

A Voice In The Wilderness

Canada - USA

Yahweh, The Almighty God of Israel, is With Us!

THE SACRED CALENDAR OF THE GOD OF ISRAEL

**Immediately after the tribulation of those days
Shall the sun be darkened,
And the moon shall not give her light,
And the stars shall fall from heaven,
And the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:
Matthew 24:29**

A Voice In The Wilderness Canada - USA Publication

The Sacred Calendar of The God of Israel 777

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A Voice In The Wilderness – Canada – USA takes this opportunity to thank all in **SBS** and **AVITW** who have worked so hard in making this booklet become a reality. A special thank you to Janice Liles, **AVITW** secretary, for all of her tireless effort in editing these new updated booklets. It is at a time like this that we are greatly privileged to offer it free of charge to all who request it.

**All Praise to Yahweh, The Almighty God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob - Israel
May He bless you all as only He can bless.
Amen**

Elders: Max W. Mader & Chris A. Yenni

Printed By Rooney Printing Company
Chippewa Falls Wisconsin USA

First Published in 1979
Reprinted 1981
Reprinted 1985
Updated 1994
Reprinted 2003

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Isaiah 66: 22-23

**For as the new heavens and the new earth,
which I will make, shall remain before me,
saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name
remain.**

**And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon
to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall
all flesh come to worship before me, saith the
LORD.**

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PART ONE

INTRODUCTION / AIM

The aim of this booklet is threefold:

1. To make the reader aware **Jehovah (Yahweh), the Almighty God of Israel**, uses **His own calendar** as the basis of His '**diary**' to organize His work on earth. He has already appointed certain **days, seasons** and **years** in it during which He will perform His mightiest deeds in the **Programme of Salvation**;
2. The Almighty is about to draw universal attention to those **appointed times** by displaying **signs in the sun, moon and stars**.
3. The nation of Israel is still the chosen people of God; and believing Gentiles, by virtue of their faith in Jesus Christ, (**Yeshua the Messiah**), are grafted into the '**Olive of Israel**', and are, thereafter, expected to express their faith in the LORD God of Israel by keeping His commandments.

The reader is advised to carefully preserve this booklet for it contains rare information concerning the **appointed days** on which divinely predicted signs in the sun, moon and stars are expected; signs which will not only confirm the Holy Bible as the Word of God, but will cause all humanity to prepare for the Day of Judgment. With these opening thoughts in mind, let us proceed.

The Need for a Calendar

Pause a while and consider the **civil calendar** hanging on your living room or office wall and ask yourself these questions. Why is it there? What is its true purpose? Where and how did the calendar originate? Is a calendar essential?

Your response would probably go something like this: The calendar is there to help me, my family and my fellow-workers keep track of time. Its purpose is to keep us in touch with appointments and events at home, in the office and abroad. No, I have little knowledge of where and how it originated.

Before answering the next question, **Is it essential?** try to imagine a world without a calendar; a world without pre-numbered days, months, and years. Could society operate in a world without a calendar? I suppose it could, after a fashion, but it would be a crippled society at best. Why? Because planning further than a few days ahead would not be possible. All official, social, religious, and sporting appointments would be extremely difficult to make, for no one would know on which day to meet. The entire legal profession, with its millions of carefully dated documents, would also be thrown into a state of total chaos. The activities of travel agents, airlines, hospital/dental surgeries, and countless business organizations and clubs would slow to a snail's pace, for no one would be able to organize events more than a few days ahead. Without a calendar, there would be no diaries, no long-term business, social, or personal planning. Without question, a world without a calendar would be a world of frustrating confusion. Yes, you may be sure a calendar of some sort is absolutely essential.

The Sacred Calendar

Currently, there are several calendars in use throughout the world. Most are religious calendars used mainly to identify the dates of religious festivals celebrated by the faithful of the world's many religions. Amongst these is the **sacred calendar of the God of Israel**, the calendar this booklet is about. The sacred calendar is

based on the movements of the sun and the moon. It is also linked directly to many Bible prophecies which describe world-encompassing events shortly to take place. Bible prophecy clearly tells us there is coming a '*great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be*'. After the tribulation there will be '*signs in the heavens*.'

Matt. 24:29 *Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the **sun be darkened**, and the **moon shall not give her light**, and the **stars shall fall from heaven**, and the **powers of the heavens shall be shaken**:*

Knowledge of the sacred calendar will stand you in good stead when those *signs in the heavens* appear. But more of this later.

The Gregorian Calendar

Besides the various religious calendars being used by mankind, there is the popular civil, or **Gregorian calendar**. This is the calendar that hangs on the wall of almost every office in the civilized world. The Gregorian calendar takes its name from **Pope Gregory XIII**, who reformed the Roman calendar in the year 1582. Before that time, the civil calendar was called the **Julian calendar**, after the Roman Emperor **Julius Caesar**, who had also made some alterations to the calendar in the year 46 BC. One of Caesar's amendments was to pattern the civil calendar on the calendar of ancient Egypt, which was, at that time, the only calendar in which the lengths of the months and years were fixed by definite rules. In other words, the **civil calendar** which hangs upon your office wall is similar in structure to the calendar used in ancient Egypt. Like its Egyptian ancestor, the civil calendar is governed by the sun alone, and its months (January to December) are in no way influenced by the moon. In the civil calendar, a new moon can occur on any day in the month; days begin in the middle of the night (0.00 hour) and years, (in the northern hemisphere), begin in the middle of winter on the 1st of January.

1. THE SACRED CALENDAR

By comparison, the sacred calendar is strikingly different. In it, the days begin and end at sunset, months begin at the sighting of a new moon, and the years begin in Israel's spring when nature awakens from its winter sleep. Not surprisingly, therefore, many creatures from tiny birds keeping to their 14, 21 or 28 day cycles, right through to the complex human body, are designed to keep in step with the weekly and monthly periods of the **Creator's calendar**.

Interesting though these points may be, they are, nevertheless, of small account when compared with these two all-encompassing facts:

- Yahweh's main objective in designing the sacred calendar was **to enable His worshippers to identify and keep their spiritual appointments with Him - on the sacred days of His choosing**.
- The Almighty would never do anything which concerns the human race without first telling His servants the prophets. ***Surely the LORD GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.*** (Amos 3:7)

The Most High not only reveals His plans to His servants the prophets, but like every good managing director, His plans are carried out on schedule - **at appointed times** and those **appointed times** are all linked to the **sacred calendar**, which has been in existence since the creation of the world. We read of

the **sacred calendar's** use in the account of Noah's flood which was over 800 years before Israel came out of Egypt.

Gen. 7:11 *In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in **the second month, the seventeenth day of the month**, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.*

Gen. 8:4 *And the ark rested in the **seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month**, upon the mountains of Ararat.*

Gen. 8:13 *And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, **in the first month, the first day of the month**, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.*

Here we can see the **sacred calendar** was in use many hundreds of years before the first Jew (Judah) was born. The sacred calendar is, in fact, the oldest calendar known to man; and, if we may put it thus, is the only one linked to the **diary of the LORD God of Israel**. Stewarton Bible School (SBS) and A Voice In The Wilderness (AVITW), therefore, considers it an inestimable privilege to tell you about it; to briefly explain its structure and, above all, to help you keep your weekly and annual appointments with the **Creator** of the mighty universe. With these thoughts in mind, let us begin by defining some of the basic terms used in this booklet.

THE DAY

In the sacred calendar, a 24-hour day is the period of time between one sunset and the next. According to the Scriptures, days begin and end at sunset and are divided into two parts, *evening* and *morning*.

Evening: when the sun is down.

Mark 1:32 *And at even, when the sun did set . . .*

For further proof days start and end at evening, **sunset**, at the going down of the sun, see Joshua 8:29, Joshua 10:26-27, 1 Kings 22:35-36, 2 Chron.18:34, 2 Samuel 3:35.

Morning: when the sun is up.

Thus, in Genesis chapter 1, we read *how "the evening and the morning were the first day", "the evening and the morning were the second day", "the evening and the morning were the third day", and so on.*

THE MONTH

A month in the sacred calendar is measured by the moon. A month is the period of time between one new moon and the next. A month begins when the new moon is sighted with the naked eye. The moon orbits the earth in about 29.5 days. Months in the sacred calendar may, therefore, be either 29 or 30 days in length: they cannot be 28 or 31 days in length. Note the new moon mentioned here is not the **astronomical new moon (conjunction)**, which is invisible; but the **visible new moon as it is first sighted with the naked eye by an observer at Jerusalem**. This point is explained further in Part Two, **Question 1**.

Months in the sacred calendar are usually, though not always, referred to in Scripture by their numbers, not by their names, i.e., *1st month, 2nd month, 3rd*

month, 7th month, etc. Unlike most weekdays, however, months in the sacred calendar do have proper names, most of which are found in the Bible. The names of months are given below:

MONTHS IN THE SACRED CALENDAR			
No.	Name	Bible Reference	Comment
1	Abib / Nisan	Exo. 12:2, 13:4, Esther 3:7	Sprouting/Budding
2	Zif	1 Kings 6:1	Blossom month
3	Sivan	Esther 8:9	Third month
4	Tamuz	Jeremiah 39:2	Name not in Bible
5	Ab	Numbers 33:38, Zech. 7:3	Name not in Bible
6	Elul	Nehemiah 6:15	The gleaning month
7	Ethanim / Tishri	1 Kings 8:2	Perennial/Seventh
8	Bul	1 Kings 6:38	Rain/Eighth
9	Chisleu	Nehemiah 1:1, Zech. 7:1	The Hunter/Ninth
10	Tebeth	Esther 2:16	Winter/Tenth
11	Sebat	Zech. 1:7	Eleventh
12	Adar	Esther 8:12	Fire/Twelfth

Note:

When a 13th month is periodically added to keep the sacred Feasts '***in their seasons***', (agricultural seasons), then the 12th month is called Adar 1 and the 13th month is called Veadar or Adar 2. In the literature published by Stewarton Bible School and A Voice In The Wilderness, we usually refer to months by number. We do this for two reasons:

- Because Bible writers mostly do so.
- In order that believers will remember the religious year starts with the month of Abib (Nisan) and not Ethanim (Tishri). Using numbers helps keep the position of a month in focus; and believers will know exactly how far into the year they have progressed. Using names alone does not guarantee this.

THE YEAR

A year in the sacred calendar begins in Israel's spring, (March/April), and is the time between one spring season and the next. When the sacred calendar is printed in advance, the **new moon nearest the spring equinox** is chosen to begin the year; that is, the new moon which normally coincides with the natural conditions in Israel which the ancient Sanhedrin looked for when they selected Abib's new moon. See the answer to **Question 2** at the back of this booklet concerning the choice of Abib's new moon.

Most years in the sacred calendar consist of 12 months, each of 29 or 30 days. Thus, assuming six months at 29 days and six months at 30 days, a normal year would contain about 354 days. This figure is about 11.25 days short of a 365.25 day solar year, which is the time the earth takes to complete one orbit of the sun. In order to ensure the Feasts of the Most High occur at their ***appointed seasons***

(Passover in the Spring, First Fruits in the summer and Tabernacles in the Autumn), it is necessary for this 11 day annual loss to be made good every two or three years. This is done by intercalating (adding) an extra month after the twelfth month to make the calendar harmonize with the solar year and the agricultural seasons. This extra month (Adar 2) results in a leap year - which has 13 months. See **Part 2, Question 5** for further details about leap years.

To summarize the foregoing, we may say in the sacred calendar:

- A day begins and ends at sunset, at the going down of the sun.
- A month begins and ends when the new moon is sighted by an observer at Jerusalem. Months are either 29 or 30 days in length.
- A year begins in Israel's spring with the new moon nearest (before or after) the spring equinox. Ordinary years have 12 months and leap years have 13 months.

Note:

In the popular Jewish calendar the year begins in autumn with the month of **Ethanim** (Tishri). Strictly, this is the start of the **agricultural year**. The **religious year** begins in the spring with the Passover month of **Abib** (Nisan).

Exo.12:1 *And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 2: **This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.***

Exo. 13:4 *This day came ye out in the month **Abib**.*

Exo. 34:18 *The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month **Abib**: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.*

In ancient times, years were usually numbered from important events such as a ruler's birth, coronation, or death. Examples are:

Gen. 7:11 *In the **six hundredth year of Noah's life**, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.*

Isa. 6:1 *In the year that king Uzziah died . . .*

Luke 3:1 *Now in the **fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate, being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee . . .*

THE WEEK

The week is another important cycle operating within the **sacred calendar**. It was designed by the Most High to regulate the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of the human race. Peoples of all religions have a seven day week; a fact which is strong proof all nations came from a common ancestor who received the seven-day week from the Creator. At first glance, the week appears to have no connection whatsoever with the movements of the earth, the moon, and the sun. The week, however, forms the basis of an important **spiritual cycle of sevens**,

which we refer to as the **Sabbatical cycle**. The sabbatical cycle figures extensively in Bible prophecy. The **Sabbatical/Jubilee** cycles mentioned in Leviticus chapter 25 are briefly described later in this booklet.

In the sacred calendar, the days of the week are not named but numbered: *first day, second day, third day* etc., the main exception being the **seventh day of the week**, which is called the **Sabbath**. In the Roman civil calendar, the one currently used by virtually all the world, the days of the week are named after various pagan or planetary gods:

- 1st day **Sunday**: named after the Sun god
- 2nd day **Monday**: named after the Moon god
- 3rd day **Tuesday**: named after Tiu, an ancient Teutonic deity
- 4th day **Wednesday**: named after Woden, a god in Norse mythology, associated with the Roman god (and planet) Mercury
- 5th day **Thursday**: named after Thor, the supreme god in Norse mythology, associated with the Roman god (and planet) Jupiter
- 6th day **Friday**: named after Friga, wife of the god Odin, or Wodin another god in Norse mythology
- 7th day **Saturday**: named after the planet Saturn

When conversing with the peoples of this world, it is necessary to use these popular names (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday etc.), else few would know what we were talking about if only the Biblical numbering system were used. But it should be remembered these popular weekday names have pagan roots and are not found in the Bible.

THE SABBATH

In the Scriptures, the seventh day of the week is called the Sabbath. The word **Sabbath** is synonymous with rest, repose, restoration, refreshment, calm, tranquility, freedom, peace, harmony, holiness and sanctification. It is, therefore, a fitting sign of the Creator's character and aims. The divine record of the creation is brief; but it leaves one in no doubt the **Creator rested on, blessed and sanctified** the seventh day of the week at the creation of the world. Notice what His Word says on this matter in:

Gen. 2:1

*Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2: And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and **he rested on the seventh day** from all his work which he had made. 3: **And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.***

Many people will be surprised to learn the true Sabbath day is not **Sunday**, but **Saturday**. Sunday is the first day of the week. Saturday is the seventh and in Scripture is called the **Sabbath of the LORD**. In other words, Saturday is the true LORD'S Day. The Sabbath starts at sunset on Friday evening and ends 24 hours later at sunset on Saturday evening. Lev 23:32 *"from even unto even shall ye celebrate your Sabbath."* The Sabbath commandment is part of the **Ten Commandments**, which were written with the **finger of God!**

Exo. 24:12

And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and

commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

Exo. 31:18 *And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, **written with the finger of God.** (See also Deut. 9:10)*

The 4th Commandment

Exo. 20:8 *Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9: Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10: But the **seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God:** in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and **rested the seventh day:** wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.*

You may read the Bible from cover to cover and you will not find a single verse which cancels or amends the Sabbath commandment. That is a fact. You will, instead, find many texts which call for the observance of Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, commonly called Saturday.

Yahweh's Sabbath Day

In view of the above facts, it is a mistake to refer to the Sabbath as the **Jewish Sabbath**; or that it is only to be observed by Jews. **The Sabbath is Yahweh's Sabbath**; or, as the Scriptures put it: **the Sabbath of the LORD thy God!** To be sure it is kept by Israel and the Jews; but it is not for Israel alone, any more than the Ten Commandments are for the Jews alone. According to the fourth commandment, even '**strangers**' (Gentiles) are expected to keep the Sabbath day. If they obey this royal command, Gentiles will also be greatly blessed. Notice the word '**stranger**' in the following texts:

Exo. 20:8 *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy ... in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, **nor thy stranger** that is within thy gates:*

Isa. 56:6 *Also the sons of the **stranger**, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one **that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;** 7: Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer . . .*

Yes, the Sabbath belongs to the LORD, and like all the other nine commandments, He made it to be remembered and kept holy by **all nations**. In obedience to this commandment, the seventh day Sabbath was kept by all the great and holy personalities mentioned in the Bible:

- By all the Old Testament Prophets of the LORD God of Israel
- By the early Christian Church long after the death and resurrection of the Saviour
- By all the early Apostles, including the Apostle Paul

- By **Yeshua the Messiah** (Jesus Christ)
- By **Jehovah (YAHWEH)** Himself

Neither is there any evidence in the New Testament to suggest the Saviour or his Apostles changed the Ten Commandments and transferred the sanctity of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week. Instead, Jesus kept his Father's commandments (John 15:10). If he hadn't done so, he would have been classified as **'a sinner'**. But we read the Saviour kept the Sabbath day **as it was meant to be kept**, much to the annoyance of the Scribes and Pharisees who had burdened the day with many petty, man-made restrictions. These the Master brushed aside. Commenting on the eternal nature of his Father's law the Saviour said these words:

Matt. 5:17 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18: For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.***

Moreover, the Master advised his followers, who were mostly Jews at that time, to pray to God He might allow them to keep the Sabbath at the destruction of Jerusalem, which was to take place in **AD 70**, some 40 years after the resurrection.

Matt. 24:20 ***But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day.***

Pause and consider this text and see how pointless it would have been for the Saviour to have given this advice to his predominantly Jewish followers if the Sabbath commandment was going to be abolished at Calvary. The truth is, the Saviour had absolutely no intention whatsoever of doing away with or changing the Sabbath commandment. He had an extremely high regard for his Father's law, which he was instrumental in giving to Israel in the first place. (James 4:12) **In short, the true Sabbath day is still the seventh day of the week, the day commonly known as Saturday!**

This unequivocal fact means that those who break the Sabbath commandment are guilty of sin, whether they realize it or not; for **'... sin is the transgression of the law.'** (1 John 3:4) For further proof of this astonishing fact, see the Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA article, **Is Sunday the Christian Sabbath?**

THE FEAST DAYS

Hanging from the Sabbath commandment in the law of the Almighty are the seven annual Sabbaths of **Jehovah**, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel. Unlike the popular holidays of Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc., which have absolutely no scriptural backing whatsoever, the Feasts of the Almighty are the sacred memorials of the Creator's mightiest acts in the Plan of Salvation; each and every one of them being an **appointed anniversary** of a distinct, decisive achievement in His plan. Yahweh's Feasts are the **high days** in His Diary. He looks forward to them in much the same way as we would some special anniversary or event. At this moment in time, most of them point to realities that are still future. But all through eternity, the redeemed host will look back at these days and will then - year by year - commemorate the mighty deeds the Most High and His Son performed on them for the salvation of the human race. *"What" you may well ask, "are the Almighty's Annual Sabbaths?"* There are six Feast days and one Fast day. I list them:

1. The **First Day of Unleavened Bread**, which falls on 15th day of Abib, the first month in the sacred calendar
2. The **Last Day of Unleavened Bread**, which falls on 21st day of Abib
3. The **Feast of First Fruits (Pentecost)**, which occurs 50 days after the Passover Sabbath
4. The **Feast of Trumpets**, which falls on the 1st Ethanim (the 7th month)
5. The **Fast of Atonement**, which falls on the 10th Ethanim
6. The **Feast of Tabernacles**, which falls on the 15th Ethanim
7. The **Last Great Day**, which falls on the 22nd Ethanim

These are the seven annual **memorial Sabbaths** of the Almighty; which all peoples, **Jew and Gentile alike**, are commanded to observe. These days do not belong to any particular race or religion. They are not *Jewish festivals*. They are the Almighty's '**appointment times**' and all nations are required to keep them. The Most High refers to them as '**My Feasts, My Sabbaths.**'

Lev. 23:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2: Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the **feasts of the LORD**, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even **these are my feasts.**

For further information about these divinely appointed memorial Sabbaths of the Most High, request our free booklet, entitled: **The Feast Days of the God of Israel.** Our mailing address can be found on the back of this booklet.

SIGNS IN THE SUN, MOON & STARS

The sun, moon, and stars were originally created by the Almighty to draw universal attention to the spectacular deeds He planned to perform on the appointed Feast days, seasons and sabbatical years in the sacred calendar. This astonishing fact is mentioned in the very first chapter of the Bible, Genesis 1:14, which says:

And God 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:

According to Strong's Bible Dictionary:

- The Hebrew word, **owth [oth]**, translated **sign** in this verse means: a *signal, distinguishing mark, banner, remembrance, miraculous sign, omen, warning.*
- And the Hebrew word, **mow ed [mo-ade]**, translated **seasons** in this verse, means: ***appointed place, appointed time, appointed meeting, sacred season, set feast, tent of meeting.***

In other words, the sun and moon were set in the heavens to signal the ***appointed sacred seasons, the set feasts, when Israel was to gather in worship at the Creator's tent of meeting.*** To be sure, the sun and the moon determine the literal days, nights, seasons, and years and they directly influence the climate. But the language of Genesis 1:14 goes far beyond these natural events. It tells of the **spiritual reasons** why the sun and moon were created. They were created, I repeat:

- To serve as celestial **warning signs** and **omens** to signal the **sacred seasons, feast days** and **years** of the Almighty God!

