

Adar Bet or L'Shanah Tovah Brethren

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By Joseph F. Dumond

News Letter 5855-001

The 3rd Year of the 4th Sabbatical Cycle

The 24th year of the 120th Jubilee Cycle

The 1st day of the 1st month 5855 years after the creation of Adam

The 1st Month in the Third year of the Fourth Sabbatical Cycle

The 4th Sabbatical Cycle after the 119th Jubilee Cycle

The Third Year Tithe for the Widows and Orphans and Levites

The Sabbatical Cycle of Sword, Famines, and Pestilence

March 7, 2019

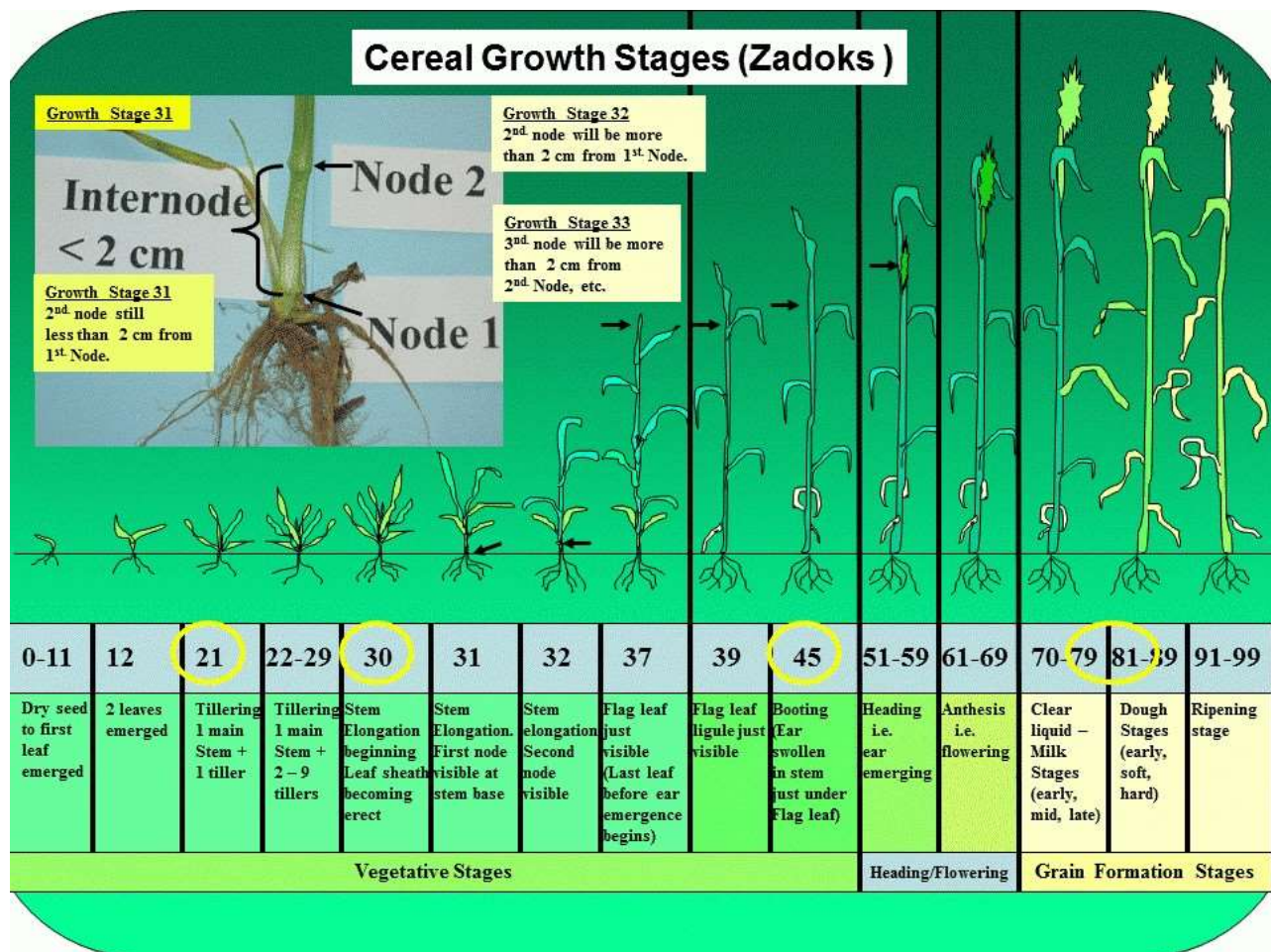
Shabbat Shalom to the Royal Family of Yehovah,

L'Shanah Tovah Brethren! The New Year has now begun or has it? The term "L'Shanah Tovah" conveys the hope for a **good** year rather than a **happy** one. May Yehovah shine His face upon you this year and give you more knowledge and more understanding of His ways and His Torah. May Yehovah grant you the Shalom you need to grow in "The Way."

