Yom HaAtzma’ute* (Israeli Independence Day) Wednesday, April 26, 2023

- The day begins the evening before, on Tuesday night at dark, April 25. For 1,888 years (since 135 AD) the Jewish people didn’t have their homeland and wandered the Earth, but on Friday, May 14th, 1948 (5 *Iyar* 5708 CE) the Third Commonwealth of Israel was established. Israeli Independence Day is truly a miracle of God and is similar to Hanuka and Purim, where God made a way for His people Israel to survive the hatred of various peoples who wanted to annihilate them. As such, we recognize the divine miracle that is Israel. The celebration, of the establishment of the State of Israel and its continuance, comes immediately after the day of mourning for the loss of her people in their wars and against Arab and Palestinian terrorism.
- This is the 75th year that the nation of Israel has been reestablished; since 1948.

12. Jerusalem Day Friday, May 19, 2023

- Jerusalem Day commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City and the Western Wall in the aftermath of the Six Day War in June 1967. Celebrations begin the evening before, on Thursday night, May 18.
- It was established on June 7, 1967, and it’s always on 28 *Iyar* in the rabbinic calendar.

13. The Feast of Weeks (*Shavu’ot*—Pentecost) Sunday, May 28, 2023

- *Shavu’ot*—Is also known as the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost (Ex. 34:22; Lev. 23:15-21; Num. 28:26; Dt. 16:10; Acts 2:1; 20:16; 1st Corinthians 16:8). “Pentecost” comes from the Greek word for “50.” *Shavu’ot* comes 50 days after First Sheaf or First Fruits, and it’s the **3rd annual Sabbath**. It begins

⁴ Sometimes First Fruits falls after Passover Week, but it’s always on a Sunday. See [First Sheaf](#).

the evening before at darkness (Saturday night, May 27) when the weekly 7th day Sabbath ends. *Shavu'ot* ends at darkness on Sunday night, May 28.⁵

- This year, 2023, *Shavu'ot* comes on Sunday, *Sivan 8*.
- Last year, 2022, *Shavu'ot* came on Sunday, *Sivan 12*.
- The year before that, *Shavu'ot* came on Sunday, *Sivan 9*.
- It's date in *Sivan* always changes. This is how we know that the Rabbis (and Messianic Judaism, which blindly follows the Rabbis in too many things), is wrong. They always start the counting of the Omer on *Nisan 16*, as did their Fathers, the ancient Pharisees, and they always come up with the same date (*Sivan 6*), which can fall on any day of the week (i.e. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, etc.). On the other hand, the ancient Sadducees were right, understanding God's Word that First Fruits was the Sunday within Passover Week, whose *date* changes every year. It's from the date of First Fruits that the Counting of the Omer begins to determine which Sunday Pentecost will fall on.⁶

14. *Tisha B'Av* (the 9th of *Av*).....Thursday, July 27, 2023

- Beginning the evening of Wednesday night, July 26, the 9th of *Av* is a day that acts as a magnet for the destruction of the First and the Second Temples in Jerusalem, in 586 BC and 70 AD respectively, and other catastrophic events in Jewish history:
- The First Temple was destroyed on *Av 7* (2nd Kings 25:8; cf. Jeremiah 39:1-2, 8).
- The Second Temple was destroyed a few days before or after *Av 9*.
- 1096 August 15 (*Av 24*), the First Crusade officially commenced, murdering 10,000 Jews in its first month and destroying Jewish communities in France and the Rhineland (Germany).
- 1290 July 18 (*Av 9*), the Jews were expelled from England.
- 1306 July 22 (*Av 10*), the Jews were expelled from France.
- 1492 July 31 (*Av 7*), the Jews were expelled from Spain.
- 1942 July 23 (*Av 9*), the mass deportations of Jews began from the Warsaw Ghetto destined for Treblinka, a Nazi concentration death camp where approximately 800,00 Jewish men, women and children were murdered by the German Nazis. Many nations, including the USA, looked on and did nothing to stop it, or the Holocaust, as it was not "strategic" for them (read: they didn't care about the Jews).
- *Tisha B'Av* is a day of fasting and mourning in Judaism. As Christians we don't necessarily fast, but it's good to recognize the day and its mournful character among most Jews, and pray for Israel, the people (i.e. Jews everywhere who need Yeshua; cf. Rom. 11:25-27).

15. The Feast of Trumpets (*Yom Tru'ah*)Sunday, September 17, 2023

- *Aetanim 1*—The first day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:24; 1st Kings 8:2). It's the **4th annual Sabbath**. It begins on Saturday night, September 16 at dark, when the 7th day Sabbath ends.⁷

16. The Day of Atonement (*Yom HaKipurim*)Tuesday, September 26, 2023

- *Aetanim 10*—The Day of Atonement. It's the 10th day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:27-32). This is the **5th annual Sabbath**. It begins Monday night, September 15 at dark.⁸

17. The Feast of Tabernacles (*Sukote*)Sunday, October 1, 2023

⁵ See [Pentecost—Shavu'ot](#).

