

The Jewish Festivals - *Leviticus 23*

Passover – 23:2-3 - Date: 14 Nisan - God saved His people from the death angel that came as the 10th plague over Egypt. Blood on the posts and lintel of the door meant that the angel would “pass over” the house and the first-born would be saved.

Unleavened Bread – 23:6-8 – Date: 15 Nisan – Bread made without yeast (leaven) would be eaten for seven days as a demonstration of the people’s desire to live holy lives before God without sin (symbolized by yeast/leaven); Also the first and last days of the seven there is to be no work so the people can come all together and worship God

First Harvest – 23:9-14 – Date: Varies – The first portion of the first harvest is to be brought to the priests and offered to God as a thank offering for His provision of the field, sun, rain, seed, and crop.

Festival of Harvest/Pentecost – 23:15-22 - Date: 6 Sivan – Celebrates the giving of the Law (Torah) by God to Moses on Mt. Sinai

Trumpets – 23:23-25 – Date: 1 Tishri – Also known as Rosh Hashanah; this is a day of rest for the people to worship God; the people are called together by a blast on the ram’s horn (Shofar)

Day of Atonement – 23:26-27 – Date: 10 Tishri – Also known as Yom Kippur; a day of no work and rest so that the people may spend the time repenting and asking God to forgive them of their sins; offerings of purification are offered

Festival of Tabernacles – 23:33-36 – Date: 15 Tishri – Also known as the Festival of Shelters or Booths; this time is set aside for the people to remember how God protected and provided for the children of Israel during their 40 years of wandering in the desert before going into Canaan; this festival lasts for 7 days

Jewish Calendar Months:

1	Nisan	(March/April)	7	Tishri	(September/October)
2	Iyar	(April/May)	8	Cheshvan	(October/November)
3	Sivan	(May/June)	9	Kislev	(November/December)
4	Tammuz	(June/July)	10	Tevet	(December/January)
5	Av	(July/August)	11	Shevat	(January/February)
6	Elul	(August/September)	12	Adar	(February/March)

Remnant Life Church

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Signs in the Heavens:

The Blood Moons Tetrad - 2

Joel 2:30-31; Acts 2:17-21; Rev. 6:12

Lev. 23; Gen.1:14

- There are countless number of web sites dedicated to debunking the entire subject of the blood moons and their significance through history
 - Written supposedly by Godly people who want to “expose” the lies and “promote” the truth
 - My purpose in teaching this:
 - So that we can be aware of what is going on in the world as it relates to what God is doing
 - So that we can pray, not be caught unaware, and increase our boldness to share Jesus Christ with the people in our lives
 - I am NOT saying that the end of the world is here
 - I am NOT saying that the apocalypse is upon us
 - I am NOT saying that this is telling us that Jesus is coming back on a particular date or even in a particular year
 - Our purpose in looking at these events is for our hearts and minds to be impressed with the fact that time is short
 - **What are you doing with that time now and what are you going to do with the time that remains?**
 - *And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years – Gen 1:14*
 - Second Important word (first being “signs” (*Oath*) – “signals”)
 - “Times” (*Moh-aid*) – translated to mean seasons or “feasts”
 - The events we are witnessing in the heavens become important to God’s people when the 4 consecutive blood moon eclipses occur or fall on 1 of the 7 Jewish feast days held throughout the year
 - The Jewish Feasts are set in conjunction with the lunar calendar (the Jewish calendar) and the seasons; each New Moon is the beginning of a new Jewish month with a day being from sundown to sundown (why Jesus had to be taken down from the cross before sundown as that would have been the start of the Sabbath)
 - There are 7 feasts that were given by God to Moses while on Mt. Sinai
 - Read all these in **Leviticus 23**
1. **Passover** – 14 Nisan (Mar/April) - remembering that the death angel “passed over” the homes of God’s people in Egypt
 2. **Unleavened Bread** – 15 Nisan - eating of unleavened bread for 7 days as a symbol of walking holy (leaven a symbol of sin in the Bible)
 3. **First Fruits** – giving of the first harvest to thank God for His provision
 4. **Pentecost** – 6 Sivan (May/June) - the summer harvest; receiving the law (Torah) on Mt. Sinai; 2 loaves of bread symbolizing the church is both Jew and Gentile

NOTE – the Holy Spirit came to man at the feast of Pentecost in Acts 2 available to both Jew and Gentiles

+ These 4 are the Spring Feasts

5. **Trumpets** (Rosh Hashanah) – 1 Tishri (Sep/Oct) - a ram's horn (shofar) signal for the people to stop their work and come to worship;