We have said that this year would prove to be another controversial year concerning the barley. And it is that. Each of you must decide which way you are going to go and know why you are doing it that way. Yehovah is once again testing us to see who is going to do what and why.

The Barley Has been Declared

The Barley has been declared not Aviv and the barley has also been declared Aviv. Here are all the reports I have collected to help you to decide what to do.



In the reports coming out of Israel, the barley is in varying degrees of development depending on where the searchers are reporting from. So it is very important for you to know what they are saying by looking at the stage of development of the barley by the chart above.

So I am going to share with you each of the reports as I got them and show you what stage they are seeing by referring you to the chart. In each of these reports, you must ask the question, Will the barley be mature enough to be roasted and presented on wave sheaf day if Passover was to take place in 14 days' time.

I understand that some groups that are doing the research believe that the barley must be in a state of Aviv by the end of the 12th month. Others such as myself believe the barley must be ready for the wave offering by the evening that it is to be cut and that is After the Sabbath that comes during the 7 Days of Unleavened Bread. When the sun has set, after Sabbath then the barley is cut and prepared for the wave offering that takes place at 9 AM on the 1st day of the week. This is the first fruits offering and It is from this time that the counting of the Omer begins. So it is crucial that you understand why we look for barley. We need it for the wave offering and it determines when the Holy Days are to be kept.

The month of Aviv is the month of Green Ears. Exactly what is being reported by everyone. But we also need ripe barley for the wave sheaf offering.

Monday Feb 18 I received this report from brethren in India. We shared this report with you last week.

Shalom and greetings from Bethel! We are pleased to announce that, beyond a shadow of a doubt, there are green heads of grain in the land of Israel. Teaching Elder Jonathan Meyer was able to identify green heads of grain that clearly meet the requirements of Abib as listed in Deuteronomy 16. This means that the projected dates for the Feast Days that the Assemblies of Yahweh published are correct. The New Moon of Abib should be visible on the evening of March 7, and with that sighting, the 10th of Abib will be-March 17th, Passover Memorial-March

20 (after sundown), 1st High Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread-March 21 (after sundown), Wave Sheaf-March 23rd (after sundown), and then the last High Day of the Feast will conclude at sundown March 28th. We are entering a period of intense preparation, both physically and spiritually. We are commanded to search our possessions diligently for anything that will be unacceptable during the Feast and remove it. We must also look carefully at our hearts and minds, cleansing our vessels of any leaven in anticipation of being at close communion with Yahweh. May Yahweh be with His faithful servants as we serve Him through Yahshua the Messiah. Shalom!

The problem I had with this report was that again they had taken pictures of wheat being silaged for the cattle. So, I have no confidence in this report and do not trust their accuracy. This same group had done the same thing a few years ago.

Let's look at what the fields looked like just a few months ago.



Next, I have a report from Brian Hoeck who has gone over to Israel this year to do the search with others.

Abib Update: Monday March 4, 2019

Greetings from the Land. After landing this morning we took a run down to our western Negev traditionally early fields. There was lots of water everywhere until we got south of Sderot. All the wild barley was in the flowering stages up into milk stages. Random dough plants on high ground. This is exactly as expected due to all the rain in that area. The grape vineyard we use near Kiryat Mal'aki is starting to leaf out. No time to visit the others today.

On the charts, this is the 61-69 flowering stage and the 70-79 the milk stage. By adding 14 days on to this stage for wave sheaf day and this is potentially ready.

There are some domestic fields familiar to all at the junction of Route 3 and 232 which are starting to change color for those who utilize such. These fields are always early every year. There were many domestic barley fields in many locations starting to do the same. We even looked at many north of Kiryat Gat looking similar. Here is a random sample. In the short time we were driving through the area we observed many lambs, some just born and some, more than a month old from the looks of them. Will try pictures on them tomorrow. As we had thought the area of Re'im Junction, north and south is holding a lot of Leviticus 2:14 barley. The problem is the Bedouins are everywhere with the fourlegged lawnmowers. They are eating up everything in sight. Following you will see some great examples of the red strain barley. The first one is a very brittle head which was the state of a lot of it in this location we visit each year.