- They were placed in the sky by the Most High to alert the universe to His **appointed meeting times**: when the human race is called to worship Him.

Several Bible prophecies confirm the message of Genesis 1:14 by telling us just before Jesus Christ returns to earth, there will be '**signs in the sun and the moon**'. Consider these verses:

Joel 2:10 ... the **sun and the moon shall be dark**, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

Joel 2:31-32 **The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood**, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. 32: And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered**:

Amos 8:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD GOD, that I will cause the **sun to go down at noon**, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

Matt. 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall **the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light**, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

Rev. 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the **sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood**; 13: And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Rev. 8:12 And the fourth angel sounded, and the **third part of the sun was smitten**, and the **third part of the moon**, and the **third part of the stars**; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

These predicted signs in the heavens are scheduled to happen **shortly before** Yeshua the Messiah returns to earth; and happen they will. When they occur, they will provide unmistakable evidence one of the Almighty's **appointed seasons** has begun and the **end of this age** has arrived. World shattering events will occur at that time and all mankind will then become aware of the LORD'S requirements and His anger at the refusal of many to obey His law.

Rev. 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17: **For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**

If you believe the message of Genesis 1:14, then at each sacred feast you should be on the watch for celestial signs in the sun, moon, and stars. Failure to keep the Almighty's appointments could mean when those signs occur, as they surely will, the **spiritual significance of the feasts** and the prophecies to which they relate will be lost to you. To be sure, you will marvel at those celestial signs, all humanity will, but you will not realize their **spiritual significance** and will be completely oblivious to what they mean, and more importantly, what you are expected to do.

Note:

Astrology is the study of the supposed influence of the stars on human affairs. A **horoscope** is an astrologer's forecast of future events, based on the position of stars and peoples' birthdays. The study of astrology and the daily reading of horoscopes is strongly condemned in the Scriptures. (Deut. 4:19, 2 Kings 23:5) The signs in the sun, moon and stars mentioned in this booklet **have nothing to do with the study of astrology** or the reading of horoscopes. The celestial signs prophesied in the Scriptures will occur at the Almighty's appointed time. When they appear, it will be too late to rush about improving your understanding of God's Word. That must be done now, before it is too late. If, on the other hand, you are a believer, then do not be terrified when those signs appear because they spell out good news to the obedient.

Jer. 10:2 ***Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.***

2. PROPHETIC TIME SPANS

Bible prophecy is the news in advance. It is the Almighty telling humanity and the angel host what He is about to do or allow Satan to do. Studying Bible prophecy is like taking a look at the ***Diary of the Most High***. When studied in conjunction with the sacred calendar, Bible prophecy is the most reliable evidence the church has that the Almighty is working to a **divine timetable**; one infinitely more reliable than the diaries and wall charts business manager's use. Bible prophecy is also the LORD'S way of warning all mankind of approaching danger.

2 Pet. 1:19 ***We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.***

Amos 3:7 ***Surely the LORD GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.***

Eze. 33:11 ***Say unto them, As I live, saith the LORD GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?***

The Almighty does not want anyone to die; or even be caught unawares by the calamities about to occur on earth. So, through His prophets, He warns mankind to repent and live. Consider this amazing prophecy about end-time calamities preceding Jesus Christ's return to earth. Here we are given a preview of our earth being turned upside down and shaken by mighty earthquakes.

Isaiah 24:1 ***Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. 2: And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of***

usury, so with the giver of usury to him. 3: The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word. 4: **The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.** 5: **The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.** 6: Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

verse 19: The earth is **utterly broken down**, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is **moved exceedingly**. 20: **The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage;** and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again. 21: And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth. 22: And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited. 23: Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.

Rev. 16:19 . . . **and the cities of the nations fell . . .**

It is virtually impossible to imagine the devastation that will occur when these prophecies comes to pass. The very idea of the earth being '**utterly waste**', '**turned upside down**' and '**reeling to and fro like a drunkard**' is beyond human imagination! All the cities of the nations will then collapse in ruins and international trade will come to a shuddering halt. Yes, these are amazing prophecies and they are bound to happen at the '**appointed times**' in the Almighty's calendar. This fact about '**appointed times**' is repeatedly mentioned in the Scriptures. (i.e., Gen. 18:14, Exo. 9:5, 2 Samuel 24:15, Dan. 8:19, 10:1, 11:35, Hab. 2:3, Acts 17:31, Gal. 4:2) Consequently, when we study Bible prophecy in conjunction with the sacred calendar we are in fact looking at the '**Diary of the God of Israel**'. We are being given a preview of earth-shaking events before they actually take place! The Most High is revealing His plans to us simply because the events which are about to occur concern the whole human race. In the books of Daniel and Revelation, there are several prophecies involving exact periods of time. In this booklet these are referred to as **Time Prophecies** or **Time Spans**. They are:

The **3.5 year period** of Daniel 7:25, Daniel 12:7 & Revelation 12:14

1. The **42 month period** of Revelation 11:2 & Revelation 13:5
2. The **1260 day period** of Revelation 11:3 & Revelation 12:6
3. The **2300 day period** of Daniel 8:14
4. The **1290 day period** of Daniel 12:11
5. The **1335 day period** of Daniel 12:12
6. The **1000 year period** of Revelation 20:2-6

Millions of Christians know little or nothing about these prophecies. They have never heard a sermon about them or studied them. Of the believers who have read them, the majority think these prophecies **have already been fulfilled** and,

therefore, do not concern the Christians living in our day. This is a tragic mistake, because these **Time Prophecies** concern events scheduled to occur in the days **just prior** to the return of Jesus Christ. In other words, they concern all humanity - **today!** Proof of this fact is given below.

No student of Bible prophecy will fail to recognize current world events perfectly match the Master's warnings recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21. The Saviour predicted just before his return to earth, there would be an increase in **wars, famines, disease epidemics, earthquakes, drought, floods, high winds, sexual immorality, violence** and **widespread unbelief**. These signs are now evident all over the world. They are proof we have reached the **closing days** of this age, the **'time of the end'**. Also notice the time prophecies listed above are not vague generalities, but exact periods of time. Important questions are : *What do they mean? When do they start? When do they end? How do they concern me?* You need to know the answers to these questions; because drifting in blissful ignorance towards disaster is certainly not for the sober minded.

A DAY FOR A YEAR

Before we attempt to answer these questions, let us first examine a popular theory which says in Bible prophecy, **one day represents one year**. Many Christian groups believe these time spans in Daniel & Revelation (the 2300, 1260, 1290, 1335 days) **all represent years** and they **have all been fulfilled**. For example, the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel chapter 8, they believe, is telling of a period of 2300 years; and the 1260 day prophecy of Revelation 12:6 was 1260 literal years: all in the past! Is this the case? Does one day in Bible prophecy **always** represent one year? The answer is, not always. A prophetic day equals a year only when the prophetic language so implies, as **it does** in Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:1-6. If the language **does not** give this clear indication, as it does not in Dan. 8:14, Dan. 12:11-12, Matt. 27:63, Rev. 11:3 and Rev. 20:4-5, then **a day is a normal day and a year is a normal year**.

How can we be sure the time spans mentioned in Daniel 8 and Daniel 12 are literal days and not years? The answer is: we are plainly told by an angel messenger this is the case; the 2300, 1260, 1290 and 1335 day time prophecies will occur at the **'time of the end'**. Yes, we are told this fact. Here is proof:

The 2300 day Prophecy of Daniel 8

Dan. 8:17 *So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: **for at the time of the end shall be the vision.***

Dan. 8:26 *And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; **for it shall be for many days.***

Most Bible students know the phrases **'the time of the end'** refers to the **last days**; that is, the time just prior to the Saviour's return. In other words, this prophecy would find fulfillment **'many days'** after it was given and it would come to pass in the days just before the Saviour returned to earth, in the **appointed time of the end!** We have now reached that time!

The 1260, 1290 & 1335 day Prophecies of Daniel 12

Dan. 12:8 *And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? 9: And he said, Go thy way,*

*Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed **till the time of the end**. 10: Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.*

Dan. 12:13 *But go thou thy way **till the end be**: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at **the end of the days**.*

What are these texts saying? They are saying the time prophecies of Daniel will be understood and then fulfilled '**at the time of the end**', at the '**end of days**'. They would not be fulfilled in the distant past; but in the **last days**! The angel also told the prophet Daniel he would '**rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days**'. In other words, Daniel would die and rise from his grave at the **end of that time**. This means these prophecies will end at Christ's return when Daniel, along with millions of other believers, will rise from their graves. (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

This means these prophecies, the longest of which is **2300 days** (just under 6.5 years), will occur in about a seven year period just before the Saviour returns to earth. I repeat, the events predicted by these prophecies **did not start in the distant past thousands of years ago**. Instead, they will be understood and then fulfilled, as these texts clearly say, '**at the time of the end**;' and that time, dear reader, has now arrived. In short, the **day-for-a-year** principle does not apply to the end-time prophecies of Daniel 8 and 12, and placing them in the distant past is a serious error. Not only is it wrong, but it is dangerous, because few believers will trouble to study them if they think they have all been fulfilled - when they obviously haven't.

Why, then, have some Christians placed these time prophecies in the distant past and used the '**day for a year**' theory to explain them? The answer is because there is one prophecy in the book of Daniel where a prophetic day does represent one year and a prophetic week does equal seven years. This prophecy is found in Daniel, chapter 9. It is the '**70 weeks of years**' prophecy concerning the return of the Jews from Babylon to the Promised Land, the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem and the death of the Messiah. In the prophecy recorded in Daniel 9, a day does equal one year, but not in the prophecies of Daniel 8 and 12. Remember this vital difference.

When comparing the prophecy of Daniel 8 with Daniel 9, we learn the following:

The 2300 day Prophecy of Daniel 8

1. This prophecy was given in the third year of the Babylonian king Belshazzar, about 553 BC, which was some **15 years before** the 70 weeks prophecy of Daniel 9.
2. In this prophecy, a day equals one day of 24 hours, not one ordinary year.
3. This prophecy concerns the 2300 day defilement of the heavenly sanctuary by the '**little horn**' (the Beast, the Antichrist) who will dare to challenge the angelic host above and cast some of them down to earth. The Antichrist even challenges the '**Prince of the heavenly host**' (Yeshua the Messiah). A more blasphemous move is hard to imagine.
4. As pointed out above, the 2300 day prophecy is scheduled for fulfillment **many years** after it was given. It would come to pass at '**the appointed time of the end**'. We are **not** told the starting year, but we are told the central character is the **little horn power** (the Antichrist); and we know he is scheduled to make his appearance just before Jesus Christ returns.

5. Like the prophecy recorded in Daniel 7, this prophecy tells of the death of the '**little horn**' power at the second coming of Jesus Christ. He is to be '**broken without hand**'. That is, he will be supernaturally destroyed by the word of the '**Prince of princes**' (Jesus Christ) at his return. These are vital clues because they point to our immediate future.

The 490 year Prophecy of Daniel 9

This prophecy concerns a period of time lasting '**70 weeks of years**'. Seventy weeks of years equals 490 years. ($70 \times 7 = 490$ years)

1. This 490 year prophecy was given to Daniel in the first year of Darius the Mede. This was about 538 BC, some **15+ years** after the vision of Daniel chapter 8.
2. In this prophecy, the angel Gabriel tells the prophet Daniel the starting date. It was to start '**from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem.**' This command was issued by the Persian king Artaxerxes. In this prophecy, one day does equal one year. There is no doubt about this fact.
3. At the divinely appointed time, the Jews returned from Babylon and rebuilt Jerusalem. The prophecy went on to tell of the life and sacrificial death of Yeshua the Messiah (the Anointed One - Jesus the Christ).
4. This prophecy drew to its close when the Saviour gave up his life on Calvary and the Jews stoned Stephen to death and, as a nation, rejected the Gospel.

As we can see, the vision of Daniel 8 was given some 15 years before the prophecy of Daniel 9. More importantly, the starting dates of the two prophecies are over 24 centuries apart. The 490 year prophecy **started** when the '**commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem**' went forth and **ended** 490 years later in the days of the Apostles. At its **basic level**, the prophecy of Daniel 9 has already been fulfilled. It is past. But the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8 is still future. It will start at the '**time of the end**' and end when the Messiah returns to earth and supernaturally destroys the Antichrist '**without hand.**' The 2300 day prophecy is a '**high-level**' forecast of the Antichrist's attack on the heavenly sanctuary and the throne of God! When this time comes, and it is very near, the '**little horn,**' the '**man of sin**' will rise from the Abyss and enter heaven itself. He will then defile the heavenly sanctuary and dare to take over the throne of the Almighty GOD! This blasphemous act, prefigured at its **lower level** by Absalom's rape of his father's wives on the palace roof (2 Samuel 16:20-22) is scheduled to take place in the very near future.

Having incorrectly assumed the **day-for-a-year** principle applied to all the time prophecies in Daniel and Revelation, some leaders have placed the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8 in the past. They believe it started in the 457 BC and ended 2300 years later in the mid-nineteenth century. But this is an error. One could hardly call 457 BC, or even the nineteenth century, the **end of the world!**

The 1335 day Prophecy of Daniel 12 is also future. Daniel was told by the heavenly messenger he would be raised from his grave at the **end** of this period (Dan. 12:13); and we know the resurrection takes place at the Saviour's return. (1 Thess. 4:16-17) The next question is: If these prophecies have not already occurred, then when do they begin? The answer is: No one knows the exact year, but here is a vital clue to consider:

The last-day time prophecies of Daniel 8 and 12 all slot into periods of time between Feast days in the sacred calendar! Begin counting from a sacred Feast in one year and lo! 2300, 1260, 1290 or 1335 literal days later another sacred Feast occurs.

These exact counts of 2300, 1260, 1290, or 1335, etc., are not limited to a single decade or century. They occur over and over again throughout time, keeping step with the sun and the moon; which, as we have already pointed out, were initially created by God to highlight the mighty deeds He planned to perform on His Feasts. At this very moment in time, these exact counts move within the sacred calendar like cogs within the wheels of a divine wrist watch; moving, that is, towards the **appointed festivals** when the prophecies they are designed to measure begin to occur. A few examples of exact counts which occur between a Feast day in one year and another Feast some 2300, 1260, 1290 or 1335 days later are given at **Appendix C**.

We now have three vital clues concerning the Time Prophecies in Daniel and Revelation. They are:

1. Genesis 1:14 tells us there will be **signs in the sun, moon and stars** to signal the sacred feasts of the Almighty God.
2. Daniel 8:17, 19, 26 and Daniel 12:8-9 tells us these prophecies will begin fulfillment at the **'time of the end'** in the **'last days'**: and will end at the resurrection when Jesus Christ returns to earth.
3. These Time Prophecies slot into periods between a feast day in one year and another feast day 2300, 1260, 1290 or 1335 days later.

Understanding these three clues will ensure the obedient followers of the Most High, the ones keeping Yahweh's Feasts, will not be caught unawares by events at the crisis at the end of the world which will be signaled by **signs in the sun, moon and stars**. In other words, when a celestial display coincides with a Feast day in the sacred calendar, (as promised in Genesis 1:14), it will be a clear signal to the festival-keeping church one of those Time Prophecies has begun. This is the point being made here. The reader is advised to study this section again and again to fully grasp its significance.

SABBATICAL & JUBILEE YEARS

In Leviticus, chapter 25, we are told every seventh year is a **Sabbatical year**, a year of rest for the land. We are also told every fiftieth year is a **Jubilee**.

Lev. 25:1

*And the LORD spake unto Moses in mount Sinai, saying, 2: Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD. 3: Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; 4: But in the **seventh year** shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.*

*Verse 9: Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the **day of atonement** shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. 10: And ye shall hallow the **fiftieth year**, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a **jubilee** unto you; and ye shall return every man unto*

his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

*11: **A Jubilee shall that fiftieth year be unto you:** ye shall not sow, neither reap that which groweth of itself in it, nor gather the grapes in it of thy vine undressed. 12: **For it is the jubilee;** it shall be holy unto you: ye shall eat the increase thereof out of the field. 13: **In the year of this jubilee** ye shall return every man unto his possession.*

A Jubilee is the 50th year; the year after the seventh sabbatical year. A Jubilee is not the 1st year of the next fifty year cycle. The Jubilee is a year in its own right. The next seven year cycle begins on the 51st year. Put differently, we may say there are two Jubilees in every century and 70 Jubilee cycles total 3500 years not 3430 years. Any Jewish rabbi will confirm this fact.

The Jubilee year is heralded the autumn before, on the Day of Atonement, by the blowing of a Yobel (shofar), the ram's horn trumpet. Lev. 25:8-13. See passage quoted above. Close study of Leviticus, chapter 25, reveals the following:

1. **The Jubilee is a Sabbath Year** for mankind and the land. Israel was to live mainly off the crops produced in the 48th year; crops which would last for the 49th and 50th year, all the way through to the harvest of the 51st year.
2. **The Jubilee is a Year of Liberty!** All prisoners and slaves were to be released.
3. **The Jubilee is a year of Financial Redemption**, when all mortgages and debts were to be cancelled.
4. **The Jubilee is the Acceptable Year of the LORD**, when all forms of isolation would end and happy communion with one's family and the LORD will be restored.

Sad to say, ancient Israel failed to recognize the lessons from Yahweh's Jubilee blueprint. The nation seldom - if ever - kept it as instructed. Nevertheless, the Most High is keeping to His appointed plan, and the spiritual realities to which a Jubilee points (*redemption, freedom, reconciliation and miraculous growth*) will be fulfilled when the **appointed time** arrives and the redeemed slaves of sin finally meet their heavenly Father and enter their eternal inheritance. The Jubilee Year will be announced on a soon-coming **Day of Atonement** with a trumpet blast from heaven, as foreshadowed in the blueprint instructions given to Moses.

A JUBILEE SERMON

Can we identify a Jubilee Year? I believe we can, but not with absolute accuracy - yet. This is how we in SBS/AVITW Canada-USA see it. According to Luke 3:1-21, Jesus was baptized by John during the time Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, in the 15th year of the Emperor Tiberius. Depending on which historian you believe, this was between the years AD 26 and AD 30. For the purpose of this booklet, we'll say the 15th year of the Emperor Tiberius was AD 28.

Luke 3:1

*Now in the **fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, 2: Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. 3: And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.*

If you study Luke, chapters 3 and 4, you will see immediately after his baptism Jesus went into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil (Luke 4:1-13). Then, after 40 days, he returned to Nazareth and entered the synagogue (verses 14-19). In the synagogue, he was given the Scriptures to read and after finding the place, he read from Isaiah chapter 61. This chapter tells of the spiritual realities to which a Jubilee points. It tells of how the Messiah would:

- *Preach the Gospel to the poor*
- *Heal the broken hearted*
- *Set free the spiritual captives of Satan*
- *Recover the sight of the spiritually blind*
- *Set at liberty those who are bruised*
- *And proclaim the Acceptable Year of the LORD*

That sermon was preached in the 15th year of the Emperor **Tiberius**, when the Saviour began his earthly ministry in fulfilment of the prophecy.

A JUBILEE YEAR

Compare those spiritual realities with the directions listed in Leviticus 25 and you will see the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar was in all probability a **Jubilee year** and the Saviour was, in fact, preaching a **Jubilee sermon!** That is why the Master stopped his normal work and invited his disciples to give up theirs in order to proclaim the **Gospel of Salvation**. He was, in fact, keeping the Jubilee command to rest from his ordinary labours. The year in question was, as recorded in Luke 3:1, the **15th year of Tiberius Caesar**; which, give or take a year or two, was AD 28. If AD 28 was a Jubilee, then the next Jubilee would occur 50 years later in AD 78 and the one after that in AD 128. In other words, the 28th and 78th years in every century are Jubilee years. Counting 2 Jubilees to every century would bring us to the start of the 40th Jubilee in the year '**about**' 1978. Again, I use the word '**about**' simply because historians differ as to which was the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar.

TIME CYCLES OF 40's

Bible students all know many events recorded in the Scriptures occurred in cycles of 40: 40 days, 40 nights, 40 years in the wilderness etc. We also know many, if not all, Old Testament experiences have high-level spiritual parallels.

1 Cor. 10:11 ***Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.***

The word '**ensample**', in this context, means to '**prefigure a future person or thing**'. In other words, Israel's bygone experiences, as recorded in the Old Testament, were **types, shadows, examples, living blueprints** and **real-life dramas** which prefigured realities scheduled to occur on a world scale in our day! One such reality is Yahweh's people, like ancient Israel in the wilderness of Sinai, are also circling in the spiritual wilderness of human society; but this time it is for 40 Jubilees! The 40 Jubilee cycles are due to end in about AD 2028. Will time last that long? Will our wilderness wanderings last all of 40 Jubilees - till AD 2028? We think not, because the Master clearly told us the **time will be cut short**.