NOTE – **Lev. 25:10** – every 50 years is the year of Jubilee (setting free of Israeli slaves and the settling of debts) trumpet used to “*proclaim freedom throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof*” – same inscription on the Liberty Bell

6. **Atonement** (Yom Kippur) – 10 Tishri - the day of confession and rest; purification offerings
 7. **Tabernacles** (Feast of Booths or Shelters) – 15 Tishri - build small structures (booths) outside their homes to live and worship in them for 7 days remembering the shelter God gave the people in the desert when leaving Egypt
- + These 3 are the Fall Feasts

- Since the crucifixion of Jesus there have been a total of 78 tetrads (4 consecutive full or blood moon eclipses) but only 7 that have all fallen on Jewish Feast days
- We are living right now in the midst of the 8th
- Why is any of this significant?
- In each of the previous 7 there have been significant historical events that have occurred either during or very close to their time that have impacted the world
- These events have centered around three groups of people – Israel (God's chosen people), the Arab nations of Islam (the descendants of Ishmael; the people that God said will always be in conflict – **Gen 16:12**), and Rome (along with Egypt the greatest oppressors of the Israelites)
- **First Tetrad** – 162-163
 - The height of Jews being tortured and persecuted by Rome
 - Two years later the Antonine Plague wiped out nearly a third of the Roman population (smallpox or measles brought by their troops returning from war)
- **Second Tetrad** (633 years later) – 795-796
 - King Charlemagne of Rome effectively ended centuries of Arab invasions into western Europe
- **Third Tetrad** (46 years later) – 842-843
 - The Vatican church in Rome is attacked and looted by Islamic forces coming from Africa
- **Fourth Tetrad** (17 years later) – 860-861
 - Byzantine army (Eastern front of Roman empire) defeat the Arabian armies stopping their advances on eastern Europe

After the first the next 3 all occurred within 64 years; it would be another 632 years before the next one

- **Fifth Tetrad** (632 years later) – 1493-1494
 - March of 1492 King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain decreed that all Jews unwilling to convert to Catholicism had to leave Spain or face the Spanish Inquisition (The Edict of Expulsion)
 - Spain had become one the largest settlements for the Jews for over a thousand years
 - This was also the exact same time that the King and Queen commissioned an Italian explorer named Cristoforo Colombo (Christopher Columbus) to find the Indies and eventually a route to the Japans
 - What he discovered (landing at San Salvador) was a land that would become the Americas and today the United States is home to more than 5.7 million Jews living outside of Israel – 6.1 (2014 census)
 - Like Mordechai said to Esther, “help will come in another way.” (Es. 4:14)
- **Sixth Tetrad** (455 years later) – 1949-1950
 - May 14, 1948 Israel declared its independence and less than 24 hours later the regular armies of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq all attacked
 - It was in 1949 that the first permanent government was put in place after negotiations with those countries (except Iraq)
- **Seventh Tetrad** (17 years later) – 1967-1968
 - Coincided with the 6 Day War that established Israel as a nation able to defend itself (June 5-10, 1967)
 - Called “The War of Miracles”
 - Israel against 14 nations (principally Egypt and Syrian Arab Republic, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon)
 - Israel had less than half the number of troops that their attackers did and less than a tenth the number of tanks and other large weapons
 - One eyewitness account: Two foot patrols (taxi driver and an electrician) against 18 heavily armed Egyptian soldiers
- Summary of the 7 – (all revolving around Israel, Islam, and Rome)
 1. Persecution of the Jews (as well as Christians) by Rome
 2. Rome and Islam battle for dominance
 3. Islamic attack on Rome
 4. Islam turned back from its advance into Europe
 5. Jews expelled from Spain; birth of the New (Western) World
 6. Birth of Israel; freedom from the Arab nations
 7. Six day war; Israel’s victory over the Arab nations
- All of these events happened AROUND the time of the tetrads that occurred on Jewish holy feast days not exactly on them
 - Only God knows the exact time that things will occur
 - But he wants us to be prepared and be watchful
 - If anyone claims to have figured out when Jesus is going to return they are mistaken

- 47 years since the last tetrad - tomorrow night the 4th blood moon of this, the 8th tetrad, will occur on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles which begins at sundown today lasting 7 days
- What is the world event that will coincide with this tetrad?
 - The nuclear agreement between the US and Arab nations?
 - Something else that has not yet occurred?
- Many will be scoffing at all of this saying that there is nothing to it
- Be watching, be vigilant, be prayerful, be filled with boldness and hope!