Lev 2:14 Barley is barley that is mature enough to roast by fire to remove any liquid so that a firm kernel is left which can then be ground into the flour for the offering.

“If you offer a grain offering of firstfruits to the Lord, you shall offer for the grain offering of your firstfruits fresh ears, roasted with fire, crushed new grain. And you shall put oil on it and lay frankincense on it; it is a grain offering. And the priest shall burn as its memorial portion some of the crushed grain and some of the oil with all of its frankincense; it is a food offering to the Lord.



Chance in Be'eri Forest in a section of a field the sheep and goats had not decimated yet. There are far more pictures which could be put in this document but I do not have the skills. Maybe Bridget can do that. We will be scouring the belt from This location across the Negev to the East of Beer Sheva. Lots of really good samples in this belt. Brian and Chanse.



Brian also submitted this next report as well on Monday.

Barley Report – Tuesday morn, March 5, 2019

Quick Summary: No Aviv Found Yet (by us)

We arrived in Israel on Preparation Day, got our prep done, and in the short time we had before Sabbath, we hit Jerusalem. The barley at the Temple Mount (just north of the Eastern Gate) is either just coming out of the boot (Zadoks stage 5) or in flowering stage (Zadoks 6). The hulls where the kernels form are still empty.

On Monday morning, we began our trek west and south. We hit a couple fields along 44, one just south of Ta'oz, across from the turn off to Tarum, and at Uriya Junction. Barley in these locations ranged from boot to flowering as well. The oats here have not dropped, with some oats at Uriya Junction still just coming out of the boot. Next, we headed down Rt 3 to a location east of Yad Binyamin, just along 3. Barley from boot to flowering. At Routes 3 & 232, we found barley ranging from coming out the boot, flowering, milk, to some dough. We continued south along Rt 232 and inspected the huge fields of barley at the Re'im Rest Area near Be'eri Forest. Barley here was the most advanced we saw, ranging from flowering to some dough. We saw several lambs here amongst the large flock. We continued further south, checking barley at Re'im Junction, down to Ma'On Junction, but found nothing further advanced.

We're checking the north today

Todd Palmer & Brian Hoeck

Yoel HaLevi, Hebrew In Israel reported also on March 4, 2019

Mostly green barley, but we did find small patches of Aviv. My estimate is about 20% in the whole Tel. This, in my opinion, is not enough. The patches are even smaller than last year where we could find over 50%. Tel Gama, northern Negev.



The above picture shows the barley in the doughy stage the 81-89 stage on the chart at the top. And then if we add 14 days to this for the time of the wave sheaf.

Later this same March 4 day Yoel reported the following;

Kama junction, very young barley in flower and worm stage.

We then got a report from Becca Biderman who shared the following.

March 4, 2019 Becca Biderman

We left the area of the Kinneret this morning a little after 8 a.m. in the rain and fog. We traveled down 90 along the Jordan River to highway 1.

In the area between Tel Teomim and the Jordan Valley CheckPoint the oats were out of the boot and coming out of the boot, the barley was in bloom.

Bloom is the flowering stage or the 61-69 stage in the above charts.

South of the checkpoint there was still a lot of anemones on the land. I enjoyed the beautiful red blotches of color. This year there has been more of a variety of blooming flowers than I've seen before; beautiful purples and reds are everywhere.

There were so very many storks flying in thermal vortexes near Mass'ua. Yes a lot of them were the common garbage storks that are resident to Israel but there were also Egyptian storks as the photo will show. Nonetheless, their sky-ballet always takes my breath away. Hundreds as far as we could see, group after group.

There were not a lot of flocks along highway 90 south of the checkpoint as there normally were and I felt that might be a sign of the nannies and the ewes being shut up with their young. When we reached Al-ouja our patience was rewarded with a roadside look at some squeaky clean young-uns

We have arrived in the area around Beer Sheva and our trip down didn't yield any grapes in bloom yet but we did see some leafing out in some of the older uncovered vineyards. Tomorrow is another day to look at grapes as we also look for the barley.

The area where we are spending the night looks more developed than the other areas we've seen so far. We will be starting again bright and early in the morning.

Becca later the same day, reported the following.

So much beautiful red barley this year. It's practically everywhere.

So far there's been no abib found. There has been some soft dough here in there but nothing of significant quantities.

Still have a lot of locations to go today

Soft Dough would be the 79-81 stage.

Later this same day Becca reported this next report.

This location is near to Be'eri. The barley was all over the place from flowering to dough as



pictured. The photos are location enabled for those interested.