Matt. 24:22 *And except **those days should be shortened**, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.*

This means the Saviour could return **before** the 40th Jubilee cycle has run out - before AD 2028. How many years before that date we do not know. Indeed no one knows the exact time of the Saviour's return; any more than a midwife knows the exact moment of a child's birth, especially if a premature birth is involved.

Matt. 24:36 ***But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.***

What we do know is we are well into the 40th Jubilee since Yeshua preached his Jubilee sermon in the 15th year of Tiberius (AD 28). We also know the **'time will be cut short'**. Moreover, we know when one or another of those Time Prophecies is about to begin, the Almighty will signal the day, the season or the year with *signs in the sun, moon and stars*.

How does Israel reckon a Jubilee?

The nation of Israel also reckons a Jubilee to be the 50th year; and there are two Jubilees per century. But Israel considers Jubilee years occur in the 15th and 65th year of every century. Jubilee years, according to their reckoning, began in the autumn of 1815, 1865, 1915, 1965 etc. Arthur Spier, a world-famous Jewish authority, in his book **The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar** says this about the Jubilee cycle:

*"The 50-year cycle, or the Yobel (Jubilee) years. They were counted according to Maimonides, only as long as the Temple was in existence. Every 15th and 65th year in each century of the World Era are Yobel years, and the intermediary years represent the seven cycles of the Shemittah (release) years. **2815, 2865, 3815, 3865, 4815, 4865** would be examples of the Yobel years." (para C on page 225).*

SBS/AVITW agrees with Israel Jubilee cycles are 50 years in length and two Jubilees equal 100 years. But we have reservations about the Jubilee years being the **15th** and **65th** year of each century. Much rather would we go by the Saviour's Jubilee sermon in AD 28 and say the 28th and 78th year of each century are Jubilee years.

NOTE: Israel, in 1998, celebrated a **civil Jubilee** to commemorate the 50 year-old State; which was officially proclaimed a State on Friday, May 14th, 1948. Do not confuse this **civil Jubilee** with the **sacred Jubilee** mentioned in Scripture.

THE SPIRITUAL JUBILEE CROP

All Yahweh's agricultural laws have spiritual applications. In other words, laws concerning animals and crops also concern us humans who are as **'sheep in the Almighty's flock'** and **'plants in His garden'**. Few believers realize the last day, commandment-keeping church is in fact the **'spiritual Jubilee crop'** to which Leviticus 25 is pointing. A Jubilee crop according to that chapter is:

- verse 11 **Self-producing:** It grows without human assistance.
- verse 12 **Holy:** It is a sacred crop, which may only be eaten **'out of the field'**.

- verse 21 **Miraculously Abundant:** One which will provide a bountiful harvest which would **'bring forth fruit for three years'**.

Yahweh gave the Jubilee **illustration**, or **model**, to teach mankind a mighty spiritual lesson about His last-day church, the **real Jubilee crop!** If you carefully read Leviticus 25:18-24, you will see how the spiritual Jubilee crop (the **end-time church**) would, with divine assistance alone, produce spiritual fruit for Yahweh's honour and glory. So I repeat:

Commandment-keeping believers of the last-days are the real Jubilee crop! With Yahweh's help we are about to proclaim the Truth that will bear the everlasting fruit of righteousness for His glory.

Publishing truth-filled literature is an initial step towards learning and reproducing Truth. Very shortly, however, the Holy Spirit, unaided by popular material or mechanical resources such as money, printing/copying equipment, TV, radio, the Internet, etc., will multiply the spiritual harvest the Jubilee crop represents. The final work of proclaiming the **Everlasting Gospel** to earth's billions will be done in the last days by **preachers** who will themselves comprise the Jubilee crop! Like the agricultural Sabbatical and Jubilee crops of Leviticus 25, we will fulfill Yahweh's plan and finish His work on time - **aided by His Spirit alone!** Without the help of money, television, radio, video/cassette tapes, the printing press, or the Internet, the Everlasting Gospel will be **'preached'** to all the world, just as it was in the days of the Apostles. That will be the real Jubilee Crop. We will literally **'preach'** the Everlasting Gospel like it has never been preached in earth's entire history; and the work will be finished - on time!

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

3. THE NATION OF ISRAEL

The tiny nation of Israel is of mighty significance in this troubled world. With a population of about six million, Israel has become the focus of attention to all peoples. Geographically and economically, Israel sits at the control centre of the world. Its capital, Jerusalem, has been revered by Jews, Christians and Muslims for millennia; and Israel's God has been worshipped by billions of believers of all nations since time began.

Why is this tiny nation so important? And how is it that Israel exerts so great an influence on mankind? The answer is: **Because the Almighty God is with Israel!** Without Him, Israel would be as unimportant as the weakest nation on earth - as nothing! Yes, the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is with Israel. In the Bible, He refers to Himself as the **God of Israel**, or the **holy One of Israel**, over 230 times! The pages of His **diary** are filled with appointments with Israel. Over the centuries, the Most High has shared His plans with Israel. Through Israel came His law, His prophets, and finally Yeshua, His only begotten Son - the Messiah! Yes, **Yahweh is with Israel!** To be sure, other nations and individuals count; but only as they affect Israel and relate to Israel's Saviour - the Son of God! The Bible is, in fact, the record of Israel's history and Israel's future. Let us further consider why this nation is so important.

ISRAEL, YAHWEH'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

No matter what the majority of mankind thinks, no matter what the Christian church may believe or preach, the fact is the nation of **Israel is the chosen people of God!** Not chosen because she is intrinsically better than other nations; but

because of Yahweh's great love for Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and because He is keeping to an oath made to Abraham many centuries ago. This fact is plainly taught in the Bible:

Deut. 7:6 *For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. 7: **The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:** 8: **But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers,** hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

Deut. 10:15 *Only the LORD had a delight in thy fathers to love them, and he chose their seed after them, even you **above all people**, as it is this day.*

Deut. 14:2 ***for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.***

Isa. 41:8 *But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob **whom I have chosen**, the seed of Abraham my friend. 9: Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; **I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.***

Anti-Semitism

The people of Israel and the city of Jerusalem have been the focus of attention for centuries. Anti-Semitism began centuries before the days of Hitler's Germany and may be traced as far back as the 3rd millennium BC. Sad to say, the Christian church is as guilty of Anti-Semitism as any other religious body. Consider these views as recorded by prominent writers:

- *"In the rivalry between religions, no other religion in the world makes the accusation that Christianity makes against the Jews, that they are literally murderers of God... to be a murderer of God means to be the opponent of anything decent, anything humane, anything moral, anything ethical." (Richard Rubenstein, Professor of Religion, Florida University)*
- *"A theology was developed claiming that Christians were the true Israel, God's chosen people. God had cast aside the Jews. He had sent them His only son and they had rejected him. God's chosen people had betrayed Him and had become the false Israel, the Devil's Israel. The Christians were now God's chosen people. The Jews had forfeited everything, including their own past, Abraham, Moses and all." (The Longest Hatred, A study guide to Thames Television Series on Anti-Semitism, page 5)*
- *"Their (the Jews') synagogues are pigsties, they ought to be burned... they live by evil and plunder, they are wicked beasts that ought to be driven out like mad dogs... May (we) all be free of this insufferable devilish burden - the Jews." (From a pamphlet by Martin Luther on The Jews and their lies, published in 1543)*

- Ezra 4: 12: *Be it known unto the king, that the Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, building the rebellious and the bad city, and have set up the walls thereof, and joined the foundations. 13: Be it known now unto the king, that, if this city be builded, and the walls set up again, then will they not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and so thou shalt endamage the revenue of the kings.*
- Esther 3:8: *And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; **and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws:** therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them. 9: If it please the king, let it be written **that they may be destroyed:** and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries. 10: And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy. 11: And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.*

Yes, anti-Semitism has been around for thousands of years and every nation and religion - **including Christianity** - is guilty. Today, the eyes of the world are again on the people of Israel; simply because an all-out war in the Middle East would drag the whole world into war; not to mention its catastrophic effect on the economies of all nations. The Jews, bear in mind, are major players in world economic affairs and control more of the world's money than most people remotely imagine. Surrounded as she is by her enemies, Israel is a nation living under constant threat. Never a week passes but Israel is in the news. Why is this? What makes Israel so important? How has this tiny nation become the centre of attention to the whole world? What hypnotic power does Israel possess with God and man? The answers are many and amazing to say the least. Let us consider a few.

ISRAEL'S REBELLION

Israel was the name given to Abraham's grandson, Jacob, when he successfully wrestled all night with God at a place called Peniel, which means **'I have seen God face to face'**.

Gen. 32:27 *And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. 28: And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but **Israel:** for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.* The Most High chose the descendants of this man Israel (Jacob), gave them His law and placed them in the Promised Land with the intention of using Israel as a channel of instruction and blessing to all nations. Through Israel came the law, the prophets, and eventually the Son of the Most High, (**Yeshua the Messiah**, Jesus the Christ).

Rom. 3:1 *What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? 2: **Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.** 3: For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?*

Alas! Israel, in the main, failed to live up to Yahweh's hopes. Israel rejected the Almighty's law and grievously sinned. Israel rejected the oracles of God, broke the everlasting covenant, murdered most of Yahweh's prophets, and crowned her

rebellion by crucifying His Son, Yeshua. The story of Israel's rebellion against their God goes back a long way, long before New Testament times.

2 Kings 17:9 *And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God ... verse 13: Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets. 14: **Notwithstanding they would not hear,** but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the LORD their God. 15: **And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain,** and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them. 16: **And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.***

Jer. 6:16 *Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, **We will not walk therein.** 17: Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, **We will not hearken.** 18: Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. 19: Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.*

Matt. 27:22 *Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. 23: And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified.*

The reader must not forget, however, **ancient Israel's rebellion against Yahweh's law has been duplicated by the Christian church.** Modern Christians, in other words, are no better than the people of ancient Israel. They too are rejecting Yahweh's law and polluting His Sabbaths just as Israel did. All nations are guilty of lawlessness, of sin. All have come short of the glory of God. So do not secretly look down on the Jew as though he were a spiritually inferior person because we Christians are no better than the Jews.

Rom. 3:10 *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: 11: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12: They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; **there is none that doeth good, no, not one.***

THE SCATTERING OF ISRAEL

How then did the Almighty respond to ancient Israel's rebellion and rejection of His law and of His Son? The Almighty carried out the punishments given through His prophet Moses. One of those punishments was **banishment from the Promised Land.** This happened: Yahweh scattered Israel, scattered His chosen people to the four corners of the earth. The warning to scatter Israel, if she persisted in

disobedience, was made centuries before the event took place. Texts about the scattering of Israel are legion. I quote a few:

Deut. 4:25 *When thou shalt beget children, and children's children, and ye shall have remained long in the land, and shall corrupt yourselves, and make a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, and shall do evil in the sight of the LORD thy God, to provoke him to anger: 26: I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon **utterly perish from off the land** whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed. 27: **And the LORD shall scatter you among the nations**, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.*

Deut. 28:64 ***And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other;** and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. 65: And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind:*

Eze. 20:23 *I lifted up mine hand unto them also in the wilderness, that **I would scatter them among the heathen, and disperse them through the countries;** 24: Because they had not executed my judgments, but **had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths**, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols. For further study see: Lev. 26:33, Psa. 44:11, Jer. 9:16, Jer. 49:32-36, Eze. 12:14-15, 22:15-16, Neh. 1:8.*

ISRAEL NOT ABANDONED

Even though ancient Israel sinned grievously and was scattered to the four corners of the earth, the Almighty did not abandon His people. To be sure, He punished Israel over and over again with **war, famine, and pestilence**: but the Holy ONE of Israel has not abandoned His people. Israel is still the chosen race! **The LORD God is still with Israel!** Pause awhile and consider these little-known divine promises.

Eze. 11:16 *Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come. 17: Therefore say, **Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.***

Jer. 31:35 *Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: 36: **If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.** 37: **Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also***

cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

The Apostle Paul continues this thought in the New Testament when he cautions Gentile believers not to imagine God has abandoned or cast away Israel; because He hasn't.

Rom. 11:1 *I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2: **God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.** Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,*

In other words, **the people of Israel are still the chosen race and will continue to be as long as the immeasurable universe exists!** Pause a while, dear reader, and dwell on that stunning fact! That is what the LORD God of Israel is saying in His Word.

THE RE-GATHERING OF ISRAEL

Even while the Most High was predicting the Diaspora (the scattering of Israel), He was also forecasting Israel's re-gathering. Over and over again, He said He would re-gather His scattered people; and bring them back from the four corners of the earth to the land He had promised to give them. This is why that land is called **The Promised Land!** The re-gathering of Israel is predicted over and over again in the Scriptures. Once more, I quote and list a few of the many texts as proof:

Deut. 30:1 *And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, 2: And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; 3: **That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. 4: If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: 5: And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.***

Eze. 11:17 *Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. (Also read: Jer. 29:14, Jer. 31:10, 32:37-41, Neh. 1:9, Psa. 107:3, Isa. 43:5, Eze. 34:12-31, 37:21, Mic. 2:12)*

Is a re-gathering of Israel taking place? To be sure, it is. Consider the statistics of Jews returning to Israel since the nation was reborn on May 14, 1948.

1948 ... 657,000
1950 ... 1,203,000
1958 ... 1,810,000
1962 ... 2,069,000

Currently, thousands of Jews, especially from the former Soviet Union, return to Israel every year and the population is over the **6,000,000** mark.

Isaiah 11:11 *And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the **second time to recover the remnant of his people**, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. 12: And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and **gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.***

Isaiah 43:5 *Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; 6: I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;*

Eze. 39:27 *When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; 28: **Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which cause them to be led into captivity among the heathen:** but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.*

Yes, Bible prophecies concerning Israel's return to the **Promised Land** are being fulfilled before our very eyes. The descendants of Jacob are returning in their millions to the land of their fathers; and the Christian church, in the main, stands bewildered at events it doesn't understand, simply because it believes Israel was abandoned by God and replaced by a Gentile church. Oh, what a tragic misconception that is!

ISRAEL REFINED AS SILVER

What does Yahweh plan to do **after** re-gathering Israel? What does His Holy Word, the Bible, tell us? It tells us the **Most High is going to refine Israel as a silversmith refines silver**, with the sole intention of producing an obedient and holy nation, a nation that will reflect His perfect character. He is going to do this for His great Name's sake, which Israel has profaned among the nations by its sinful practices. Yahweh is about to act, not because the Jews are better in any way than Gentiles, because they are not, but **to clear His slandered Name and reputation throughout this rebellious planet.**

Eze. 22:15 *And I will scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee. 16: And thou shalt take thine inheritance in thyself in the sight of the heathen, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD. 17: And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 18: Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become **dross**: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the **dross of silver**. 19: Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. 20: As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; **so will I gather you in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt***

you. 21: Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof. 22: As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the LORD have poured out my fury upon you.

Eze. 36:21

*But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. 22: Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but **for mine holy name's sake**, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. 23: And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. 24: For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. 25: **Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.** 26: **A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.** 27: **And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.** 28: And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.*

That refining work has already begun! Israel is being purified.

ISRAEL'S FUTURE

According to Bible prophecy, Yahweh is going to gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle. The city is going to be captured and be under Gentile domination for a period of 42 months, 1260 days, or 3.5 years. Texts concerning this last-day confrontation are numerous. Zech. 12:3, Hosea 10:10, Micah 4:11, Joel 3:1-14, Zech. 14:1-2 and Revelation 11:2. These predictions, though partially realized in days gone by, will all find fulfilment in the near future.

Points to note are:

1. **Israel is unwelcome in the Middle East.**
2. **Israel will lose most of her friends** as she clings to territory promised her by the Creator centuries ago. The world does not recognize the promises Yahweh made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and is unimpressed with Israel's claim to the Promised Land. The world dismisses such claims as ridiculous. But mankind is about to learn two stunning truths:
 - The nation of Israel is still Yahweh's people. (Jeremiah 31:35-37)
 - The Almighty is still in charge of human affairs. (Daniel 4:32 & 5:21)
3. **Muslim hatred will increase towards Israel.** Israel's allies will desert her one by one; simply because religious and economic pressures will become too much for them. Israel will be shunned by hitherto friendly nations. She will

even be looked upon as the cause of Middle Eastern turmoil; and her stubborn claim to territory and mishandling of Arabs will be abhorred. Soon world opinion will be galvanized against Israel. Anti-Semitism will sweep the globe and Jews will again be massacred in many lands. To be sure, many noble efforts for peace will be put forth; but they will not produce peace. Peace in the Middle East will only come when **Yeshua, the Prince of Peace**, arrives. Till that time, expect growing hatred, turmoil, violence and war.

4. **All nations will unite in an attack on Jerusalem and the city will be taken.** For 42 months (3.5 years) Jerusalem, where our LORD was crucified, will be under the **'heel of the Gentiles'**.

Zech. 14:1 *Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. 2: For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken,*

Rev. 11:2 *. . . and the holy city shall they (the Gentiles) tread under foot forty and two months.*

5. **After Jerusalem's 42 month subjugation, the Messiah, (Jesus Christ), will return to earth and deliver the city.** He will descend upon the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and liberate the city.

Zech. 14:3 *Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. 4: And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south... and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. 6: And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: 7: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light. 8: And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. 9: **And the LORD shall be king over all the earth:** in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.*

When these final events occur, Israel will have reached a degree of purity and faithfulness never known before. **The decimated nation will be as 'pure silver'.**

4. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH & ISRAEL

Over the years, the Christian church has made many serious mistakes; one of which was to suppose Israel, in the main, rejected the Son of God, and Yahweh abandoned His chosen people, transferring His favours and work to the Gentile church. As mentioned previously, this is a colossal error because the Most High promised never to abandon His chosen people, Israel. All that happened when the leaders of Israel rejected Jesus Christ was the Holy Spirit directed certain Apostles to take the Gospel to the Gentiles, who had previously been mostly excluded from

Yahweh's Truth. When Paul and Barnabas answered that call, the '**Time of the Gentiles**' began and a **partial spiritual blindness** settled on Israel. But Israel was not abandoned. She was simply **blinded** to the Gospel which she had stubbornly refused to accept. That spiritual blindness is being removed at this very moment as thousands of Israelis around the world accept Yeshua and the Gospel of Salvation their forefathers rejected many centuries ago.

ABRAHAM'S SEED

Another fact comparatively few Christians realize is every believer in Jesus Christ is considered by the Almighty to be a '**child of Abraham**'. In other words, Gentiles who believe in Yeshua the Messiah, (Jesus Christ), are spiritual **Israelites** - **Jews!** Here is proof of this little-known fact:

Rom. 2:28 *For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*

Gal. 3:26 *For ye **are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.** 27: For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29: **And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.***

In the book of Romans, Paul further figuratively explains how Yahweh **prunes away** unbelieving Israelites from the **Olive of Israel** and in their place grafts in believing Gentiles. In other words, believing Gentiles become **spiritual Israelites** and, thereafter, partake of the goodness of the **Olive of Israel**. Jews are not grafted into the Gentile church. It is the other way around; believing Gentiles are grafted onto the Olive of Israel; we become joint-heirs of the Kingdom of God with the Jews! Believing Gentiles, therefore, should not insult Israelis by assuming Yahweh has abandoned them in favour of the Christian church because this is certainly not the case. To fix this little-known fact in your mind, let me again quote the Apostle Paul:

Rom. 11:16 *For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. 17: And if **some** of the branches be broken off, **and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them**, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; 18: Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. 19: Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. 20: Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. **Be not highminded, but fear: 21: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee...** 25: For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be **come in**. 26: And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:*

Eph. 3:6 *That the Gentiles should be **fellowheirs**, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:*

In view of these amazing facts, everyone, especially Christians, should treat the people of Israel - and their fellow Christians for that matter - with respect. To be sure, some Jews as in the days of old, are the '**children of the Devil**' (John 8:44); but the whole nation must not be condemned because of the few. The Jew is the '**Apple of God's eye**' and all who oppose them will find themselves fighting God! (Zech. 2:7-8) How true were the words of the mercenary prophet Balaam, who, in spite of himself, pronounced this eternal truth as he lifted up his eyes and beheld the people of Israel:

Num. 24:2 *. . . **Blessed is he that blesseth thee, and cursed is he that curseth thee.***

CHRISTIAN BLINDNESS

It is also a dangerous thing for Gentile Christians to smugly gloat over Israel's **blindness** in rejecting Jesus and his Gospel. Gentile boasting is out of order, because the church, though paying lip service to Jesus Christ, has rejected the very commandments the Saviour came to magnify. The Bible tells us Jesus came to save mankind from sin, that is, from disobedience.

Matt. 1:21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall **save his people from their sins.***

Rom. 8:3-4 *. . . God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: **That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us**, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

In other words, the purpose for which Jesus came to earth was to **save believers from sin**, that is, from breaking God's law, from disobedience. His final objective is '**that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us**'. But what do we find in the Christian church? We find millions, like ancient Israel, have abandoned the law of God and are sinning with impunity. Indeed, the average person would be hard pressed to tell you even five of the **Ten Commandments**, let alone all ten. Why this almost incredible ignorance of so important a law? The answer is; because the Ten Commandments are not being taught in most churches and schools. The law of God is considered, by many, to be impossible to keep and is now obsolete. Some even go so far as to say it is barbaric! As for the Sabbath commandment, it has become an embarrassment to most Christian ministers and priests. Few will ever preach about Sabbath-keeping. But the fact remains, without the Ten Commandments it is impossible to define sin, let alone cope with sin's horrifying consequences.