⁶ See [First Sheaf](#) for the reason why the Pharisees, Rabbis and Messianic Jews are wrong in their dating of *Shavu'ot* and why the Sadducees were right.

⁷ See [The Feast of Trumpets](#).

⁸ See [The Day of Atonement](#).

- *Aetanim 15—Sukote* (The Feast of Tabernacles) begins on the 15th day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:34f.). The first day is the **6th annual Sabbath**. It begins on Saturday night, Sept. 30 at dark.⁹

18. The Eighth Day (*HaYom HaSh'moni*)Sunday, October 8, 2023

- *Aetanim 22*—This is the Eighth Day of *Sukote* (even though it's not officially part of *Sukote* because *Sukote* is only 7 days). It is day 22 of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:39). This is the **7th and final annual Sabbath** of the biblical year. It begins on Saturday night, Oct. 7 at dark.

19. KristallnachtThursday, November 9, 2023

- The Night of Broken Glass in Nazi Germany and Austria, etc. On Nov. 9-10, 1938, Hitler ordered the destruction of Jewish businesses and synagogues all over Germany, etc. About 100 Jewish people died and 30,000 Jewish males were rounded up and sent to concentration camps. The windows of Jewish homes, businesses and synagogue (most of which were burned to the ground) were scattered everywhere from the bricks and stones thrown through them. It's a time to remember.

20. HanukaFriday, December 8, 2023

- *Kislev 25*—This year Hanuka¹⁰ begins on Thursday night, Dec. 7. It's not a holy day or time, but an 8 day holiday that commemorates God's deliverance of the Jewish people in Israel with their victory over the Syrian king, Antiochus IV. He presented himself as the incarnation of Zeus and he demanded worship as God in the flesh (an anti-Christ).
- In the Temple of Yahveh, Antiochus ordered pigs to be sacrificed on the Altar of Sacrifice, which defiled it, and he forbid the keeping of Mosaic Law (i.e. the Sabbath and the circumcision of Jewish baby boys 8 days old, etc.; cf. Gen. 17:10-14). In 162 BC the Temple in Jerusalem was retaken by Judah Maccabee and cleansed (exactly three years to the day—*Kislev 25*, from when it had first been desecrated. The Altar on which pigs had been sacrificed was torn down and a new one built in its place and *rededicated* to the God of Israel, which took 8 days (cf. Lev. 8:33-35; 9:1f.). The Maccabees had defeated the enemy. There was more to do, but this is what Hanuka, which means “dedication,” is all about—serving God His Way, even to the putting of one's life on the line to do it.
- The New Testament speaks of Yeshua being in Jerusalem for “the Feast of Dedication,” which is Hanuka. Yeshua kept Hanuka in Jerusalem, traveling in the cold of an Israeli December winter, 100 miles (160 km) south to Jerusalem (John 10:22) from the Galilee.
- Hanuka begins on Thursday night, Dec. 7 and ends on Thursday night at dark, Dec. 14, 2023.

⁹ See [The Feast of Tabernacles](#).

¹⁰ To understand why the Lord wants all Christians to celebrate Hanuka (Purim and Israeli Independence Day, etc.), see [Hanuka—Should We or Shouldn't We?](#)

NEW MOONS 2023

- A. The 11th New Moon of the biblical year will be onSunday nightJanuary 22, 2023
- B. The 12th New Moon of the biblical year will be onTuesday nightFebruary 21, 2023
- C. The 1st New Moon of the biblical year will be onWednesday nightMarch 22, 2023
- D. The 2nd New Moon of the biblical year will be onFriday nightApril 21, 2023
- E. The 3rd New Moon of the biblical year will be onSaturday nightMay 20, 2023
- F. The 4th New Moon of the biblical year will be onMonday nightJune 19, 2023
- G. The 5th New Moon of the biblical year will be onTuesday nightJuly 18, 2023
- H. The 6th New Moon of the biblical year will be onThursday nightAugust 17, 2023
- I. The 7th New Moon of the biblical year will be onSaturday nightSeptember 16, 2023**
- J. The 8th New Moon of the biblical year will be onSunday nightOctober 15, 2023
- K. The 9th New Moon of the biblical year will be onMonday nightNovember 13, 2023
- L. The 10th New Moon of the biblical year will be onTuesday nightDecember 12, 2023
- M. The 11th New Moon of the biblical year will be onThursday nightJanuary 11, 2024¹¹

¹¹ January 11, 2024 is most likely, but tentative.

This Calendar was last revised on Monday, March 6, 2023.