These are grains from the most advanced plants in this location. However, these plants were not grouped together in a single batch, rather they were dispersed throughout.

As you can see in the photos the wild foliage is not nearly as thick as it was in the Northern part of Israel. Fewer plants mean a quicker drying time for the wild barley. The barley is also not terribly thick here.

The south is far ahead of the north this year.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019, we received the following Report from Brian Hoeck and Brian Convery.

Here is today's report from Brian Convery

Abib Update: Tuesday March 5, 2019

Hi Folks, As mentioned, we returned to the locations from yesterday to confirm our findings. Gisela joined us today and has accompanied us on two past inspections as well. She is familiar with the areas we inspect along Gaza. We have pictures of lambs which I will add at least one here. Never have I seen anywhere near this amount of lambs in the past and it has only been two days. To say this is a diverse year here is an understatement. To date we have recorded a really wet year and we are gaining more understanding from our findings which supports our assumptions leading up to our inspections. We did see four more western Negev vineyards leafing out which is to be expected with our current findings.

The above picture is representative of the number of lambs. I think there are at least 18 in the picture and that was not the whole group. Lambs from both sheep and goats were observed all over the southern and western Negev.

Above is a picture of Gisela holding a representative wild barley red strain head. Please notice as one holds it and attempts to pick it up the seeds and awns separate. Even the non-red strain is in the semi-hard dough stages which accompanies the red in the early ground locations.



We have been getting questions about how much barley we need to find to declare the new year. Our belief system is simple. The scriptures tell us we need enough first of the firstfruits of barley to complete an omer. Please read that again so we are not misrepresented. First of the firstfruits of the Land as Exodus 23:19 directs us. It is even more enhanced when you add Ex. 22:19 to the command, do not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce. Throw in Mark 4:29 and that is what guides us. An omer is way short of being even a small field, however we do try to locate much more than would be needed to qualify for the First of (many/all) firstfruits. The harvest would not start for at least another three weeks after the month starts. That's it for us as to the barley requirement. So, we hope that answers your questions on the subject.

Please understand those are our faith-based rules and they may not be yours but we don't have a problem with that. Take the information given and use it accordingly, as to your belief structure.

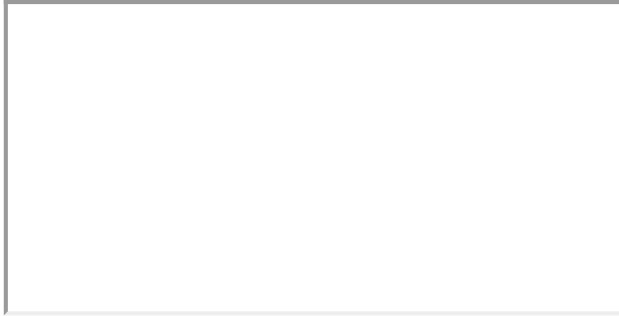
Here we have an example of non-red strain. Notice how plump and full it is. There is a lot of this to be found. These will easily qualify for a wavesheaf offering prior to Passover if it is next Month. Because of the varying standards folks use we have invited some other folks to join us Thursday morning to see for themselves. The area may be busy that day for other groups may be there as well. The majority of the barley examined all over the region we looked at is no less than flowering (Zadok stage 6). Much of it is in stage 7. The barley is very healthy and thriving all along route 232 and to the east of it. Tomorrow we will be inspecting locations in the north. We have seen some swallows and swifts having fun playing above us in their aerial maneuvers. Figs are shy to date but they often pop overnight so we will keep you posted on that. Domestic

fields in many locations are starting their march towards color change and have nice seeds in them. Even with all the rain they are taking that step. Tomorrow we will have some brethren traveling with us as well.

Gisela, Chance, and Brian

Yoel HaLevi March 5, 2019 submitted the following report.

The Jordan valley is extremely green with a range from empty to dough, with some very few Aviv stage. As far as I understand it there is no Aviv in the Jordan valley.



Wednesday, March 6, 2019, Brian Hoeck

Final 2019 Barley Report – Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

We met up with the Abib of God crew (Brian Convery and Chanse) at 6:30 am over near Allon Junction. We headed up Rt 90 in tandem to inspect more of the north as we planned yesterday. We visited the field (Todd's and my 2nd visit) on the west side of 90 between Mehola Junction and Rt 667 — not much change in the maturity from our previous report. We continued north on 90 and caught sight of a dozen white storks in their migration north out of Africa to Europe. We also saw doves, swallows and swifts. Their migration is one of the signs of Biblical summer.