The Bible says:

Rom. 3:20 *. . . **for by the law is the knowledge of sin.***

Rom. 7:7 *What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, **I had not known sin, but by the law**: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.*

1 John 3:4 *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: **for sin is the transgression of the law.***

In other words, God's law tells us what actions are right and acceptable and what actions are wrong and unacceptable - to Him. If the Ten Commandments are not taught in the schools and churches, then men, women, and children will have absolutely no idea how to behave, nor will they feel guilty when they sin. They will do as they please and the rule of the jungle will take over. Is it any wonder there is so much evil in the world, so much violence and vice, so much sexual immorality and sin? It is because the **knowledge of righteousness, which God's law alone imparts, is fading from the earth.**

Comparatively few people know anything about the Almighty's standard of morals. His commandments are not being taught any more, so evil is taking over. As for the weekly and annual Sabbaths of the LORD, they are despised and rejected. In their place, we find an array of human traditions and pagan celebrations - all abhorrent to the Most High. Consider these staggering quotations about pagan holidays in the Christian calendar.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is not a Bible festival. It is an ancient pagan festival masquerading as the birthday of the Son of God.

- *"Indeed it is admitted by the most learned and candid of writers of all parties that the day of our LORD's birth cannot be determined and that within the Christian church no festival as Christmas was ever heard of till the third century, and that not till the third century was far advanced did it gain much observance. How then did the Romanish church fix on December 25th as Christmas day? Why thus: Long before the fourth century and long before the Christian era itself, a festival was celebrated among the heathen at the precise time of the year, in honour of the birth of the Son of the Babylonian **Queen of Heaven**: and it may fairly be assumed that in order to conciliate the heathen and to swell the nominal adherents of Christianity, the same festival was adopted by the Roman Church giving it only the name Christ. This tendency on the part of the Christians to meet paganism half-way was very early adopted ... Upright men strove to stem the tide, but in spite of all their efforts the apostasy went on, till the church, with the exception of a small remnant, was submerged under pagan superstition. That Christmas was originally a pagan festival is beyond all doubt. The time of the year, and the ceremonies with which it is still celebrated proves its origin. In Egypt the Son of Isis, the Egyptian title for the Queen of Heaven, was born at this very time, about the time of the winter solstice." (The Two Babylons by Alexander Hislop, page 93)*
- **"Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the church... the first evidence of the feast is from Egypt."** (Catholic Encyclopaedia, 1911 edition)
- *"It is nevertheless almost certain that the 25th of December cannot be the nativity of the Saviour, for it is then the height of the rainy season in Judaea, and shepherds could hardly be watching their flocks by night in the plains. Not casually or arbitrarily was the festival of the Nativity celebrated on the 25th December. One of the principal causes that co-operated in fixing this period was that almost all the heathen nations regarded the winter solstice as the turning point of the year - the beginning of the powers of nature and of the gods who were originally*

merely symbolical personifications of these."(**Chambers Encyclopaedia** 1908 edition article **Christmas**)

- "There can be no doubt, then, that the Pagan festival at the winter solstice - in other words, Christmas - was held in honour of the birth of the Babylonian Messiah." (**The Two Babylons**, page 102)

EASTER

What about Easter? How did this pagan, fertility festival enter the Christian calendar? Most certainly there is no mention of Easter eggs in the Scriptures; no mention of bunny rabbits. Where did they come from? Is it wrong to celebrate Easter? The facts will surprise you; but here are a few quotations about Easter from Alexander Hislop's famous book **The Two Babylons**, published by S. W. Partridge & Co., 4 Soho Sq., London. (ISBN 0 7136 0470 0).

- "Then look at Easter. What means the term Easter itself? It is not a Christian name. It bears its Chaldean origin on its forehead. **Easter** is nothing else than **Astarte**, one of the titles of Beltis, the **queen of heaven**, whose name, as pronounced by the people of Nineveh, was evidently identical with that now in common use in this country. That name, as found by Layard on the Assyrian monuments, is **Ishtar**. The worship of Bel and Astarte was very early introduced into Britain, along with the Druids, **the priests of the groves**." (page 103)
- "To conciliate the Pagans to nominal Christianity, Rome, pursuing its usual policy, took measures to get the Christian and Pagan festivals amalgamated, and, by a complicated but skilful adjustment of the calendar, it was found no difficult matter, in general to get Paganism and Christianity, now far sunk in idolatry - in this as in so many other things, to shake hands." (page 105)
- "The hot cross buns of Good Friday and the dyed eggs of Easter Sunday, figured in the Chaldean rites just as they do now. The **'buns'** known too by the identical name, were used in the worship of the queen of heaven, the goddess Easter, as early as the days of Cecrops, the founder of Athens - that is, 1500 years before the Christian era... The prophet Jeremiah takes notice of this kind of offering when he says: 'The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women make cakes to the **queen of heaven**' - **Astarte!** (Jer. 7:18) (page 108)
- "In ancient times **eggs** were used in the religious rites of the Egyptians and the Greeks, and were hung up for mystic purposes in their temples. From Egypt these sacred eggs can be distinctly traced to the banks of the Euphrates. The classic poets are full of the fable of the **mystic egg** of the Babylonians; and thus it is told by Hyginus, the Egyptian, the learned keeper of the Palatine library at Rome, in the time of Augustus, who was skilled in all the wisdom of his native country: 'An egg of wondrous size is said to have fallen from heaven into the river Euphrates. The fishes rolled it to the bank, where the doves having settled upon it, and hatched it, out came **Venus**, who afterwards was called the Syrian Goddess - that is **Astarte**. Hence, the egg became one of the symbols of **Astarte or Easter**.'" (page 108)

- *"The guilt of idolatry is regarded by many as comparatively slight and insignificant guilt. But not so does the God of heaven regard it. Which is the commandment of all the ten that is fenced about with the most solemn and awful sanctions? It is the second: 'Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in the heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.' These words were spoken by God's own lips, they were written by God's own finger on the tables of stone: not for the instruction of the seed of Abraham only, but of all the tribes and generations of mankind. No other commandment has such a threatening attached to it as this. Now, if God has threatened to visit the sin of idolatry above all other sins, and if we find the heavy judgments of God pressing upon us as a nation, while this very sin is crying to heaven against us, ought it not to be a matter of earnest inquiry, if among all our other national sins, which are both many and great, this may not form the very head and front of our offending."* (page 127)

Similar quotations can be found in Hislop's 330-page book about other pagan traditions, which over the centuries have crept into the Christian calendar. False teachings such as:

- **The Nativity of St. John** (Held immediately after the summer solstice)
- **The Feast of the Assumption** (A nineteenth century human tradition)
- **Idol processions / Relic worship: the clothing and crowning of images, etc.**

Not one of these practices is endorsed in the holy Scriptures. They are pagan through and through. They were adopted centuries ago by a spiritually blind ecclesiastical hierarchy. Celebrating these pagan festivals is nothing but **baptized idolatry**; and, as such, is abhorrent to the Almighty and His Son.

THE TRADITIONS OF MEN

To be sure, there is nothing wrong with a human tradition - if it **does not clash with a command of the Almighty God. But, if a tradition conflicts with a divine commandment, as most of the popular Christian festivals do, then once they are recognized for what they are, their continued acceptance will neutralize one's worship, making it vain, pointless, and futile. Their continued use can even jeopardize one's salvation. This frightening fact is clearly taught by the Master himself:**

Mark 7:6 *He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. 7: Howbeit in vain do they worship me, **teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.***

Matt. 15:8 *This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9: **But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.***

The Christian church is guilty of placing the traditions of men above the commandments of God. The celebrating of Christmas, Easter, Ash-Wednesday, the Nativity of St John, the Feast of the Assumption, Halloween, and Sunday, etc., are all human traditions. **Not one of these festivals was authorized by the LORD God.** They are all spiritual weeds in the Garden of Salvation. Celebrating them in preference to Yahweh's Sabbaths is no more than self-deluding idolatry. These facts may stun or even anger some who read them. **But they must be told, because replacing a divine commandment with a human tradition is a very serious sin. At the coming Judgment, would you forgive me for not telling you the Truth?**

Matt. 15:12-14

*Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? But he answered and said, **Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.** Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.*

5. THE ALMIGHTY'S SEAL & SIGNATURE

At its basic level, a seal is a legal device used to stamp a name, coat of arms, or logo on some impressionable material like wax, clay or paper. **On the spiritual level, Yahweh seals the impressionable minds of His people with His Law, His Name, and His Character.** In the covenant made at Sinai, the Almighty wrote His law on tablets of stone. But the majority in Israel was unwilling to obey it. In fact, they despised the holy commandments and broke them with impunity. In the new covenant which is also made with the people of Israel, the Almighty plans to write His law in His true followers' **minds** and **hearts**. It will become part of our nature. Obedience will then be as instinctive as breathing.

THE SEALING WORK

The sealing work is detailed in Revelation chapter 7. It will not take place till the events of Rev. 6:12-17, (the 6th Seal), have occurred. Only then will the 144,000 Israelites be sealed. Who are these people? Where are they sealed? Who seals them? With what are they sealed?

The answer is:

The 144,000 are true Israelites who are sealed in their foreheads, (minds), by the Holy Spirit with God's Law. In some mysterious way, the Holy Spirit is going to impress Yahweh's law on every true believer's mind; overwrite with perfect obedience our natural tendency to sin. We will then instinctively obey the divine commandments and will obey them to perfection. By doing so, we will reflect Yahweh's name, His character, and His holiness in our every thought, word and deed. We will be perfectly holy people - through and through! That's what knowing the Almighty's Name means. And how do we know we are to be **sealed with obedience?**

The Bible tells us:

Isa. 8:16

Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.

Heb. 8:7

For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8: For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make

*a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10: For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts:** and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.*

Heb. 10:15 *Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16: **This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;** 17: **And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.***

THE ALMIGHTY'S SIGN (SIGNATURE)

At its basic level, a signature is a **sign** or **inscription of a person's name**. If you were asked to **sign** a cheque or document, you would inscribe your name on it. Your sign is your signature, your name. On the spiritual level, the God of Israel refers to His Sabbath days as His Sign or signature; and like His law, He inscribes His signature on the obedient believer's mind.

Exo. 31:12 *And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 13: **Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you . . .** 16: Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. 17: **It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever:***

Eze. 20:12 *Moreover **also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them,** that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them . . . 20: **And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you,** that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.*

Yahweh's Sabbaths, (note the word Sabbaths is in the plural, meaning the weekly and annual Sabbaths), constitute His signature. They are the **SIGN** of the everlasting covenant. Throughout eternity they will be remembered, (kept in mind), and celebrated as the memorials of salvation; the days on which Yahweh accomplished His mightiest deeds in the redemption of mankind. Yahweh's Sabbath days will be kept throughout eternity because they are the sacred seeds of His planting, eternal memorials of His mightiest deeds in the Plan of Salvation. Unlike pagan traditions, they will never be uprooted or forgotten.

6. THE ANTICHRIST & HIS MARK

Bible prophecy tells us in the last days, just before the return of Jesus Christ, the Antichrist will come. He will pose as Christ himself. He will do **mighty miracles** and deceive millions into accepting the claim he is the real Jesus Christ, God in human flesh! The Antichrist is known by various names and descriptions. They are:

- **The Wicked One**
- **The Man of Sin**
- **The Son of Perdition**
- **The BEAST**
- **The Little Horn**
- **The Mystery of Lawlessness, etc.**

The Bible gives us many clues concerning the identity of the Antichrist. Six clues are briefly considered below:

CLUE NO. 1: The Antichrist is the 'Lawless One'

2 Thess. 2:3 *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that **man of sin** be revealed, **the son of perdition**;*

He is called the **man of sin**, (another word for lawlessness), because he vainly thinks he can change the law of the Almighty God. According to the prophet Daniel, the particular commandments the Antichrist vainly imagines he can change are the ones dealing with the **element of time**. In other words, the Sabbath commandments; for they alone deal with the **element of time**.

Daniel 7:25 *And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and **think to change times and laws**: The Aramaic word **sh@na'** {shen-aw'} means to **change, transform, frustrate**, and the Aramaic word, **z@man** {zem-awn'}, means a **set time or season**. In other words, the Antichrist would attempt to *change, transform and frustrate the Almighty's **set or appointed times** in God's law*. And this is exactly what the Lawless One has tried to do by introducing all these pagan festivals.*

CLUE NO. 2: The Antichrist lived before the year AD 96.

When the prophecy of the Revelation was being given (about AD 96), the Antichrist, the Beast, was to all intents and purposes - **dead!**

Rev. 17:8 *The beast that thou sawest was, and is not . . .*

CLUE NO. 3: The Antichrist will rise to life from out of the Bottomless Pit.

Rev. 11:7 *And when they shall have finished their testimony, **the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit** shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.*

Rev. 17:8 *The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall **ascend out of the bottomless pit**, and go into perdition . . .*

What is the Bottomless Pit? Where is the Bottomless Pit?

According to Strong's Bible Dictionary, the Greek word **abussos** {ab'-us-sos}, translated 'Bottomless Pit', is the *bottomless, unbounded abyss: a pit of immeasurable depth: a very deep gulf or chasm in the lowest parts of the earth used as the common receptacle of the dead and especially as the abode of demons.*

In the Gospel of Luke, we read how evil angels in times past begged Jesus not to order them to the '**deep**', the **abussos**, the Bottomless Pit, the Abyss, the angel penitentiary where the Beast is being held captive.

Luke 8:31 *And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the **deep**.*

2 Peter 2:4 *For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them **down to hell**, and delivered them into **chains of darkness**, to be reserved unto judgment;*

Jude 1:6 *And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in **everlasting chains under darkness** unto the judgment of the great day.*

In other words, many evil angels are currently being held captive in the Abyss, (the Bottomless Pit, a place in the lowest parts of the earth), where they await their **Day of Judgment**. Free-roaming demons are terrified of being sent there. This clue tells us the Antichrist comes from that place - the **Abyss!**

CLUE NO. 4: When the Antichrist rises from the Abyss he will reveal himself to mankind and claim to be God!

Rev. 17:8 *The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, **when they behold the beast** that was, and is not, and yet is.*

2 Thess. 2:3 *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and **that man of sin be revealed**, the son of perdition; 4: Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he **as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.***

CLUE NO. 5: The Antichrist will rule for three and a half years (42 months).

After being released from the Abyss, the Antichrist will begin a world-wide reign of terror which is scheduled to last **three and a half years** or **42 months**. During this period, virtually every person on earth will worship the Antichrist as God!

Dan. 7:25 *And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a **time** and **times** and the **dividing of time**.*

- **Time** = 1 year.
- **Times** = 2 years.
- **Dividing of Times** = half a year.

This makes a total of three and a half years or **42 months**.

Rev. 13:5 *And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue **forty***

and two months. 6: And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7: And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. 8: And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

CLUE NO. 6: Antichrist will attack the armies of heaven and challenge Jesus Christ at his coming.

According to the prophecy of Daniel 8, the Little Horn will attack the army of heaven, enter the **heavenly Temple**, and cast many of God's holy angels to the earth. He will even dare to challenge Jesus Christ, the Prince of the heavenly host, and will marshal the armies of earth to fight the Saviour at His second coming.

Dan. 8:10 *And it waxed great, even to the **host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.** 11: Yea, he magnified himself even to the **prince of the host**, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.*

Rev. 19:19 *And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20: And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*

POPULAR OPINIONS ABOUT ANTICHRIST

Incredible as it may seem, not one of the popular opinions about the Antichrist which are circulating Christendom today fits these six scriptural clues. Let us now list some of the popular opinions concerning the Antichrist:

- **United Nations Organization (UN)**
- **European Economic Community (EEC)**
- **Fascism**
- **International Communism**
- **The Papacy**
- **Apostate Protestantism**
- **Islamic Fundamentalism**
- **China**
- **The New World Order**
- **Satan the Devil, etc.**

If you compare each of these entities with those **six clues**, you'll soon see not one of them can possibly be the Antichrist. Most do not fit even two clues, let alone all six. To find out the answers, see the SBS/AVITW Canada-USA articles, **Who/What Then is the Antichrist?** and **What Is The Mark of The Beast?** For those with internet access, see:

Who/What Then Is The Antichrist

<http://www.avoicethewilderness.org/prophecy/sermon14.html>

What Is the Mark of the Beast

<http://www.avoicethewilderness.org/prophecy/sermon28.html>

Or, you may write to the address on the back of this booklet for a free printed copy.

7. THE MILLENNIAL REIGN & THE NEW EARTH

The Oxford Dictionary defines the word '**millennium**' as the *1000-year reign of Jesus Christ on earth ... a period of great happiness and prosperity for everyone.*

No one will doubt but that the world desperately needs peace, happiness and prosperity. For six thousand years, man has tried to govern himself and has miserably failed. Every style of government has been tried, not to mention the countless human laws formulated in the process. All have proved incapable of bringing peace, prosperity and happiness to the human race. Look about you and take note of the misery in the world. Man's problems are totally out of control. We are all well able to recognize the world's problems, but no leader, group of leaders, or government is able to cure them. Anarchy now faces many nations. Scores of political systems and thousands of laws have come and gone. All are impotent. All have miserably failed. But this will all change when the millennium starts. For the first time in human history, the world will see a successful world government.

Bible prophecy tells us the Messiah's millennial reign is near. It is about to begin. We have seen Israel regathered to the Promised Land. We now see world hostility against Israel rising by the week. Zechariah tells us, in chapter 14 of his book, all nations will gather against Jerusalem to battle and the city will be captured. The Gentiles will then brutally dominate Jerusalem for three and a half years. We are nearing that time. Zechariah's prophecy goes on to say Israel's Messiah, the Son of God, will then come and liberate Jerusalem from Gentile rule. He will then begin his world-wide reign from that city. Jerusalem's liberation will mark the start of the millennium - the Messiah's 1000 year **Reign of Peace**.

The first fact we need to know about the millennium is that it is a '**reign**'. A reign involves a King, territory, peoples, laws, judges, administrators and officials of all kinds. Think for a moment of the sophisticated machinery of government in the tiny United Kingdom of about 55 million people. Then try to imagine what a 1000 year world government involving billions of people will be like. That will need some organization! The prophet Daniel tells us, (Daniel 2:44), when the Messiah comes, every earthly government will be swept away because all have proved themselves totally inadequate. Like the metal and clay empires in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, they will all be swept away like **worthless chaff from a summer threshing floor!**

Dan. 2:35 *Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*

Rev. 11:15 *And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.*

Who will Reign with Christ?

The Bible tells us the martyrs who died for Jesus Christ and Yahweh's law during the rule of the Antichrist will rise from their graves to reign with Christ for a thousand years. Along with prominent saints of ages past, these martyrs will form the new world government of the **King of Kings**. His government will not be elected by the people, but by God Himself. The Greek model of **democracy** will then be a thing of the past.

Rev. 20:4 *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years ... 6: Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

Where will the millennium be spent?

The Bible teaches the millennium will be spent on earth.

Rev. 5:10 *And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and **we shall reign on the earth.***

Many Bible prophecies tell of the Messiah's reign over all nations. Read these Psalms to get the picture. Psalm 2, Psalm 47, Psalm 93, Psalm 95, Psalm 96, Psalm 97, Psalm 98, Psalm 99, Psalm 110, Psalm 126.

MESSIAH'S POWER OVER THE NATIONS

When He returns to earth, the Saviour will exercise absolute authority over all nations. He will administer the very law He gave through Moses many years ago; the law the nations of the world have rejected for generations. His absolute authority and power is figuratively described as a **'rod of iron'**. No enemy will dare defy the Son of God and His government at that time; and it will not be long before the peoples of the world realize He is indeed the **Prince of Peace!** These facts are clearly taught in the following Scriptures:

Rev. 2:26 *And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.*

Rev. 12:5 *And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations **with a rod of iron** . . .*

Rev. 19:15 *And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16: And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.***

Yeshua the Messiah's rule over all nations is prophesied in scores of Bible passages. Indeed, that is what the Disciples and most of Israel expected when Jesus came to earth the first time. They expected him to overthrow their Roman rulers and establish the Kingdom in their life time. Little did they realize his first task

was to pay the price of sin by dying on the stake. But those kingdom-prophecies have still to be fulfilled; and they will be at the soon-coming millennium.

INDIVIDUAL AUTHORITY

In the millennium, certain believers will be promoted to positions of high rank. Those who have made good use of their time and talents during this age, will be given great authority. Their power will extend over entire cities to a degree not seen in this present age.

Rev. 3:21 *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

Psa. 47:2 *For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth. 3: He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.*

Luke 19:17 *And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, **have thou authority over ten cities.** 18: And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. 19: And he said likewise to him, **Be thou also over five cities.***

Rev. 2:26 *And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give **power over the nations:** 27: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.*

YAHWEH'S LAW WILL BE TAUGHT TO THE WHOLE WORLD

During the millennium, Yahweh's law will be obeyed by all nations. As mentioned previously, the Messiah's ultimate objective: **to save mankind from sin** and to re-establish Yahweh's law in the minds of men.