Song of Solomon 2:11-13 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land; The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

After hitting the best falafel stand (in Beit She'an), we opted to hit the south again, together, so we could get reports to everyone today, rather than tomorrow when we had planned to hit it.

We headed down 6 and saw domestic fields turning color both north and south of Kiryat Gat. Along 35, we witnessed another large sheep herd with a bunch of lambs, and more domestic fields turning. We returned to the vicinity of Re'im Junction and witnessed a sizable (probably 20' x 40') section turning golden. This barley here is Zadoks 8.9 – it is aviv. There is more than enough here that qualifies for a Leviticus 2:14 omer of firstfruits offering. The barley in this field around this golden plot was Zadoks 8.3 to 8.5. A second field, just feet away, was also in the low to mid 8 stages. We then headed a little further south to Ma'On Junction again, where we

witnessed the 6 row domestic turning color. Oats here were dropped. We headed back up 232 just past Re'im Junction to the Re'im Rest Area where we found more barley in the 8.3 to 8.7, and occasionally 8.9 stages.



Summing it all up, we have witnessed barley as young as emerging boot stage (Zadoks 5) on through aviv (Zadoks 8). We have seen a bunch of lambs. We have seen white storks, swallows, and swift in their “end of winter” migrations.

So, what does all this mean? It means winter is ended — Biblical summer is beginning (there are only two seasons in Scripture).

There are seven weeks to complete the barley harvest (from omer offering day to Pentecost). From now until Omer Offering Day (i.e., Sunday during the Feast of Unleavened Bread) is two and a half weeks (18 days). So, we have 18 more days before the harvest begins, then another seven weeks to complete it.

We have barley that is ready right now for omer offering — more than enough. In 18 days, at Omer Offering, when the harvest begins (Leviticus 23:10-14; Deut 16:9), we will have a whole lot more. Then within the seven weeks of harvest, all the rest of the barley in the Land will have matured to harvest.

If one waits for another lunar month to start the year, then the harvest is put off for 6 1/2 weeks from now. That means much of the barley across the Land would be lost. The current aviv would be long gone. The various dough, milk, and flowering barley would also be dead in the field.

Most of the barley simply cannot wait that long — it will go to seed and be gone.

Now, seek His face. Walk humbly. Love the brethren (even if they make a different choice than you on the year's start). Be merciful as He is merciful.

We deeply thank all of you who contributed and prayed for us in this endeavor. Much thanks and much love to all!

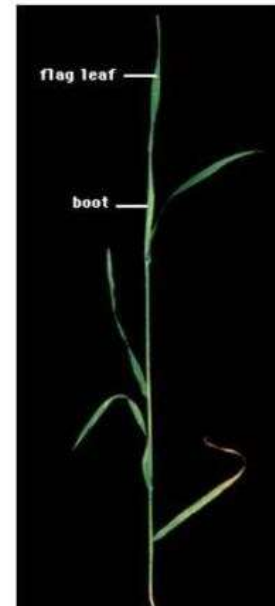
Have a deeply meaningful Passover!

Todd Palmer and Brian Hoeck

Here are two charts showing you the scale Brian is referring to.

Zadoks code		Description
Principal stage	Secondary stage	
4		Boot
	1	Flag leaf sheath extending
	3	Boot just beginning to swell
	5	Boot swollen
	7	Flag leaf sheath opening
	9	First awns visible
5		Head emergence
	1	First spikelet of head just visible
	3	One-fourth of head emerged
	5	One-half of head emerged
	7	Three-fourths of head emerged
	9	Head emergence complete

The boot stage begins after the emergence of the flag leaf out of the snare and continues until heading. If the flag leaf is open, the ear will be clearly visible inside it.



Zadoks 4.5

Zadoks code		Description
Principal stage	Secondary stage	
6		Flowering (not readily visible in barley)
	1	Beginning of flowering
	5	Half of florets have flowered
	9	Flowering complete
7		Milk development in kernel
	1	Kernel watery ripe
	3	Early milk
	5	Medium milk
	7	Late milk
8		Dough development in kernel
	3	Early dough
	5	Soft dough
	7	Hard dough, head losing green color
	9	Approximate physiological maturity
9		Ripening
	1	Kernel hard (difficult to divide with thumbnail)
	2	Kernel cannot be dented by thumbnail, harvest ripe



- A. Zadoks 7.1 watery ripe
- B. Zadoks 7.7 late milk
- C. Zadoks 8.7 hard dough
- D. Zadoks 9.2 fully ripe

Today's report from Brian Convery:

Abib Update: Wednesday March 6, 2019

Hi Folks, A beautiful day in Israel and a little sunburned. That's okay! Better than the snow and 10 degrees F at home. We picked up some baggage today at Alon Junction in the persons of Todd Palmer and Brian Hoeck. They appeared to resemble barley inspectors. All aboard. We had a great time.

The Jordan Valley is the lushest I have seen in the 18 years of inspecting. That is following the thoughts before coming but certainly confirmed them as did our findings in our early fields at the confluence of the Jezreel and Jordan Valleys. What was interesting is the oats were so big and swollen they have choked out the barley except for a few patches. The recent rains had flattened the oats and the barley in many locations as we drove through. We did not exit the Jordan Valley without seeing our white storks. It was too early for thermals but they were content to stare at us, with a group skedaddling when we looked too long. We also observed some swifts in two locations having some fun and lots of swallows staking out their territory. Laughing doves were everywhere. We did see a pair of turtle doves near Bet Shaun.

On our way back we saw a lot of fig trees on route 65 and Route 6 as we drove along. We did see a lot of vineyards in their leafing out stages between Ramla and Route 3. Brian H and Todd accompanied us to the fields near Gaza today. Always nice to share the experiences with others.

Chanse has been watching the swifts and swallows outside of our residence. Bird life is exploding. Wonderful to see and listen to, with doves pairing up a cooing to attract one another. Todd and Brian mentioned often the noticeable difference in the fields they saw on Monday compared to today. That is the beauty of the Land, there is no spring or fall just winter and summer. When the switch flips it flips. Following are some of today's pictures, and yes many of you know we will not be looking for barley any longer this year. We have had what we need personally since Monday but look to assist others in their requirements.

Above you will notice this year's rookie sitting in the aviv barley so he does not forget what it looks like. Notice he is quite happy to do so. If you are not aware, this is more than an omer requirement. The key is, will he remember his lessons. This field is traditionally one of our early ones near Re'im Junction for those not familiar with it. The goats and sheep are kept away under penalty of death from the farmer. Because of that it is allowed to reach maturity.

There are many domestic fields changing color which by this time next week will be something to see. Following is the ruler of this year's domestic for those of you who use such. It consists of hundreds of acres but only some of its portions are seen in the picture

With this we will close out the barley portion of our inspections for the year. We hope we have provided each of you with the evidences you need to make your decision as to your faith requirements. We certainly have made ours. Thank you all for loving the Elohim and committing

yourselves to Them. Tomorrow we will be rushing up to the north and spend time with the birds. Then into Jerusalem to have lunch with a brother in the faith who immigrated here in the early 1980's. If I did not mention it earlier Linda is back at home cuddling our newest granddaughter Cora Elizabeth.

Brian and Chanse



On Wednesday March 6, 2019, I also got the following report from Becca Biderman



Yoel HaLevi reported again on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, Please do pay attention to what Yoel says the state of the barley will be in two weeks' time. This is very important for you to understand.

I just spoke with a search group who say they found Aviv. These are my thoughts on the information.

At the end I am very clear that I am still of the opinion that we do not have Aviv. I believe the data I was given, but there are several factors to think of. One of the main things is that we saw

anomalies like this, but when you take a whole field, and not a section, then it changes the percentage. In this case it is a section of a field that has Aviv mixed with non-Aviv, but the rest of the field is not. Under the rules we have gone by through the years we have to take the whole field into consideration. This will cause the patch to drop into a much smaller percentile, and make the situation not Aviv. This is different from Tel Gamma of 2018 where we had a large patch, but the rest of the Tel was also with many sections of Aviv. In this case it is a patch in a field which had less. I have to clarify that I am in good relations and standing with the other group, and this is an issue of how to interpret and define data and parameters.

I want to thank the other group for sharing and being kind and open with me. It is my wish to be friends with all who seek to keep Torah, even if we sometimes disagree.

Yoel also reported again about tel Gamma and again I want you to pay attention to what he says about the state of the barley in two weeks' time.



And finally, I have this report from Devorah Gordon on March 7, 2019.

Dear Friends,

As you know, every year around this time, I organize and lead an Aviv Search in the Land of Israel. The objective of our Aviv Search is to examine the state of volunteer naturally irrigated barley in the Land of Israel so those interested in following the Biblical Calendar are able to determine when to begin the new year.