Micah 4:1 *But in the **last days** it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. 2: And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and **he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.** 3: And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more ...7: And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: **and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.***

Isa. 42:4 *He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law ... 21: The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.*

Isa. 51:4 *Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.*

Zechariah, chapter 14, introduces the millennial age. The chapter tells of the liberation of Jerusalem and how the **Messiah will be king over the whole earth**. The chapter ends with all nations keeping the laws of the Most High. The **Feast of Tabernacles** - that great feast which symbolizes the very presence of Yeshua the Messiah (He is the very **"Tabernacle of God"**) - will be kept by all the nations of the world. The prophet tells us fearsome punishments and plagues will be meted out on nations refusing to send delegates to Jerusalem for the **Feast of Tabernacles**.

Zec. 14:9 *And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one ...11: And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited. 12: And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth ...16: And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem **shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles**. 17: And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. 18: And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the **feast of tabernacles**. 19: This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the **feast of tabernacles**.*

In view of these prophecies concerning the end time, it is utter folly to dismiss the Feasts of the Most High, especially the **Feast of Tabernacles**, as being inapplicable to Gentile nations.

PEACE AT LAST

Implementation of Yahweh's law throughout the world will have unprecedented results. Indeed, trying to imagine this utopia is difficult enough - how much less can we describe it? Very briefly, I list just four of the many improvements the millennial reign of the Messiah will bring with Satan's evil influence out of the way and every governmental post filled by a believer of absolute integrity and great ability:

1. **World-wide peace** will be experienced for the first time ever.
2. **The crime rate** of all nations will collapse virtually to zero as the penal code recorded in the Bible is implemented by an all-knowing king and his trusted officials. The results will astound all nations.
3. **Unemployment** will be a thing of the past as millions of people will be required to restore our shattered and polluted planet.
4. **Proper housing and health care** for all peoples will then become a reality; and the gift of healing will be widely used.

We could write at length on this subject, but the Bible tells us the reality will go far beyond anything we can imagine.

PREPARATION FOR THE MILLENNIUM

Preparation for the millennium should begin right away. It is dangerous to neglect salvation and to put off for tomorrow something that can be done today. A new government is about to take over the earth. Are you preparing for that event? We realize the very idea may appear farcical to many; but the Scriptures abound with proof of it.

- The **first step** in preparing for the millennium is to **have Faith in Yahweh** and to accept His offer of salvation through His Son **Yeshua**. This is the most well known part of the Everlasting Gospel; and is taught by virtually every Christian denomination. Billions of Gospel tracts and books have been published about this vital step. It is also taught in the SBS/AVITW **Bible Course** and at **The Everlasting Gospel** page.
- The **second step** is also important: **begin to obey Yahweh's law**. Those who profess faith but refuse to obey the commandments of the Most High are on extremely dangerous ground. They could find in the coming judgment that they have lost everything - all because they refused to forsake sin. Keeping the Festivals of the Most High, especially the Feast of Tabernacles, is an extremely powerful declaration of faith in the Holy One of Israel. Zechariah 14 spells out this fact in the most dramatic way. Study that chapter and also study Revelation chapters 1 to 3. These passages identify **overcomers** as the ones who will rule the nations of the world during the soon-coming millennium. Aim to overcome sin, selfishness, pride, greed, hatred, bitterness, jealousy, slander, doubt, ingratitude, impatience, deception, etc. How successful you are in overcoming these traits and in using your time and talents to further the Everlasting Gospel in this age will determine your position under Christ during his millennial reign. Is that not a sobering and challenging prospect?

When our earth was created, it was perfect in every way. There was no sorrow, no sickness, no war, and no death. All was perfect happiness, health, harmony, and peace.

Gen.1:31 ***And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good . . .***

But, alas! that state of perfection soon vanished. Satan and his brain-child (sin) arrived on the scene and, as Yahweh had correctly predicted, there followed doubt, sin, separation, sickness, hatred, violence and death. Man was given six thousand years to go his own way, to find out for himself if what God had said was true or false. After all, God did not want to be accused by man or angel of wiping out opponents without allowing them a chance to prove themselves. But the six thousand years of man's self-rule have been an unprecedented disaster and are almost over. Nothing worked as man had expected: no ideology, no ism, no political system, no law (and thousands have been tried) has been able to bring peace and prosperity to earth's millions. Man has miserably failed in every important department of life.

The coming millennial rule of Yeshua the King will change all that. It will be a reign of peace for all mankind. During the millennium (the Sabbatical, seventh thousandth year), Jesus Christ will demonstrate how Yahweh's government and His laws really do work for the benefit of mankind. God's sacred commandments, despised for nearly six thousand years by multiplied billions of people, will at last

be honoured by all the nations of the world. Then every tongue in the vast universe will confess Yahweh was right all along; that He is holy, just and good; that His commandments are not a barbaric code at all, but a **'law of liberty'**, a transcript of His own holy character, a perfect constitution designed to protect life for all time.

James 1:25 *But whoso looketh into the perfect **law of liberty**, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.*

In short, to **'Fear God and keep His commandments'** (Ecc. 12:13) is the only way to prepare for the millennium. Any other course of action, however appealing it may appear to be, is courting disaster.

THE DAY OF JUDGMENT

After the millennium, the second general resurrection will take place and then will come the appointed **Day of Judgment!** (Rev. 20:7-15) In the diary of the Almighty, the Great Day of Judgment has already been appointed. The dictionary describes an **'appointment'** as an arrangement to meet or visit at a particular date and time. And this is exactly how the Almighty makes His appointments. They all relate to particular dates and times in His calendar - the sacred calendar. Of course, we do not know the exact year of the Judgment, but God knows. Not only has He appointed the date, He has also appointed the Judge.

The Appointed Day of Judgment & the Appointed Judge

Acts 17:30 *And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31: **Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.***

Rev. 20:11 *And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12: **And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.** 13: *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and **they were judged every man according to their works.*** 14: *And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15: And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.**

THE NEW EARTH

After the Great Day of Judgment, the next event in the Diary of the Almighty is the Creation of the new universe.

Rev. 21:1 ***And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2: And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride***

*adorned for her husband. 3: And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4: And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5: And he that sat upon the throne said, **Behold, I make all things new.** And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6: And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7: He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. 8: But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*

It is not possible to imagine, far less describe, the glory and bliss of the earth made new. The finest scenes on this planet and our happiest moments are as nothing when compared to the paradise to come. The new earth will be a wonder to behold and a glory to live on. No one can afford to miss it. You must make sure you and your loved ones are there. Your invitation to that eternal paradise has all the guarantees of the Word of God! Yahweh sent His only begotten Son to die for your sins, so that you might accept His offer of everlasting life in that new universe. Accept His offer before it is eternally too late! The apostle Paul summarizes in 1 Cor. 2:9 the prospect of living in paradise for all time with these wonderful words:

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

The Bible begins with the record of a perfect creation which went tragically wrong when man chose to believe Satan rather than God. Then followed the story of salvation; of how Yahweh the Almighty God of Israel, the LORD God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob set about rescuing mankind from the consequences of sin.

- **First:** He had to define sin and demonstrate how terrible a thing it was. He did this by means of His law which is recorded in the first five books of the Bible. If you study that law you will find it is a **User Guide** on how to live.
- **Second:** follows chapter after chapter of **history**; real-life examples of how the Almighty dealt with His chosen people Israel as they reacted to His law.
- **Third:** comes the many promises and prophecies concerning **salvation** through His only begotten Son, the Saviour of the world!

The story of salvation is the greatest drama of all time; a love story of unparalleled appeal. The Bible then tells of how the Almighty sent His only begotten son, Yeshua, to die for the sins of the world; and how anyone - Jew or Gentile - may live for all time if they simply accept His free gift of salvation. Sad to say millions treat this astonishing offer of mercy and everlasting life with unbelief and even a measure of contempt. **Oh, what appalling ignorance has sin spawned in the human heart! – What greed! What hatred! What pride! – that man should foolishly fight his Maker and choose eternal death instead of eternal life.** This

is one of the greatest mysteries of all time. The Bible ends with a final invitation to accept the **Water of Life, freely!** It is a touching appeal by Yeshua himself to accept life before it is eternally too late. Dear friend, you can not afford to ignore so great an offer! Here it is in Rev. 22:17:

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely!

SUMMARY

Millions of genuine believers know little or nothing about the Sacred Calendar. But you are not amongst them; because now you know! This booklet has introduced you to spiritual specifications and truths of awesome significance. You now know the following facts:

1. The sacred calendar forms the basis of the Almighty's Diary; the diary in which He has **appointed certain days, seasons and years** to perform His mightiest acts in the Programme of Salvation. He calls these appointed days **His Sabbaths, His Feast days**. (Lev. 23:2)
2. Bible prophecy tells us at the '**time of the end**', the time just prior to the return of Jesus Christ, there would be **signs in the sun, moon and stars**; and these signs will coincide with the Feast Days in the sacred calendar. (Joel 2:31, Joel 3:15, Amos 8:9, Matt. 24:29, Rev. 6:12, Gen. 1:14)
3. **The Time Prophecies of Daniel & Revelation are directly linked to the Feast Days in the sacred calendar:** and these prophecies would be fulfilled at the *time of the end*, which is now upon us. (See Appendix C for examples of these counts.)
4. **The nation of Israel is still Yahweh's chosen people;** a people which has been brought back to the land of Israel to be purified as silver and believers in Yeshua the Messiah, (Jesus Christ), are grafted into the Olive of Israel.
5. **Yahweh's Law constitutes His Seal; and His weekly and annual Sabbaths constitute His Signature - His Sign.** In other words, Yahweh seals and signs His people with obedience - with holiness.
6. **The soon-coming Antichrist will govern the whole world for a period of 3.5 years** during which time he will compel all nations to receive his Mark, the mark of disobedience - the signature of sin.
7. **The Saviour's millennial reign is also an appointed part of the sacred calendar;** a sabbatical thousand years of world-wide peace and righteousness, when all the nations of the world will learn to obey the Law of the Almighty God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel.
8. **The millennium will be followed by the creation of a New Universe** where the redeemed will dwell for eternity.

These facts you now know. Most importantly, this booklet has presented you with a challenge you will never forget and must not ignore. That challenge is to put your faith into action; to demonstrate you must trust and love the Almighty enough to

keep His commandments. To be sure, the **first step** towards salvation is to put your faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and accept him as your personal Saviour from sin. Your **second step** is also vitally important. It is to obey the Almighty's commandments. **Your obedience will prove your faith is alive;** you have truly repented of past sins and now want to obey your heavenly Father. This is the challenge you now face; and there is no way you can lightly dismiss it, or even forget it. It is, perhaps, the greatest challenge you have ever faced in your life. If you meet it with living faith in the Saviour and begin to keep Yahweh's sacred appointments, His weekly and annual Sabbaths, you will be greatly blessed, in this world, during the millennium and throughout the endless ages of eternity. We will not even contemplate the results of willful disobedience, because that course is certainly not for you. Instead, we will pray, that Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, will grant you His Spirit to trust and obey Him.

AMEN

PART 2

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Since the first publication of this booklet in 1979, Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA has received many queries about the sacred calendar. In **Part Two**, some of the most frequently asked questions are answered. The **Appendices** contain information as to how the sacred calendar is set up. New moon times and the beginnings of months are given at Appendix A. They should be carefully preserved because they will keep you informed as to the appointed festival days and seasons when in some future year **SIGNS in the sun, moon and stars** are scheduled to occur. Stewarton Bible School does not - indeed it cannot - predict the date of Jesus Christ's return. No one knows that date except our heavenly Father (Matt. 24:36). What we do say, however, is when those celestial signs are seen by all the world on a sacred season, day or year, then a vitally important phase of human history will have begun and you need to be aware of that fact. A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA offers this work to the reader with much prayer, trusting he/she will greatly benefit as a result of its study. Now to those questions and answers.

Question 1

When does a month begin in the Sacred Calendar? Does it begin on the day of the astronomical new moon (conjunction), or when the new moon is first sighted with the naked eye?

Answer

A month in the sacred calendar begins with a first sighting of the new moon. An 'astronomical new moon' (**conjunction**) occurs when the sun and moon are in a straight line with the centre of the earth. The new moon is not visible to the naked eye at this time; but becomes visible between about 15 and 48 (or more) hours later. In ancient days, months began when the new moon was first seen with the **naked eye**. The ancients literally '**looked out**' for the new moon and when it was seen they pronounced the start of the new month. They didn't publish the calendar several months or years in advance as we do today; but started each month when they actually saw the new moon. That is the original and best way to determine the beginning of a month. It completely eliminates the one day discrepancies that even the most conscientiously produced pre-printed calendars are liable to contain.

When, however, astronomers began to calculate the circuit of the moon around the earth, conjunction times became available and calendars based on these times began to be produced, months or even years in advance. The question is: **What should we do, now that conjunction times and phases of the moon charts have become available?** Do we use computer produced calculations and print a calendar in advance or not? Our answer is as follows: some Christian groups - including SBS/AVITW - publish calendars in advance by using mathematical calculations of some sort. However, because the ancient method was to **lookout for the new moon each month**, we in SBS/AVITW use computer calculations **but also allow a certain period of time for the new moon to become visible, before determining the start of each month**. This means after we have made an allowance for a **first sighting** with the naked eye, the pre-printed calendar SBS/AVITW Canada-USA publishes is very much in line with the sacred calendar used in ancient Israel. In 1978, we asked a group of believers in Jerusalem to confirm our findings by actually checking the calendar SBS published against first sightings of the new crescent moon. After looking out for the new moon for several months, **Elder Charles Dugger** of the Jerusalem Church of God wrote this:

"We find that the moon really is new over Jerusalem each month by your calendar and is off as much as two days by the Jewish calendar. Therefore, we wish to publish the truth - and we simply need a list of the moonrise after conjunction at Jerusalem. Brother Loughran just list them so that we can take the list straight to the printers."

First Visibility

The next question is: **How long after a conjunction does the new born crescent become visible?** The answer is: **It is not possible to infallibly predict the exact date and time of the first sighting of a new moon.** Various factors such as atmospheric pressure, temperature, humidity along the light path, altitude, latitude/longitude, fog, cloud/dust cover, glare, etc., can all affect a first sighting. That is the reason why in the calendar and festival charts SBS publishes we use the words: **"a likely first sighting should occur"**, because no one can infallibly predict the moment when the new moon will become visible to the naked eye. The general consensus of authoritative opinion is that a first sighting of the new moon could occur any time between about **15 and 48 hours** after a conjunction. I quote two world famous authorities on this matter:

Royal Greenwich Observatory (UK)

"It is not possible to predict accurately the dates on which the new crescent Moon will first be seen each month since there is no collection of reliable, fully documented, observations that can be used to establish the conditions that must normally be satisfied at the time of first visibility."

The simplest basis for prediction is that the Moon should be more than a certain age (measured from the time of astronomical new moon) at the time of sunset at the place concerned. It is, however, better to use the true elongation (the angular separation) of the Moon from the sun at this time, rather than the age. The new crescent is not normally visible until the Sun is below the horizon and so it is desirable to take into account the altitude of the Moon during twilight. The chances of seeing the new crescent depend slightly on the distance of the Moon from the earth, being greatest when the Moon is closest (i.e. at perigee). The local conditions, especially the height of the observer above sea level and the character of the surrounding surface, are important, and even when the sky is free from cloud there can be considerable variations in clarity of the atmosphere from day to day. The visual acuity of the observer is also significant.

It must be realized too that there are considerable variations in the astronomical conditions with both longitude and latitude on the earth so that even if the weather conditions were good everywhere, the dates of the first sightings would differ from place to place. Predictions can, therefore, only be valid, for restricted areas.

*Under ordinary conditions, the first sighting will not occur until the age of the Moon exceeds about **30 hours**, but a few reliable reports are known of sightings, under very good conditions, when the age has been only **20 hours or even less**. It is unlikely that the new crescent will be visible unless the elongation exceeds 10 degrees and the Moon exceeds 5 degrees when the Sun is 3 degrees. **It is interesting to note that the new moon can always be seen 30 days after the previous one and in half the cases it can be seen 29 days after, because the length of the synodic month is 29.53***

days ... Since it is clear that any prediction of the date of first visibility must be uncertain, it is necessary to decide whether to prefer an early prediction that could not be substantiated by direct observation if conditions prove to be good, or a late prediction that could be vitiated by an observer on the previous day.

*The simple rule that this Office recommends is that the age of the Moon should be **30 hours** at the time of sunset at the place concerned, but this rule is not so reliable in middle and high latitudes."*

US Naval Observatory

*"Under optimal conditions the crescent moon can be sighted somewhat less than **15 hours** after astronomical New Moon. Usually, however, it is not seen until it is more than **24 hours** old. Often it is not seen for more than **48 hours** ... But despite these advances we still cannot predict the exact time or geographical location at which the young crescent will first be spotted."*

You will see from these two quotations the shortest time lapse for a possible first sighting is '**somewhat less than 15 hours**' and the longest to '**more than 48 hours**'.

How then does SBS/AVITW Canada-USA set out a calendar when it is not possible to infallibly forecast a first sighting? Our answer is: SBS/AVITW Canada-USA allows at least **24 hours** for '**a likely evening (or morning) first sighting**' of the new moon to occur before it begins a month. The method we use is explained in the answer to **Question 8** and examples are found at **Appendix A**.

Note: The reader should remember, however, that pre-printed calendars based on calculations were not used by the ancient Israelites. They literally looked out for the new moon each month and then counted to the feasts. This is still the best method.

Question 2

When does the year begin in the Sacred Calendar? Does it begin in Israel's autumn as the Jewish calendar shows? Or should the year begin in the spring with the month of Abib (Nisan)? And if it begins with Abib, then how is Abib's new moon decided? Is it the new moon nearest (before or after) the Equinox? Or is it the first new moon after the spring equinox?

Answer

According to the Scriptures, the religious calendar begins in the spring with the Passover month of Abib, the month of Israel's Exodus from Egypt. In the popular Jewish calendar, the year begins in the autumn at the end of the agricultural year. But in the **religious calendar**, and that is our prime consideration in this booklet, a year begins in the Passover month of Abib. Yahweh directed Moses in the following words concerning the first month of the year:

Exo. 12:1 *And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 2: **This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.***

Exo. 13:3 *And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there*

shall no leavened bread be eaten. 4: This day came ye out in the month Abib.

The name of the Exodus month is **Abib**. The word **Abib** means 'sprouting, budding,' a 'green ear of corn.' In other words, in Abib, the earth will spring to life, plants will sprout and bud and the corn (sown the previous year) will have green ears. The first month is also called Nisan. (Esther 3:7)

"Abib most nearly approaches our month of March, though in some years its end moves some distance into April." (Westminster Dictionary of the Bible. page 3, article Abib).

In ancient days, before the exact equinox times were known or calendars printed in advance, the Sanhedrin selected Abib's new moon on the basis of certain natural conditions because Yahweh's Feasts are directly linked to the agricultural seasons in Israel.

THE NATURAL CONDITIONS looked for were:

- The severity or mildness of the winter.
- The maturity of the barley harvest.
- The age of the young sacrificial pigeons and lambs.
- The conditions of the camping sites and roads for the pilgrims who would be coming to Jerusalem for the Passover, etc.

In modern times, Abib's new moon is selected months and even years in advance mainly because computer calculations of the sun's and moon's movements are widely available and there is no Sanhedrin to give the go-ahead as in days gone by. The scriptural guidelines concerning the link between the Feasts of the Most High and the harvests in Israel are, nevertheless, still being followed. They are:

1. Abib's new moon must occur before the spring harvest begins.

Deut. 16:9 *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 corn.*

This instruction concerns the **waive sheaf** which is cut and waived before Yahweh at the Passover festival in the middle of Abib. Since the spring harvest in Israel begins in late March/early April (see agricultural chart under **Question/Answer 4**), this means that the 1st of Abib would begin some **15 days before** the waive sheaf was cut; which means that Abib's new moon would occur at about the time of the vernal equinox. The Westminster Dictionary of the Bible article **Year** confirms this:

"The year began with the month of Abib or Nisan (Exodus 12:2, 23:15, Esther 3:7) with the new moon next before or next after the vernal equinox."

2. Ethaniam's new moon occurs after the autumn harvest.

The second clue fixes the festival of Ingathering (Tabernacles) at the '**end**' of the agricultural year. Here is the Almighty's command concerning the feast of ingathering (Tabernacles).

Exo. 34:22

*And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and **the feast of ingathering at the year's end.***

The Hebrew word translated "**year's end**" is *t@quwphah* or "*tequphah*". It means at the *end, the circuit of time, the revolution, the equinox*. In other words, Yahweh is here telling Israel the Feast of Tabernacles should occur at about the time of the **autumnal equinox** when the agricultural year is at its end. This is a vital clue because it links the harvest festival of Tabernacles to the autumnal equinox. A look at the agricultural scene in Israel will reveal the harvests are mostly gathered in **before the tequphah - the equinox**. In fact, the main (wheat) harvest begins in the summer months of May and June and is finished by August. The vintage (grape harvest) follows and is normally finished by the autumnal equinox. This is when Yahweh commanded Israel to keep the harvest festival of Tabernacles; at the '**end**', or the **turn of the year** when the harvests are gathered in. For more information concerning Harvest Times in Israel, see the answer to **Question 4**.