I am pleased to report that we had another incredible Aviv Search this year! Before I share our findings, I want to praise Yehovah for the protection He provided us on our excursion and pray that we have used wise discernment on our search and that I am able to accurately convey what we saw in a manner which will be helpful to those who desire to follow the Biblical Calendar and keep the holy days in their appointed times.

We carried out our Aviv Search on March 6, 2019 and concentrated our search in the regions in Israel where the barley first ripens, namely the Jordan Valley and the Northern Negev. The barley in the Jordan Valley was extremely immature, either still in the boot or in the flowering or cotton stages. When we first started our search in the Northern Negev we were finding that there too the fields were in the flowering and cotton stages. However as we progressed more South, we found fields that contained a significant amount of barley in the worm and soft dough stages. We even found some patches of aviv barley. However, these aviv patches were clearly micro environments and by far not representative of the state of the barley in the fields they were found in. One of the places we found patches of aviv barley was growing on a slightly raised mound, which for whatever reason seems to have caused the barley to develop quicker. The other place we found patches of Aviv barley was on the West side of a Tel, which due to its position and direction was receiving a lot of direct sunlight. I want to reiterate that the little Aviv we found, were patches found in micro environments and by far not representative of the state of the barley in the fields they were found in, nor will it significantly affect the harvest yield if these patches are not harvested before their heads break.

Now, let me try and preempt a question which I expect to get, which is when do I think a significant amount of this year's barley crop will be Aviv. It is very hard to predict such a thing in general and particularly this month as the state of the barley is currently quite immature, and forecasts expect more cool weather and rain over the next couple of weeks in these areas.

In light of our findings, it was the unanimous consensus of the team that they personally will NOT be beginning the new year with the upcoming new moon. However, as this is a decision each person needs to make for themselves, I will once again include below the possible dates of the holidays of the 1st month for both March and April. Please keep track of when you decide to start the new year, so that you will know when to keep the holidays of the 7th month.

POTENTIAL CHAG HAMATZOT DATES

(FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD)

2019

Scenario #1

Aviv found at the end of the 12th month
New Moon sighted March 7, 2019

Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread)

1st Day: *sunset* March 21, 2019 - *sunset* March 22, 2019
7th Day: *sunset* March 27, 2019 - *sunset* March 28, 2019

Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks)

sunset May 11, 2019 - *sunset* May 12, 2019

Scenario #2

Aviv found at the end of the 12th month
New Moon sighted March 8, 2019

Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread)

1st Day: *sunset* March 22, 2019 - *sunset* March 23, 2019
7th Day: *sunset* March 28, 2019 - *sunset* March 29, 2019

Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks)

sunset May 11, 2019 - *sunset* May 12, 2019

Scenario #3

Aviv found at the end of the 13th month
New Moon sighted April 6, 2019

Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread)

1st Day: *sunset* April 20, 2019 - *sunset* April 21, 2019
7th Day: *sunset* April 26, 2019 - *sunset* April 27, 2019

Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks)

sunset June 8, 2019 - *sunset* June 9, 2019

The above holiday dates are based on the year beginning with the Month of the Aviv
and the sighting of the New Moon in the Land of Israel.

At the end of the 12th month our dedicated team will be inspecting the barley crop in the Land of Israel to determine
whether this year needs to be intercalated with a 13th month.

Please consider supporting our efforts at www.patreon.com/datetree.



DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

I wish to thank the members of this year's team for participating in the Aviv Search – Devorah Gordon, Jonathan Haber, Yochanan Zaquantov and Meir Rekhavi. I know we each made personal sacrifices to come from all over the country and participate in what was an extremely intense, yet enjoyable, Aviv Search and I want you to know how much your participation is appreciated and contributed to the success of this year's Search. A special shout-out to Jonathan Haber for not only being a participant, but for once again sharing his horticulture knowledge with us and for driving us across the country!

I also want to thank all of you who have supported our efforts to restore the Biblical Calendar, by being a Patreon of Devorah's Date Tree. Your contributions help immensely with our expenses throughout the year and particularly on the Aviv Search. I really can't thank you enough for your support.

I also want to thank all of you for your prayers for a safe journey and helping us get the word out on the importance of restoring the Biblical Calendar and letting people know they can count on **Devorah's Date Tree** for reliable first-hand New Moon and Aviv Reports.

It is my hope that you have found this Aviv Report to be helpful in deciding when to begin the new year. I will be leaving shortly to look for the moon and will be sending out the New Moon Report as soon as the sightings can be confirmed. If reliable first-hand New Moon and Aviv Reports from Israel are of value to you, please consider supporting our efforts.