In summary, we may say in a pre-printed calendar, the first and seventh months of the year should still be geared to the **agricultural harvests in Israel**; the first month Abib, the month of green ears, starting about 15 days before the barley harvest is begun; and the seventh month, (Ethanims/Tishri), starting after the vintage is gathered in. By starting Abib with the new moon nearest (before or after) the spring equinox, these two divine requirements are met.

Notes:

1. If Abib were to begin 15 days before the spring equinox (the earliest it can ever be if the '*nearest before or after guideline*' is being followed), then the **spiritual Passover** will coincide with the **celestial passover**. In other words, the sun will be '*passing over*' the equator at the same time the **sacred Passover service** is being celebrated. This phenomenon (of the celestial and spiritual Passovers coinciding) happens very rarely.
2. Note also by choosing the new moon nearest the equinox, the Passover Service (which occurs 14 days later on the evening of the 14th Abib) will **never fall before the spring equinox**; that is, before the 20th March. The Passover Service may - very rarely - coincide with the equinox, when the sun will also be apparently '*passing-over*' the equator; but it should never fall **before the equinox**. This means when a calendar is printed in advance, the very earliest date for the 1st Abib will be the 7th March. It is perfectly in order to begin Abib before 20th March; the Jews do this in many years. But, I repeat, the Passover Service should not be celebrated before the equinox.

Always bear in mind, of course, in ancient Israel the calendar was not published in advance. The choice of Abib's new moon depended on those '**natural conditions**' mentioned previously. Equinox times and phases of the moon calculations are simply a convenient forecasting facility, which allow us to keep in step with the seasons and, hence, the harvests in Israel.

Question 3

From where should the new moon be sighted? Can the lookout party be posted anywhere on earth? Or is Jerusalem the only authorized lookout point?

Answer

In ancient Israel, new moon sightings were made from Jerusalem, a city about 2500 feet above sea level. Arthur Spier writes on page 1 of his book *The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar*, published by Behrman House, Inc., 1261 Broadway, New York, USA:

*"In the early times of our history the solution was found by the following practical procedure. **The beginning of months were determined by direct observation of the moon.** The new months were sanctified and their beginnings 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 Jewish communities were notified of the beginning of months (Rosh Hodesh) in early times by kindling night fires on the mountains and later on by messengers."*

In short: **months began when the new moon was first sighted from Jerusalem.** As soon as the new born crescent was sighted from the capital, the news was sent to the rest of the country. Such was the practice in ancient days. 'But,' you may well ask 'what of today?' As you can imagine, first sightings of the new moon vary from place to place. The moon may be seen at one place, only to be missed at another. Atmospheric pressure, temperature and humidity along the light path, altitude, latitude, longitude, cloud, fog and dust etc. can all affect a first sighting of the new moon. Even a distance of a few hundred miles in any direction could make the difference between seeing the new moon and not seeing it. On top of this is the fact that most city dwellers are not able to get away from the glare of the city lights each month to '**look out**' for the new moon.

Some festival-keeping groups believe that: "A month should begin at whatever moment the new crescent is first sighted, **regardless of location.**"

Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA does not agree with this stand simply because first sightings of the new moon can occur **a whole day apart in different parts of the world.** Believers assembling at a central point could therefore find themselves in dispute as one party could justifiably claim to have seen the new moon on a certain day and another party deny having seen it. For example a Californian believer could, in certain months, see the new moon a whole day **before** or **after** his Jerusalem counterpart. So when he arrives in Israel for the Passover, when will he keep that service? Will he go by his Californian sighting, or will he fall into line with the believers in Jerusalem? The answer is obvious and it has the backing of history: he will follow the Jerusalem lead. Therefore, Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA's stand, is:

The beginnings of months should be decided on the evidence of a first sighting from the standpoint of Jerusalem because that is the Almighty's spiritual capital of the world and the main assembly point for festival-keeping believers.

Such was the practice of ancient Israel. All new moons were announced from the main assembly point of Jerusalem. To be sure, the folks from Nazareth, Dan, Beersheba and further afield were equally able to look out for the new moon, and they probably did; but even if they had seen the new moon locally, a first sighting from Jerusalem always took precedence over local first sightings. Also when Messiah walked the earth, the beginnings of months were proclaimed on the

evidence of a first sighting from **Jerusalem**; regardless of whether or not pilgrims had seen the new moon in Asia, Persia, Ethiopia, Mesopotamia or Rome. Pilgrims from those distant lands (Acts 2:9-11) all subordinated their local observations to first sightings from **Jerusalem**. And this is exactly what will happen in the millennium and on the new earth. The beginnings of months will be proclaimed from **Jerusalem** and all the world will obey.

Question 4

What are the harvest times in Israel?

Answer

The agricultural year in Israel begins in the autumn, (after the harvest festival of Tabernacles), with ploughing and sowing. Harvests in Israel begin in spring in the month of Adar (February/March). The following harvest times in ancient Israel are obtained from the Readers Digest book entitled **Jesus and His Times**, pages 100-101.

Months	Weather	Crops & activity
Tishri (Sep/Oct)	First rains	Ploughing begins
Heshvan (Oct/Nov)		Ploughing / grain planting
Kislev (Nov/Dec)		Grain planting continues
Tebeth (Dec/Jan)	Main rains	
Sebat (Jan/Feb)		
Adar (Feb/Mar)	Spring rains	Almond in bloom / flax harvest
Abib (Mar/Apr)		Barley harvest begins
Zif (Apr/May)		Barley harvest completed
Sivan (May/Jun)	Dry season	Wheat harvest begins
Tamuz (Jun/Jul)		Wheat harvest completed / first figs
Ab (Jul/Aug)	Summer heat	Vintage (grape harvest) begins
Elul (Aug/Sep)		Date harvest / summer figs

From the above, one can see the harvest season in ancient Israel began in Adar, (Feb/March), and continued by stages into autumn. The barley harvest began in March/April; the first sheaf being cut and waived in the middle of Abib, which could be any time between 21st March and the middle of April. It is the same in modern Israel. Concerning the wheat and grape harvests, the **Westminster Dictionary of the Bible** says this:

"In Palestine wheat was sown in November or December, after the rains began. The harvest was in April, May or June in Palestine varying according to the locality and the weather at the time." (page 635)

"The vintage began in the middle of September and continued into October. It was a season of festivity. In the vineyards there were singing and joyful noise, and the treading in the press kept time by shouting as they trod the grapes." (page 629)

These details concerning harvest times in Israel are vital when determining the start of a year in the sacred calendar and the sacred Festivals in it. The answer to the next question will clarify this point further.

Question 5

Why do some years in the Sacred Calendar have 13 months?

Answer

In the Sacred Calendar, normal years have 12 months and leap years have 13 months. The extra month is periodically added to keep Yahweh's Festivals in step with the agricultural seasons in Israel (Deut.16:6). Agricultural produce (flocks, grain, fruit, wine, oil etc.) are shadows and types of the spiritual realities and fruit Yahweh is producing in the lives of His people. In order to keep these spiritual lessons in mind the Most High arranged for His Festivals to coincide with the agricultural seasons in Israel.

Lev. 23:4 *These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, **which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.***

Exo. 34:22 *And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the **year's end.***

But what have these facts to do with adding a 13th month? To explain further: The moon orbits the earth in just over 29.5 days. A twelve lunar-month year totals about 354 days. This is about **11.25 days** short of a 365.25 day tropical (sun) year. If a 13th month were not added periodically, Abib would begin about 11 days earlier each year. The month would retreat to winter, then autumn, then summer and Yahweh's festivals would not occur **'in their seasons'** as required by the law. For example, the **Feast of First Fruits** (Pentecost) could then occur in the middle of winter, when there would be no fruit in the field. In the 12 lunar-month Islamic calendar the festivals occur about 11/12 days earlier each year. This can be seen in the chart below:

Civil Year	Islamic New Year	Ramadan
1988	14 August	18 April
1989	4 August	7 April
1990	24 July	28 March
1991	13 July	17 March
1992	2 July	5 March

In the sacred calendar, the festivals must coincide with the agricultural seasons: Passover in spring, First Fruits in the summer and Tabernacles (ingathering of the main harvest) in the autumn. To maintain this order, a thirteenth month must be added periodically to make up for that annual 11.25 day loss.

Question 6

Why do the festival dates in the calendar printed by SBS/AVITW sometimes differ a day or two from the dates shown in the popular Jewish calendar?

Answer

SBS/AVITW does not use the popular Jewish calendar because it is influenced by certain **human rules** and **traditions** which result in the sacred festivals being

celebrated - **in certain years** - on the wrong dates. Let me now - **respectfully** - explain further. As pointed out previously, in ancient days the sacred calendar was not published or printed in advance. The beginning of a month was determined by a **first sighting of the new moon** and the remainder of the month was simply counted to from that first day. This system worked well enough for centuries. In his famous book, **The Comprehensive Hebrew Calendar**, Arthur Spier explains on page 2 how a change came about.

"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 ...

*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**; and, for subsequent centuries, Jewish communities around the world derived great gain from his work. Nevertheless, **FOUR ERRORS** lay locked into his system of calendar calculation, 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 God's festivals. What are these **four errors**?

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) **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. Proof of this is given below.

4. Human Tradition

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 and Friday; and the festival month of Abib (Nisan) starting on a Monday, Wednesday and 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 21st) from falling on the Sabbath."*

Let us now examine these four errors; which are, in fact, closely related to each other.

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 (sun) year 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 (Ethanim). Having selected Tishri's new moon, it would then be a simple matter to count to Nisan, which in ordinary years is the seventh month from Tishri. Basically, that was the method adopted and published by the patriarch Hillel.

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, 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 **Tishri's** and **Nisan's** new moons. In those early years, the correct new moon was selected to begin Tishri 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 Ethanin (Tishri) and, by effect, Abib (Nisan). 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 Yarchinai's formula and its ill effect on the sacred calendar. They knew about this error long before SBS/AVITW did. What is Israel doing about this? The answer is, the nation of Israel is currently awaiting the election of a **new Sanhedrin** to authorize a correction to the Jewish calendar. I quote again from Speir's book, page 227:

"The Tekufoth of Samuel, (Yarchinai) 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 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 January at 9a.m. in one year, then 20 years later when the next cycle began a new moon would again occur on 1st January **within a few hours** of 9a.m. (subject to leap year disturbances). 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 the **natural conditions** mentioned in the answer to **question 1**.

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 mentioned earlier. SBS/AVITW is most certainly not condemning Hillel and his associates for making use of the Metonic cycle and the formula of Samuel Yarchinai 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 (which is still used in the pagan calendar of Greece), 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 printout 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.

3. THE RULE FOR BEGINNING TISHRI

Let us now consider the **third**: the rule concerning the choice of the first day of Tishri (Ethanim). The Jewish rule is:

"Rosh Hashanah must be on the day of the molad (conjunction)."

This rule is out of step with ancient Israel's method of starting a month with the sighting of the new moon. New moons, as stated previously, are **never visible to the naked eye on the day of the molad** (conjunction), but become visible many hours later. Consequently, every time this rule is applied, all the autumn festivals in that particular year are held on the wrong dates. They are celebrated one and sometimes two days earlier than the true dates hallowed by the Almighty's presence.

4. MAN-MADE RULES/TRADITION

Now let us look at the fourth error resident in the Jewish calendar. We'll begin with examining how the Jewish calendar makers arrive at Rosh Hashanah (Tishri 1st). I quote again from Speir's book, page 218-219, paragraph 11.

"The calendar follows this rule:

Rosh Hashanah, the first day of Tishri, must be on the day of the Molad (conjunction)

*There are exceptions, the so-called **Dehioth (postponements)** which take place in four specific cases. They are:*

a) When the Molad Tishri occurs on a Sunday, Wednesday or Friday, Rosh Hashanah is postponed to the following day.

b) When the Molad (conjunction) Tishri occurs at noon (18 h) or later, Rosh Hashanah is postponed to the next day, or if this day is a Sunday, Wednesday or Friday, to a Monday, Thursday or Sabbath because of Dehiah (a)

c) When the Molad Tishri of a common year falls on a Tuesday, 204 parts after 3 A.M., i.e. 3d 9h 204p or later, Rosh Hashanah is postponed to Wednesday and, because of Dehiah a., further postponed to Thursday.

d) When in a common year succeeding a leap year the Molad Tishri occurs on Monday morning 589 parts after 9 A.M. i.e., 2d 15h 589p or later, Rosh Hashanah is postponed to the next day . . .

Note: In more than 60% of all years Rosh Hashanah does not occur on the day of the Molad but is postponed to one of the Dehioth. Therefore the Dehioth are actually not the exceptions to the rule but the rule . . .

Dehiah (a) mainly fulfils the following three religious requirements:

"Yom Kippur (Tishri 10) shall not occur on the day before or after the Sabbath and Hoshana Rabah (Tishri 21) shall not occur on the Sabbath."

Now what does all this mean? It means the month of Tishri, though required by the Jewish rule to start on the day of the conjunction, actually starts in 60% of all years a day or two **later** because of the Dehioth. Strangely enough, the effect of these Dehioth (postponements) **almost** matches those made by SBS/AVITW when we allow at least 24 hours after a conjunction for a **first sighting** of the new moon. But what of the remaining 40% of years **when a postponement is not made and Tishri is begun on the day of the Molad?** Without question, this results in Rosh Hashana (the Feast of Trumpets) being celebrated a day or two earlier than God intended.

Let us now take a closer look at the two human traditions that distort the sacred calendar. I quote from the **Jewish Year Book**:

"The chief disturbing influence in the arrangements of the Jewish calendar is to: prevent the Day of Atonement from immediately preceding or immediately succeeding the Sabbath, and Hoshana Raba, (Tishri 21) from falling on the Sabbath."

First Tradition

The first tradition concerns that staggering injunction: the **Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) shall not precede or succeed the Sabbath**. In other words: 'The Day of Atonement shall not occur on a Friday or a Sunday.' You may examine the Bible from cover to cover and you will not find a single verse to support this tradition - not one! It is a human tradition through and through and its result is to move the most important day in the sacred calendar (the Day of Atonement) from its divinely appointed position! To achieve this the calendar makers prevent the month of Tishri from starting on a Wednesday or Friday:

- For if Tishri 1st is a Wednesday, then the Day of Atonement (ten days later) will fall on a Friday, which this tradition doesn't allow.
- And if Tishri 1st is a Friday then the Day of Atonement will fall on a Sunday, which this tradition doesn't allow.

The Second Tradition

This tradition concerns a rite called the **Waving of the Willows**. It takes place on Hoshana Raba (21st Tishri), a date which, according to Jewish tradition, must not coincide with the weekly Sabbath (Saturday). To accommodate this tradition the month of Tishri is not allowed to begin on a Sunday; for if it did then Tishri 21st would fall on the weekly Sabbath, which the tradition doesn't allow.

The final outcome of the above 2 tradition-backed amendments to the calendar is the **Feast of Trumpets (1st Tishri) is never allowed to fall on a Sunday, Wednesday or Friday!** This means that in three out of seven years (42% of years if we apply the law of averages) the Feast of Trumpets in the popular Jewish

calendar is moved from its God-appointed position. As a result, all those believers who use the popular Jewish calendar will be celebrating the autumn feasts in 3 out of 7 years on the wrong days!

Moving Abib's 1st Day

In addition to the foregoing, there is yet another set of alterations being applied to the calendar in certain years; to the 1st day of Nisan (Abib). Consider this astonishing fact:

- **In the popular calendar, the 1st Abib (Nisan) is never allowed to fall on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday.**

Every time this man-made rule is applied, (and again according to the law of averages that would be three times in every seven years), all the spring festivals and the Feast of Pentecost would be celebrated on the wrong dates.

These, then, are the **man-made rules** and **traditions** which distort the popular Jewish calendar and make it different from the one published by Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In the Wilderness Canada-USA. Pause, dear reader, and try to measure the seriousness of these unauthorized modifications to the sacred calendar. Do you suppose that the Holy One of Israel is pleased with them? We think not. That is the reason why we have pressed ahead with the corrections mentioned in this booklet.

NOTE: Having read the above answer, the reader is reminded though Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness publishes these facts about the errors in the popular Jewish calendar, we are, nevertheless, 100% for Israel and its people.

Question 7

Do all Jews use the popular Jewish calendar?

Answer

No. The Karaite Jews, though an integral part of the Jewish nation, do not use the popular Jewish calendar because of the human traditions mentioned in the answer to Question 6 and other reasons. I quote from their calendar booklet published by the **Universal Karaite Religious Council** in Israel.

"Why do the Rabbanites differ from us (Karaites) in regard to the dates of their holy days? In ancient times, all Israel sanctified the new moon according to actual observance, by eye-witnesses. (Genesis 1:14; Psalm 104:19). However in the year 801 C.E., the Rabbanites abandoned this scriptural custom and introduced a calendar reform, which included the following innovations:

- PASSOVER (Pessah) can never fall on Monday, Wednesday or Friday:** and it must coincide with the day of the 9th of Av of that year.
- SHAVUOTH can never fall on a Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday** and it must coincide with the second day of Passover . . .
- ROSH HASHANAH (Feast of Trumpets) can never fall on a Sunday, Wednesday or Friday**, and must coincide with the third day of Passover . . .
- KIPPUR can never fall on Sunday, Tuesday or Friday**, and must coincide with the fifth day of Passover.

- e) **PURIM** can never fall on the Sabbath (Saturday), Monday, or Wednesday and must coincide with the sixth day of Passover.

All of these so-called "rules" have no basis in the Scripture, and are inventions of the Rabbis. In contrast we Karaites continue to base our calendar on the actual observance of the new Moon. Therefore the holy days fall on different days."

The reader will see from the above quotation that the Karaite Jews have also rejected the human traditions found in the popular Jewish calendar and have returned to the ancient method of selecting the 1st day of each month on the evidence of a first sighting of the new moon. The Karaite calendar, though printed in advance, also makes an allowance for a first sighting of the new moon before starting each month. To determine the 1st day of each month, the Karaite calendar makers, I understand, base their calculations on sophisticated mathematical tables which even their rabbi's find difficult to explain. If the reader wishes to contact them for more details on how their calendar is set up, their address is: The Karaite Jews in Israel, P.O.B. 101 Ramlah, 72100. ISRAEL.

Question 8

How does Stewarton Bible School/A Voice In The Wilderness Canada-USA set up the calendar?

Answer

Stewarton Bible School is based in Scotland, A Voice In The Wilderness is based in Canada and the USA, and does not have associates in Jerusalem to look out for the new moon every month. The pre-printed calendar we publish is, therefore, based on computer output supplied by **Greenwich Observatory** in England. We do, however, allow a period of time, **at least 24 hours**, for the new moon to be seen before a month can start. The method we use is as follows:

8.1 Conjunction Times

Our first step is to determine the 1st day of each month in the year. We do this by consulting computer-produced **Phases of the Moon** charts supplied by the Science Research Council, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Herstmonceux Castle, Hailsham, Sussex, UK. From these charts we find out the **date and time of the astronomical new moon, the conjunction**. In the calendar chart SBS/AVITW produces, we use the following abbreviations:

- GMT = Greenwich Mean Time.
- ET = Ephemeris Time, a time used by astronomers.
- GMT and ET are now virtually the same, though some years ago they were a few seconds out of step.
- JST= Jerusalem Standard Time. JST = GMT + 2 hours. For example: 8am in GMT is 10am in JST.

8.2 First New Moonrise and Moonset Times

Our next step is to find out the date and the time (in JST) of the **first moonrise and moonset at Jerusalem, AFTER the conjunction**. This information is also obtainable at a fee from Greenwich Observatory.

8.3 Likely First Sighting

We then endeavour to determine **when that first new moon is likely to be seen**

with the naked eye from Jerusalem. The first moonrise at Jerusalem after a conjunction takes place in the morning at about sunrise. However, the new moon is not visible to the naked eye on this first morning because it is too young. But is **'likely to be seen'** for the first time just after sunset on the evening of the same day - **if it is more than 14.5 hours old.** If and when the moon is sighted, that evening at sunset will begin the new month. Days, as we learned previously, all begin and end at sunset.

MORNING SIGHTINGS of the New Moon

If the moon's age is less than 14.5 hours and it is **not** seen on that first evening, it may be looked for at its second rising on the next morning when it will be over 24 hours old. Concerning morning sightings of the new moon, I quote from the **Westminster Dictionary of the Bible**, article Moon, page 407.

"According to the Talmud, the Sanhedrin assembled seven times a year early in the morning of the 30th day of the month. Watchmen were stationed on the heights about Jerusalem to watch for the new moon and report it as soon as seen. When the evidence of its appearance was deemed sufficient, the Sanhedrin pronounced the word 'McKuddash' (consecrated) and the day became the first of the new month, leaving 29 days for the preceding month. If fogs or clouds prevented the moon from being discerned, the day was reckoned as the 30th."

8.4 The Beginnings of Months

After allowing at least 24 hours for an evening or morning first sighting of the new moon, we then make a list of the new moonrise/moonset times and the starting dates of several months. See **Appendix A**.

8.5 New Years Day

From this list of starting dates, New Year's day (1st Abib) is selected. See our answer to **Question 2** as to how we decide on Abib's new moon.

8.6 Blank Calendar Chart

Then, on a blank calendar chart, (see **Appendix B**), we enter the 1st day of each of the 12 months: making sure that all dates match the correct days of the week. For example, in 1994, the 1st Abib was 14th March. This happened to be a Monday; so in 1994 Abib began with a Monday. The 1st day of Zif (the second month) was Tuesday, 12/4/94. This left Abib with 29 days. Had the 1st Zif been a Wednesday, Abib would have had 30 days. This process is continued till all 12 months are completed. Some months will have 29 days and others 30. Sacred calendar months cannot have 28 or 31 days.

8.7 Determining The Feast Days

Once the blank calendar chart is filled in for the whole year, we then count to the Almighty's Feast and Fast days as follows:

- First Feast Day of Unleavened Bread ... 15th day of Abib (1st month)
- Last Feast Day of Unleavened Bread ... 21st day of Abib (1st month)
- The Feast of First Fruits ... A count of 50 days is made from the '*morrow after*' the *Passover Sabbath*. (See Note 2 below)
- The Feast of Trumpets ... 1st day of the Ethanim (7th month)
- The FAST of Atonement ... 10th day of Ethanim (7th month)
- Feast of Tabernacles ... 15th day of Ethanim (7th month)

- The Last Great Feast Day ... 22nd day of Ethanim (7th month)

Notes:

1) The Passover Service (communion) is held in the evening which begins the week of Unleavened Bread. This week is often referred to as the Passover week.

2) If the 50 day count to Pentecost is made from the '**morrow after**' the weekly Sabbath, then Pentecost will always fall on a Sunday.

Yahweh's Feasts are sacred days on which no work should be done. They are eternal memorials of man's salvation which is made possible by Yeshua's sacrifice on Calvary. Failure to observe the Almighty's festivals is a serious sin. For further information, see the SBS/AVITW booklet entitled, **The Feast Days of the God of Israel**.

Question 9

How may a religious organization check to see if the pre-printed calendar it uses is correct?

Answer

The organization should post a few believers on a high point at Jerusalem to look out for the new moon each month. A sighting of the new moon would confirm the pre-printed dates given by SBS for the first day of each month. Some years ago, we invited a body of believers in Jerusalem to check the calendar published by this school. They did so for several months. Again, we quote from **Charles Dugger's** letter dated 22/11/78:

"We find that the moon really is new over Jerusalem each month by your calendar and is off as much as two days by the Jewish calendar. Therefore we wish to publish the truth - and we simply need a list of the moonrise after conjunction at Jerusalem. Brother Loughran, just list them so that we can take the list straight to the printers."

To SBS/AVITW Canada-USA, this was valuable confirmation as far as a pre-printed calendar is concerned, the method we are using is reliable. We now invite any believer or group of believers in Jerusalem to check out the calendar SBS/AVITW Canada-USA publishes against first sightings of the new moon with the naked eye. Please telephone SBS Scotland at 44-01560-483524 if you find the starting date of the festival months of Abib or Ethanim as shown at **Appendix A** are incorrect.

The alternative to publishing a calendar in advance is to post a lookout group at Jerusalem who would announce to the world - **month by month** - when the new moon is seen. **This is still the best method of ensuring the correct starting dates of months.** But we do not know of any group which does this on a monthly basis. To our knowledge, they all publish their calendars and festival dates many months in advance; so they must all be using calculations of some sort.

Note: Many believers become polarized about the matter of keeping the correct Feast days. It is, of course, very important and that is why SBS/AVITW Canada-USA makes such an effort to get it right. But let no one forget the **Great Feasts**, (the realities to which the current feasts merely point), will be miraculously highlighted by **signs in the sun, moon and stars!** We will not then be dependant upon computer printout, or the knowledge and skill of leaders feverishly arguing

amongst themselves as to who is correct. **In the near future, the sun and moon will clearly mark out the correct feasts, sacred seasons, or sabbatical year just as they did when the Saviour hung on the cross.** On that occasion, the sun went out for three hours. This was no eclipse by any means; for an eclipse only lasts a few minutes. When the sun went out on that memorable day, even the Roman soldiers were staggered into saying, **"Truly this is the Son of God!"** It will be the same in the near future; the promised **signs in the sun, moon and stars** will mark out the sacred times for all to see.

Having said that, it still behooves true believers to attend the sacred Feasts; because the Almighty God of Israel may well, as on that memorable Day of Pentecost long ago, have some extra ordinary gifts to bestow on His obedient people.

Question 10

Where does Faith in God come into this matter of keeping Feast days?

Answer

Faith is confidence, reliance or trust in the Almighty. It is taking Yahweh at His word, believing Him, trusting Him implicitly. Without faith, it is impossible to please the Most High. (Heb.11:6) Faith knows that El-Shadai (God Almighty) and His son Yeshua (in Yahweh is salvation) will always do what they have promised. Mature faith never asks God for visible manifestations or miracles to prove His love or His power. Mature faith believes the Almighty without any proof and accepts what the Father and Son have to offer without doubting their word. Faith, however, is not a blind belief born of ignorance. Instead, it is intelligent, spiritual confidence based on the Almighty's absolute reliability, His past performance as seen in His creation, in fulfilled prophecy, and in answered prayer. Faith is an action of the mind. It is an inner conviction the LORD God of Israel is holy, just, merciful, good and He loves every one of His children. Faith is invisible righteousness and is sometimes called the **'righteousness of faith.'** Faith is the main factor which distinguishes the people of God from the rest of the world. Believers have faith in God. Unbelievers do not; many do not even believe that He exists. We are saved by faith in Yahweh's only begotten son Yeshua the Messiah, (Jesus the Christ). Nothing else can save us. This is the very first fact we learn about salvation; it is **a free gift** which we receive from God - **by faith!** The Bible says: ***the just shall live by faith!***

OBEDIENCE, on the other hand, is faith in action. Obedience is the fruit of faith. Obedience is practical righteousness. It is speaking the truth and doing good works. Obedience is following in the footsteps of the Almighty and His Son. Obedience is the visible expression of our love for the Most High. Obedience is the best and, perhaps, the only tangible evidence that our faith is alive. ***Obedience is living faith!*** Without obedience all professions of faith are nothing but **self-deluding presumption**; because **where there is no obedience there really is no faith.**

The Bible says:

James 2:26

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

But obedience, important as it is, cannot save us from the consequence of our past sins. The Bible tells us that the penalty of sin is death, eternal death! (Rom. 6:23) And since all of us have sinned at some time or the other, we all need a Saviour to save us from that death penalty. Only Yeshua the Messiah, the Saviour of the world, can do that for us. We cannot save ourselves. Neither can our obedience

save us, however perfect it may happen to be. Obedience cannot cancel past sins or lift that death penalty. To cancel past sins, we need help from above. We need a Saviour. We need Yeshua (Jesus) to wash away the record of our past sins. That's where faith comes into the picture. The Almighty sent His son to save the world, to save you and me from sin and its eternal consequences - **death!** Yeshua (Yahshua) is the Saviour. His name means '**Yahweh is salvation.**' He alone can save us from sin and its eternal consequences - **death!** That's why he came to earth; to **save his people from their sins.** (Matt. 1:21) In short: we receive him by faith, we accept him by faith, we live by faith in the Son of God, who gave himself for us - that we might inherit eternal life.

The Saviour doesn't only save us from the consequences of our past sins; he also annihilates from within us the tendency to sin in the future. That is the Saviour's ultimate objective, to **save us from our sins** - past, present and future; to annihilate within us the tendency to sin in the future. In other words, he came to make us obedient.

Rom. 8:3 *For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4: **That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.***

Believers accept the Saviour by faith. Countless millions of Gospel tracts echo this basic truth about salvation. But having accepted salvation through faith doesn't mean we can thereafter blatantly disobey God by breaking the very commandments that define sin and classify us as sinners in the first place. That would make a mockery of salvation. That would make Yahweh's people the laughing stock of every evil angel in the universe. It would prove how ineffective the Saviour's efforts have been to save his people **from their tendency to sin.** Instead, we believers should express our faith by keeping the Almighty's commandments, by being obedient, by not sinning in the future.

The Bible says:

1 John 2:3 ***And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4: He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.***

Put another way, we may say that faith and obedience are two sides of the same spiritual coin. If either is missing, the coin is worthless. Consequently, to the two most important questions ever asked:

1. **'What must I do to be saved?'**
2. **'What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?'**

These two vital answers are given, each spelling out the same eternal truth in two different ways. Here are the two answers:

PAUL said:

Acts 16:30 ***And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.***

JESUS said:

Matt. 19:16 *And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17: And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but **if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.***

As you can see, there really is no conflict between Paul and Jesus, between faith and obedience, any more than there are two roads to salvation or eternal life. Both Paul and Jesus are saying the same thing in different ways. Paul speaks of faith, that invisible action of the mind. Jesus speaks of obedience, the visible actions that reflect what is in the mind. The Apostle **James** says the same thing in yet another way. He wrote:

James 2:20 ***But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?***

In short, **Obedience is faith in action, living faith!** You cannot have one without the other. Both are absolutely essential if you want to please God. That is what the Bible teaches. Dare we say anything different!

AMEN

Appendix A (1)

New Moon Times & The Beginnings of Months

Years 1994 - 1999 & Years 2000 - 2005

The following chart will help you see how SBS/AVITW sets up the calendar. Please study it in conjunction with the guidelines given in the answer to Question 8. An asterisk (*) means that if the new moon is not seen at Jerusalem on the given evening, it may be looked for at its **second rising on the following morning**. For further information see **Morning Sightings**.

Conjunction Times in ET		First Moonrise after conjunction in Jerusalem Standard Time		Next Moonset <i>A likely first sighting should occur this evening</i>		FIRST DAY of the month
Date	Time	Date	Time	Date	Time	Date
1994		1994		1994		1994
Jan. 11	23 11	Jan. 12	06 41	Jan. 12	17 38	Jan. 13
Feb. 10	14 31	Feb. 11	06 31	Feb. 11	18 21	Feb. 12
Mar. 12	07 06	Mar. 13	06 07	Mar. 13	18 57	Mar. 14 Abib 1st
Apr. 11	00 18	Apr. 11	05 13	Apr. 11	18 38 *	Apr. 12 Zif
May 10	17 08	May 11	05 06	May 11	19 12	May 12
June 9	08 28	June 10	05 24	June 10	19 37	June 11
July 8	21 39	July 9	05 08	July 9	19 03	July 10
Aug. 7	08 46	Aug. 8	05 58	Aug. 8	18 58	Aug. 9
Sep. 5	18 34	Sep. 6	05 49	Sep. 6	18 10	Sep. 7 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 5	03 56	Oct. 6	06 50	Oct. 6	18 09	Oct. 7
Nov. 3	13 37	Nov. 4	06 45	Nov. 4	17 37	Nov. 5
Dec. 2	23 55	Dec. 3	06 35	Dec. 3	17 16	Dec. 4
1995		1995		1995		1995
Jan. 1	10 57	Jan. 2	07 09	Jan. 2	18 09	Jan. 3
Jan. 30	22 48	Jan. 31	06 30	Jan. 31	17 58	Feb. 1
Mar. 1	11 49	Mar. 2	06 19	Mar. 2	18 44	Mar. 3
Mar. 31	02 09	Mar. 31	05 27	Mar. 31	18 27 *	Apr. 1 Abib 1st
Apr. 29	17 37	Apr. 30	05 17	Apr. 30	19 03	May 1 Zif
May 29	09 28	May 30	05 23	May 30	19 30	May 31
June 28	00 51	June 28	04 57	June 28	18 58 *	June 29
July 27	15 15	July 28	05 32	July 28	18 56	July 29
Aug. 26	04 33	Aug. 27	06 14	Aug. 27	18 44	Aug. 28
Sep. 24	16 56	Sep. 25	06 02	Sep. 25	17 57	Sep. 26 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 24	04 37	Oct. 25	06 56	Oct. 25	18 02	Oct. 26
Nov. 22	15 44	Nov. 23	06 48	Nov. 23	17 37	Nov. 24

Dec. 22 02 24	Dec. 22 06 32	Dec. 22 17 22 *	Dec. 23
1996	1996	1996	1996
Jan. 20 12 51	Jan. 21 06 59	Jan. 21 18 21	Jan. 22
Feb. 18 23 31	Feb. 19 06 17	Feb. 19 18 11	Feb. 20
Mar. 19 10 46	Mar. 20 06 10	Mar. 20 19 02	Mar. 21 Abib 1st
Apr. 17 22 50	Apr. 18 05 23	Apr. 18 18 47	Apr. 19 Zif
May 17 11 47	May 18 05 26	May 18 19 24	May 19
June 16 01 37	June 16 04 55	June 16 18 58 *	June 17
July 15 16 16	July 16 05 23	July 16 19 04	July 17
Aug. 14 07 35	Aug. 15 05 56	Aug. 15 18 52	Aug. 16
Sep. 12 23 09	Sep. 13 05 37	Sep. 13 18 01	Sep. 14 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 12 14 16	Oct. 13 06 17	Oct. 13 17 50	Oct. 14
Nov. 11 04 17	Nov. 12 07 04	Nov. 12 18 00	Nov. 13
Dec. 10 16 58	Dec. 11 06 51	Dec. 11 17 40	Dec. 12
1997	1997	1997	1997
Jan. 9 04 26	Jan. 9 06 29	Jan. 9 17 27 *	Jan. 10
Feb. 7 15 08	Feb. 8 06 46	Feb. 8 18 28	Feb. 9
Mar. 9 01 15	Mar. 9 06 03	Mar. 9 18 20 *	Mar. 10 Abib 1st
Apr. 7 11 03	Apr. 8 06 01	Apr. 8 19 16	Apr. 9 Zif
May 6 20 48	May 7 05 20	May 7 19 03	May 8
June 5 07 05	June 6 05 37	June 6 19 41	June 7
July 4 18 41	July 5 05 14	July 5 19 10	July 6
Aug. 3 08 15	Aug. 4 05 48	Aug. 4 19 08	Aug. 5
Sep. 1 23 53	Sep. 2 05 28	Sep. 2 18 17	Sep. 3 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 1 16 53	Oct. 2 06 00	Oct. 2 17 58	Oct. 3
Oct. 31 10 02	Nov. 1 06 36	Nov. 1 17 48	Nov. 2
Nov. 30 02 15	Nov. 30 06 19	Nov. 30 17 12 *	Dec. 1
Dec. 29 16 58	Dec. 30 06 55	Dec. 30 17 45	Dec. 31
1998	1998	1998	1998
Jan. 28 06 02	Jan. 29 07 14	Jan. 29 18 40	Jan. 30
Feb. 26 17 27	Feb. 27 06 33	Feb. 27 18 33	Feb. 28
Mar. 28 03 15	Mar. 28 05 48	Mar. 28 18 25 *	Mar. 29 Abib 1st
Apr. 26 11 43	Apr. 27 05 50	Apr. 27 19 27	Apr. 28 Zif 1st
May 25 19 34	May 26 05 16	May 26 19 17	May 27
June 24 03 52	June 25 05 48	June 25 19 53	June 26
July 23 13 45	July 24 05 31	July 24 19 18	July 25
Aug. 22 02 04	Aug. 22 05 16	Aug. 22 18 33 *	Aug. 23

Sep. 20 17 02	Sep. 21 05 52	Sep. 21 18 14	Sep. 22 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 20 10 10	Oct. 21 06 25	Oct. 21 17 55	Oct. 22
Nov. 19 04 28	Nov. 20 06 59	Nov. 20 17 49	Nov. 21
Dec. 18 22 44	Dec. 19 06 39	Dec. 19 17 18	Dec. 20
1999	1999	1999	1999
Jan. 17 15 47	Jan. 18 07 01	Jan. 18 17 55	Jan. 19
Feb. 16 06 40	Feb. 17 07 05	Feb. 17 18 47	Feb. 18
Mar. 17 18 49	Mar. 18 06 19	Mar. 18 18 39 *	Mar. 19 Abib 1st
Apr. 16 04 23	Apr. 17 06 15	Apr. 17 19 42	Apr. 18 Zif 1st
May 15 12 06	May 16 15 37	May 16 19 37	May 17
June 13 19 04	June 14 05 10	June 14 19 28	June 15
July 13 02 25	July 13 04 54	July 13 19 08 *	July 14
Aug. 11 11 09	Aug. 12 05 48	Aug. 12 19 17	Aug. 13
Sep. 9 22 03	Sep. 10 05 35	Sep. 10 18 27 *	Sep. 11 Ethanim 1st
Oct. 9 11 36	Oct. 10 06 16	Oct. 10 18 07	Oct. 11
Nov. 8 03 54	Nov. 8 05 59	Nov. 8 17 15 *	Nov. 9
Dec. 7 22 32	Dec. 8 06 34	Dec. 8 17 12	Dec. 9

MOON TIMES FOR THE YEARS 2000 - 2005 are given at Section 3.

2. Beginnings of Months Years 1994 – 1999

Months	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
1 ABIB	Mar. 14	Apr. 1	Mar. 21	Mar. 10	Mar. 29	Mar. 19
2 ZIF	Apr. 12	May 1	Apr. 19	Apr. 9	Apr. 28	Apr. 18
3 SIVAN	May 12	May 31	May 19	May 8	May 27	May 17
4	June 11	June 29	June 17	June 7	June 26	June 15
5	July 10	July 29	July 17	July 6	July 25	July 14
6 ELUL	Aug. 9	Aug. 28	Aug. 16	Aug. 5	Aug. 23	Aug. 13
7 ETHANIM	Sep. 7	Sep. 26	Sep. 14	Sep. 3	Sep. 22	Sep. 11
8 BUL	Oct. 7	Oct. 26	Oct. 14	Oct. 3	Oct. 22	Oct. 11
9 CHISLEU	Nov. 5	Nov. 24	Nov. 13	Nov. 2	Nov. 21	Nov. 9
10 TEBETH	Dec. 4	Dec. 23	Dec. 12	Dec. 1	Dec. 20	Dec. 9
	1995	1996	1997		1998	1999
11 SEBET	Jan. 3	Jan. 22	Jan. 10	Dec. 31	Jan. 19	Jan. 8
12 ADAR	Feb. 1	Feb. 20	Feb. 9	Jan. 30	Feb. 18	Feb. 7
13 ADAR 2	Mar. 3			Feb. 28		

3. New Moon Times Years 2000 – 2005

Conjunction Times in ET		First Moonrise after conjunction in Jerusalem Standard Time		Next Moonset <i>A likely first sighting should occur this evening</i>		FIRST DAY of the month	
Date	Time	Date	Time	Date	Time	Date	
2000		2000		2000		2000	
Jan. 6	18 14	Jan. 7	07 00	Jan. 7	17 33	Jan. 8	
Feb. 5	13 04	Feb. 6	07 05	Feb. 6	18 12	Feb. 7	
Mar. 6	05 18	Mar. 7	06 17	Mar. 7	17 59 *	Mar. 8	Abib 1st
Apr. 4	18 14	Apr. 5	05 25	Apr. 5	17 47	Apr. 6	
May 4	04 13	May 5	05 12	May 5	18 43	May 6	
June 2	12 16	June 3	04 32	June 3	18 39	June 4	
July 1	19 21	July 2	04 04	July 2	18 32	July 3	
July 31	02 26	Aug. 1	04 59	Aug. 1	19 07	Aug. 2	
Aug. 29	10 20	Aug. 30	04 55	Aug. 30	18 26 *	Aug. 31	Ethanim 1st
Sep. 27	19 54	Sep. 28	04 48	Sep. 28	17 37	Sep. 29	
Oct. 27	07 59	Oct. 28	05 41	Oct. 28	17 19	Oct. 29	
Nov. 25	23 13	Nov. 26	05 29	Nov. 26	16 30	Nov. 27	
Dec. 25	17 22	Dec. 26	06 11	Dec. 26	16 35	Dec. 27	
2001		2001		2001		2001	
Jan. 24	13 08	Jan. 25	07 14	Jan. 25	17 56	Jan. 26	
Feb. 23	08 22	Feb. 24	07 00	Feb. 24	18 35	Feb. 25	
Mar. 25	01 22	Mar. 25	06 04	Mar. 25	18 19 *	Mar. 26	Abib 1st
Apr. 23	15 27	Apr. 24	05 40	Apr. 24	19 06	Apr. 25	
May 23	02 47	May 23	04 54	May 23	19 00 *	May 24	
June 21	11 59	June 22	05 18	June 22	19 56	June 23	
July 20	19 46	July 21	05 09	July 21	19 34	July 22	
Aug. 19	02 57	Aug. 19	05 08	Aug. 19	18 55 *	Aug. 20	
Sep. 17	10 28	Sep. 18	06 15	Sep. 18	18 43 *	Sep. 19	Ethanim 1st
Oct. 16	19 24	Oct. 17	06 08	Oct. 17	17 49	Oct. 18	
Nov. 15	06 41	Nov. 16	07 06	Nov. 16	17 43	Nov. 17	
Dec. 14	20 48	Dec. 15	06 55	Dec. 15	17 10	Dec. 16	
2002		2002		2002		2002	
Jan. 13	13 30	Jan. 14	07 23	Jan. 14	17 45	Jan. 15	
Feb. 12	07 41	Feb. 13	07 15	Feb. 13	18 26	Feb. 14	
Mar. 14	02 04	Mar. 14	06 17	Mar. 14	18 08 *	Mar. 15	Abib 1st
Apr. 12	19 22	Apr. 13	05 44	Apr. 13	18 45	Apr. 14	
May 12	10 47	May 13	05 22	May 13	19 31	May 14	

June 10 23 47	June 11 04 43	June 11 19 22	June 12	
July 10 10 27	July 11 05 23	July 11 19 59	July 12	
Aug. 8 19 16	Aug. 9 05 21	Aug. 9 19 21	Aug. 10	
Sep. 7 03 11	Sep. 7 05 19	Sep. 7 18 32 *	Sep. 8	Ethanim 1st
Oct. 6 11 19	Oct. 7 06 26	Oct. 7 18 13	Oct. 8	
Nov. 4 20 36	Nov. 5 06 23	Nov. 5 17 23	Nov. 6	
Dec. 4 07 35	Dec. 5 07 30	Dec. 5 17 38	Dec. 6	
2003	2003	2003	2003	
Jan. 2 20 24	Jan. 3 07 15	Jan. 3 17 21	Jan. 4	
Feb. 1 10 49	Feb. 2 07 25	Feb. 2 18 14	Feb. 3	
Mar. 3 02 36	Mar. 3 06 31	Mar. 3 18 00 *	Mar. 4	
Apr. 1 19 20	Apr. 2 05 56	Apr. 2 18 38 *	Apr. 3	Abib 1st
May 1 12 16	May 2 05 23	May 2 19 17	May 3	
May 31 04 21	June 1 05 15	June 1 20 02	June 2	
June 29 18 40	June 30 04 50	June 30 19 43	July 1	
July 29 06 54	July 30 05 42	July 30 19 50	July 31	
Aug. 27 17 27	Aug. 28 05 38	Aug. 28 18 57	Aug. 29	
Sep. 26 03 10	Sep. 26 05 33	Sep. 26 17 59 *	Sep. 27	Ethanim 1st
Oct. 25 12 51	Oct. 26 06 38	Oct. 26 17 40	Oct. 27	
Nov. 23 23 00	Nov. 24 06 39	Nov. 24 17 00	Nov. 25	
Dec. 23 09 44	Dec. 24 07 45	Dec. 24 17 45	Dec. 25	
2004	2004	2004	2004	
Jan. 21 21 06	Jan. 22 07 18	Jan. 22 17 41	Jan. 23	
Feb. 20 09 19	Feb. 21 07 08	Feb. 21 18 40	Feb. 22	
Mar. 20 22 42	Mar. 21 06 06	Mar. 21 18 26 *	Mar. 22	Abib 1st
Apr. 19 13 22	Apr. 20 05 31	Apr. 20 19 10	Apr. 21	
May 19 04 53	May 20 05 12	May 20 19 55	May 21	
June 17 20 28	June 18 04 38	June 18 19 38	June 19	
Jul. 17 11 25	Jul. 18 05 17	Jul. 18 19 48	July 19	
Aug. 16 01 25	Aug. 16 05 08	Aug. 16 18 57 *	Aug. 17	
Sep. 14 14 30	Sep. 15 05 58	Sep. 15 18 25 *	Sep. 16	Ethanim 1st
Oct. 14 02 49	Oct. 14 05 48	Oct. 14 17 24 *	Oct. 15	
Nov. 12 14 28	Nov. 13 06 55	Nov. 13 17 15	Nov. 14	
Dec. 12 01 30	Dec. 12 06 56	Dec. 12 16 50 *	Dec. 13	
2005	2005	2005	2005	
Jan. 10 12 04	Jan. 11 07 43	Jan. 11 18 00	Jan. 12	
Feb. 8 22 29	Feb. 9 07 01	Feb. 9 18 00	Feb. 10	

Mar. 10 09 12	Mar. 11 06 36	Mar. 11 19 01 *	Mar. 12 Abib 1st
Apr. 8 20 33	Apr. 9 05 33	Apr. 9 18 50	Apr. 10
May 8 08 47	May 9 05 11	May 9 19 46	May 10
June 6 21 56	June 7 04 32	June 7 19 34	June 8
Jul. 6 12 04	Jul. 7 05 06	Jul. 7 19 53	July 8
Aug. 5 03 06	Aug. 6 05 52	Aug. 6 19 33	Aug. 7
Sep. 3 18 46	Sep. 4 05 38	Sep. 4 18 30 *	Sep. 5 Ethanaim 1st
Oct. 3 10 29	Oct. 4 06 20	Oct. 4 17 51	Oct. 5
Nov. 2 01 26	Nov. 2 06 11	Nov. 2 16 54 *	Nov. 3
Dec. 1 15 02	Dec. 2 07 16	Dec. 2 17 06	Dec. 3
Dec. 31 03 13	Dec. 31 07 06	Dec. 31 16 59 *	Jan. 1 2006

4. Beginnings of Months Years 2000 – 2005

Months	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1 ABIB	Mar. 8	Mar. 26	Mar. 15	Apr. 3	Mar. 22	Mar. 12
2 ZIF	Apr. 6	Apr. 25	Apr. 14	May 3	Apr. 21	Apr. 10
3 SIVAN	May 6	May 24	May 14	June 2	May 21	May 10
4	June 4	June 23	June 12	July 1	June 19	June 8
5	July 3	July 22	July 12	July 31	July 19	July 8
6 ELUL	Aug. 2	Aug. 20	Aug. 10	Aug. 29	Aug. 17	Aug. 7
7 ETHANIM	Aug. 31	Sep. 19	Sep. 8	Sep. 27	Sep. 16	Sep. 5
8 BUL	Sep. 29	Oct. 18	Oct. 8	Oct. 27	Oct. 15	Oct. 5
9 CHISLEU	Oct. 29	Nov. 17	Nov. 6	Nov. 25	Nov. 14	Nov. 3
10 TEBETH	Nov. 27	Dec. 16	Dec. 6	Dec. 25	Dec. 13	Dec. 3
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
11 SEBET	Dec. 27	Jan. 15	Jan. 4	Jan. 23	Jan. 12	Jan. 1
12 ADAR	Jan. 26	Feb. 14	Feb. 3	Feb. 22	Feb. 10	Jan. 31
13 ADAR 2	Feb. 25		Mar. 4			Mar. 1

Appendix B

Once the date of a month is established, as at Appendix A, the next step is to find out **what day of the week that date falls upon**. When that is determined you simply enter a 1 in the space for that day of the week. For example, if it is a Monday, (as in the 1994 example below) then enter a 1 under Monday. If it is a Tuesday, then enter a 1 under Tuesday. Then, in the next weekday spaces, enter 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc., all the way up to 29. At 29, stop and see what day of the week the next month starts. If it is the **weekday** following the 29th, then the month you are working on will have only 29 days. If it is two week days away, then the month you

are working with will have 30 days. Enter 30 in the next space and move to the next month.

1994 Examples

1st Abib was 14th March.

This was a Monday.

So, the calendar for Abib in

1994 appeared like this:

The two **highlighted** days are Feasts.

First Month, Abib 1994

1	2	3	4	5	6	SABBATH
	1 14 Mar	2 15 Mar	3 16 Mar	4 17 Mar	5 18 Mar	6 19 Mar
7 20 Mar	8 21 Mar	9 22 Mar	10 23 Mar	11 24 Mar	12 25 Mar	13 26 Mar
14 27 Mar	15 28 Mar	16 29 Mar	17 30 Mar	18 31 Mar	19 1 Apr	20 2 Apr
21 3 Apr	22 4 Apr	23 5 Apr	24 6 Apr	25 7 Apr	26 8 Apr	27 9 Apr
28 10 Apr	29 11 Apr					

1st Zif was a Tuesday.

This left Abib with only 29 days.

Had Zif started on a Wednesday, Abib would have had 30 days.

Second Month, Zif 1994

1	2	3	4	5	6	SABBATH
		1 12 Apr	2 13 Apr	3 14 Apr	4 15 Apr	5 16 Apr
6 17 Apr	7 18 Apr	8 19 Apr	9 20 Apr	10 21 Apr	11 22 Apr	12 23 Apr
13 24 Apr	14 25 Apr	15 26 Apr	16 27 Apr	17 28 Apr	18 29 Apr	19 30 Apr
20 1 May	21 2 May	22 3 May	23 4 May	24 5 May	25 6 May	26 7 May
27 8 May	28 9 May	29 10 May	30 11 May			

Appendix C

Prophetic Time Span Examples

A prophetic time span is the period of time a Bible prophecy is scheduled to continue once it begins. The 2300, 1260, 1290 and 1335 day prophecies of Daniel chapters 8 and 12 are prophetic time spans. When they begin, they will continue for 2300, 1260, 1290 or 1335 literal days. You will see from the examples given below that **these time spans begin and end on divinely appointed dates in the sacred calendar, on the Almighty's annual Sabbaths, His Feast and Fast days.** These prophetic time spans are all linked to the sacred calendar in the same way as your own annual leave from work begins and ends on appointed dates in the civil calendar. The following examples are not to be looked upon as SBS/AVITW predictions of when the Time Prophecies will begin or end, nor are they an attempt to date the second coming of Jesus Christ; a date no one, other than the Father, knows. (Matt. 24:36) They are given simply to show how the time prophecies in Daniel and Revelation slot into periods between a Feast in one year and another Feast, Fast or sacred season 2300, 1260, 1290 or 1335 days later. This means these time prophecies could start any year in the near future. That is the point being made in this Appendix.

The 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8

In certain periods, there are exactly 2300 days between the **Feast of Pentecost** in one year and the **Feast of Trumpets** about seven years later. The first and the last days are both included in the count.

Example 1			Example 2			Example 3		
22 May 1988 to 7 Sep. 1994			1 June 1998 to 16 Sep. 2004			22 May 1999 to 6 Sep. 2005		
Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days
1988	May	10	1998	May		1999	May	10
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	30		Sep.	30		Sep.	30
	Oct.	31		Oct.	31		Oct.	31
	Nov.	30		Nov.	30		Nov.	30
	Dec.	31		Dec.	31		Dec.	31
	Total	224		Total	214		Total	224
1989		365	1999		365	2000		366
1990		365	2000		366	2001		365
1991		365	2001		365	2002		365
1992		366	2002		365	2003		365
1993		365	2003		365	2004		366
1994	Jan.	31	2004	Jan.	31	2005	Jan.	31
	Feb.	28		Feb.	29		Feb.	28
	Mar.	31		Mar.	31		Mar.	31
	Apr.	30		Apr.	30		Apr.	30
	May	31		May	31		May	31
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	7		Sep.	16		Sep.	6
	Total	2300		Total	2300		Total	2300

The 1335 day prophecy of Daniel 12

In certain periods, there are exactly 1335 days between the **Feast of Trumpets** in one year and the **Feast of Pentecost** several years later. The first and last days are both included in the count.

Example 4			Example 5			Example 6		
17 Sep. 1993 to 13 May 1997			26 Sep. 1995 to 22 May 1999			22 Sep. 1998 to 18 May 2002		
Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days
1993	Sep.	14	1995	Sep.	5	1998	Sep.	9
	Oct.	31		Oct.	31		Oct.	31
	Nov.	30		Nov.	30		Nov.	30
	Dec.	31		Dec.	31		Dec.	31
1994 1995 1996 1997	Total	106	1996 1997 1998 1999	Total	97	1999 2000 2001 2002	Total	101
		365			366			365
		365			365			366
		366			365			365
	Jan.	31		Jan.	31		Jan.	31
	Feb.	28		Feb.	28		Feb.	28
	Mar.	31		Mar.	31		Mar.	31
	Apr.	30		Apr.	30		Apr.	30
	May	13		May	22		May	18
Total		1335	Total		1335	Total		1335

The 1260 day (3½ years or 42 months) prophecies of Daniel chapters 7 & 12 and Revelation 13

In certain periods, there are exactly 1260 days between the **Last Day of Unleavened Bread** in one year and the **Day of Atonement** 3½ years later. The first and last days are both included in the count.

Example 7			Example 8			Example 9		
30 March 1997 to 9 Sep. 2000			18 April 1998 to 28 Sep. 2001			4 April 2002 to 14 Sep. 2005		
Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days
1997	Mar.	2	1998	Mar.		2002	Mar.	
	Apr.	30		Apr.	13		Apr.	27
	May	31		May	31		May	31
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	30		Sep.	30		Sep.	30
	Oct.	31		Oct.	31		Oct.	31
	Nov.	30		Nov.	30		Nov.	30
	Dec.	31		Dec.	31		Dec.	31

1998 1999 2000	Total	277	1999 2000 2001	Total	258	2003 2004 2005	Total	272
		365			365			365
		365			366			366
	Jan.	31		Jan.	31		Jan.	31
	Feb.	29		Feb.	28		Feb.	28
	Mar.	31		Mar.	31		Mar.	31
	Apr.	30		Apr.	30		Apr.	30
	May	31		May	31		May	31
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	9		Sep.	28		Sep.	14
	Total	1260		Total	1260		Total	1260

The 1290 day prophecy of Daniel 12

In certain periods, there are exactly 1290 days between **New Year's Day** in the sacred calendar and the **Last Great Day of Tabernacles** just over 3½ years later. The first day is not included in the count.

Example 10			Example 11			Example 12		
25 March 1993 to 5 Oct. 1996			14 March 1994 to 24 Sep. 1997			21 March 1996 to 2 Oct. 1999		
Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days	Year	Month	Days
1993	Mar.	6	1994	Mar.	17	1996	Mar.	10
	Apr.	30		Apr.	30		Apr.	30
	May	31		May	31		May	31
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	30		Sep.	30		Sep.	30
	Oct.	31		Oct.	31		Oct.	31
	Nov.	30		Nov.	30		Nov.	30
	Dec.	31		Dec.	31		Dec.	31
	Total	281		Total	292		Total	285
1994		365	1995		365	1997		365
1995		365	1996		366	1998		365
1996	Jan.	31	1997	Jan.	31	1999	Jan.	31
	Feb.	29		Feb.	28		Feb.	28
	Mar.	31		Mar.	31		Mar.	31
	Apr.	30		Apr.	30		Apr.	30
	May	31		May	31		May	31
	June	30		June	30		June	30
	July	31		July	31		July	31
	Aug.	31		Aug.	31		Aug.	31
	Sep.	30		Sep.	24		Sep.	30
	Oct.	5					Oct.	2
	Total	1290		Total	1290		Total	1290

Note:

The **one month** difference which occurs in some calculations is because an **extra leap year** is present in the count, hence, a difference of 29 or 30 days. The **one day** difference that occurs in other calculations is because some counts have more 30 day months than others. The examples given above, nevertheless, clearly prove the Time Prophecies of Daniel and Revelation slot exactly into periods of time between a sacred Feast in one year and another some years later. By implication, this means true believers should not only be studying those prophecies, but should be keeping those sacred appointments with the Almighty (His Feasts) at which times those selfsame prophecies are scheduled to begin. **Festival dates may be considered on three levels:**

1. **TYPICAL DATES:** These dates are kept in anticipation of divine victories which are planned to occur in a future year; but on the **same day of the same month**. At the moment (2003), most of Yahweh's feasts are **'shadows of things to come.'** In other words, the realities to which they point have yet to occur; they are still future.
2. **EVENT DATES:** These are the actual dates on which the Almighty will perform His mightiest deeds in the Plan of Salvation. When these **'once in eternity'** dates arrive, they will be highlighted by signs in the sun, moon and stars.
3. **MEMORIAL DATES:** These are dates which will be celebrated throughout eternity by the redeemed as **memorials** and **anniversaries**. On these dates, throughout time, we will look back with rejoicing as we remember the great deeds Yahweh and His Son Yeshua performed to secure our salvation.

Appendix D

Scheduled Events in the Diary of God

The facts presented in this booklet show that the Almighty is currently using His calendar as the basis of His **'Diary'** to organize His work. They also show that He has appointed certain days, seasons, and years in His **'diary'** on which He has scheduled Himself to perform His mightiest deeds. He calls these appointed times **His Sabbaths, His Feasts**. In Appendix C, we have seen how the Time Prophecies of Daniel & Revelation slot into periods between the Feasts. Indeed, **knowledge of the sacred Feasts of the God of Israel is the key to understanding Bible prophecy.**

Now, let us very briefly consider those prophecies. The first question that comes to mind is: When do those Time Prophecies occur? The answer is: they occur at the **'in the time of the end'**, a period of time which starts about seven years before the Saviour returns to earth. The Time Prophecies being referred to will occur, we are told, at the crisis at the end of this age; the **'time of the end'**. When that soon-coming crisis begins, and it is almost upon us, the following events are predicted to occur:

1. The shake up of our solar system as portrayed under the 6th Seal of Revelation 6:12-17. This event will be accompanied by awesome signs in the sun, moon and stars and a global earthquake which will devastate the cities of the whole world. Wait for this event. It is near.

2. The sealing of the 144,000 servants of God will then take place (Rev. 7). The 144,000 are called '**Israelites**'. This means that they are true believers in Yahweh the Almighty God of Israel. This number will obviously include tens of thousands of blood-born descendants of Jacob. Without a doubt it will also include obedient Gentile believers, who have been grafted into one or the other of the 12 tribes of Israel; believers who do not balk at the idea of being called **Israelites** or **Jews**! These believers will all have the Father's name in their foreheads; which means they will not only know the sacred names, multiplied millions of men and angels already know the names of the Father and Son, but they will be absolutely holy people who will reflect Yahweh's character and obey His commandments.
3. After the sealing of the 144,000, the devastation under the first four trumpets of Rev. 8 will begin. The events under the 6th seal, the sealing of the 144,000 and the first four trumpets of the 7th seal could all take place in the first few months of the last seven year period before Christ returns.
4. At Trumpet No. 5, the Abyss, an angel penitentiary where the Beast is currently being held captive, will be opened and the Antichrist will come forth leading a horde of evil angels. They will torment mankind for a period of 5 literal months; that is, all except those who have been sealed with the Father's name, His character, His law. (Rev. 9)
5. The Antichrist will then magnify himself above all gods and will enter and desecrate the heavenly sanctuary for a period of 2300 days. During the latter part of this period, the Antichrist will capture the city of Jerusalem and kill Yahweh's **Two Witnesses**. He will then begin a 42-month **Reign of Terror** on earth. (Dan. 7:25, Rev. 11 & 13) During his evil reign no one will be able to buy and sell unless they have his Mark. Prophecy tells us that during Trumpet No. 6 one third of mankind, about 2,000,000,000 souls, will die. It will be a slaughter greater by far than anything the world has ever seen. See SBS/AVITW articles entitled, **Who/What is the Antichrist?** and **The Mark of the Beast** for further information. For those with internet access, see:

Who/What Then Is The Antichrist
<http://www.avoicewithinthewilderness.org/prophecy/sermon14.html>
What Is the Mark of the Beast
<http://www.avoicewithinthewilderness.org/prophecy/sermon28.html>
6. During the latter half of the 2300 day period, the people of God will be escorted by holy angels out of the world's cities and miraculously fed and protected by God for 1260 days. This coming Exodus is described in Revelation 12:6 and Ezekiel 20:35-44. Yes, believe it or not, Yahweh's church is to be miraculously protected and fed for 1260 days during the 6th and 7th Trumpets of Revelation.
7. During this period of time, the seven last plagues will be poured out on mankind. (Rev. 15)

8. Babylon the Great, the spiritual harlot city of the universe, will then be overthrown; resulting in a total collapse in world trade. (Rev. 18)
9. Finally, Yeshua the Messiah, (Jesus Christ), will return to earth as promised (Matt. 24). He will descend on the Mount of Olives and liberate the city of Jerusalem. (Zech. 14:3-5)
10. At the Saviour's return, the Antichrist will be burned to death in a lake of fire: and Satan the Devil, the one who gave the Antichrist power and authority, will be locked in the Bottomless Pit (Abyss) for a period of 1000 years. Note: that the Antichrist and the Devil are not the same being. They are two separate beings and one dies a thousand years before the other. (Rev. 19:19 through Rev. 20:3)
11. The Messiah's 1000 year Reign of Peace will then begin. (Rev. 20, Zech. 14:6-21)
12. After the millennium, Satan will be loosed from the Abyss. He will then vainly try to muster his forces to overthrow the Almighty; but he will perish in the attempt and, like the Antichrist a thousand years before, Satan will be incinerated in the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:7-10)
13. The Day of Judgment will then arrive and all those whose names are not found in the Book of Life will also be cast into the lake of fire. From that second death there is no return. (Rev. 20:11-15, Malachi 4)
14. The Almighty will then create a new heaven and a new earth in which His saints will dwell in peace and harmony for all time. (Rev. 21 & 22)

Briefly, that is the sequence of events entered in the **Diary of Jehovah**, the Almighty God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel; events which are prophesied to begin shortly. See the booklet entitled, **Understand the Revelation**, where many of the above mentioned events are explained. The reader is advised to pay heed to these prophecies for they are bound to happen. Blindly rejecting their warning messages and persisting in sin would amount to foolishness of the highest order because:

The Scriptures Must Be Fulfilled.

AMEN