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

The opinions expressed in the above report are my personal perceptions and interpretations and although I have no reason to think those who participated in the Aviv Search with me would disagree with anything I have stated, it should be noted that the above report may or may not represent their opinions.

She would then send out another post stating that the pictures of Aviv Barley are not barley. I will not post that comment. But share it so you know there are different views.

Other views to consider

Norman Willis of Nazarene Israel has sent the following out to his readership and I share it with you below. He also says many things that I do.

Aviv Barley Found: Waiting for New Moon Shalom,
Nazarenes.

Blessed be Yahweh, at least two Aviv barley teams have seen ample qualified barley for a wave sheaf, so the next new moon that is seen from the land of Israel will be Rosh Chodesh, the Head of the Year. While this may happen tomorrow (3/7) it seems more likely that it will be the day after (3/8). Details are below.

The two qualifying teams and their reports belong to Brian C. Hoeck and Becca Biderman. We are still waiting to hear from Brian Convery's team, but Brian Hoeck reported that they had met with

Brian Convery's team earlier, and they were all generally in agreement that the barley was Aviv. Based on that, we are declaring the barley to be Aviv for the coming year. Therefore, the next new moon that is seen from the land of Israel will be Rosh Chodesh, the Head of the Year. (Nazarene Israel will send out an email when the new moon of Rosh Chodesh is seen.) POSSIBLE ISSUES:

I pray it will not be so, but there *may* be some potential issues again this year, as some barley teams are using the Karaite rules for declaring the Aviv, which require that the wave sheaf be Aviv BEFORE the new moon is sighted, or they will not declare that new moon as the new moon of the Aviv (but will add another month to the calendar). There are several problems with this approach, which we will discuss below.

In brief, the barley does NOT need to be Aviv at the time the new moon is seen. The barley DOES need to be Aviv by the time the wave sheaf is offered. Experienced teams can determine this (and this year there is already enough Aviv barley to wave), but what this underscores is the need for one point of determination, to so that the nation celebrates together, and without confusion.

DISCUSSION:

In The Torah Calendar, in the chapter about The New Moon Days, we saw that in the first century, the new moon and the head of the year were declared when witness teams would sight the new moons (and / or the barley), and then report to the priesthood. The priesthood would question them, to verify their witnesses. Then the Levitical priesthood would make a single proclamation for the nation. This process of having the priesthood make the proclamation eliminated confusion, and was thus pleasing to Yahweh.

Right now there are three experienced barley teams in the land, which we know to be good teams from last year. These are: Brian C. Hoeck , Becca Biderman, and Brian Convery. These are all Messianic teams with no connection to Nazarene Israel. However, I have spoken with them, to inquire about their barley selection criteria, and their understanding seems good. Brian Hoeck's and Becca Biderman's teams both report ample barley for a wave sheaf. Brian Convery's team has not posted yet, but Brian Hoeck reported that he had spoken with Brian Convery earlier and that they were generally in agreement about the barley being Aviv.

Here are some URLs:

Brian Hoeck: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BiblicalCalendarForum/?ref=bookmarks>

Becca

Biderman: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HisAncientPath/permalink/980718612124521/>

Brian Convery (dates still need to be updated from 2018 at the time of this post):

<https://www.abibofgod.com/feast-dates-1>

DETAILED DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ISSUES:

While we love our Karaite brothers, in one of the nested discussions on Becca Biderman's page, it came out that some of the barley teams which follow the Karaite doctrines regarding the Aviv have decided to add another month to the year. (Among the teams mentioned were Yoel HaLevi, Michael Rood, and Nehemia Gordon.) The issue is that the Karaites believe the barley has to be solidly Aviv before the new moon is seen, or they say it does not qualify as the new moon of the Aviv. The problem with that is that the barley does not need to be Aviv that early. The barley only needs to be Aviv when the Wave Sheaf is offered. That is at least two full weeks later (on the first day of the week after the week in which the Passover takes place).

Barley ripens quickly, and must be harvested in its time (when it is ripe). If it is not harvested in its time, then the grain will fall from the head and be lost. This would be the case if we added another month to this year. This is explained in The Torah Calendar, in the chapter on The Wave Sheaf in the Sabbath Year.

Based on Brian Hoeck's and Becca Biderman's reports, I am declaring the Aviv for Nazarene Israel. Now we await the sighting of the first crescent sliver of the new moon, either tomorrow evening, or the evening after. Nazarene Israel will email the results of the sightings.

PROJECTED DATES:

Projected dates taken from brother Brian C. Hoeck, Truth on the Web.

The new moon of the Aviv barley may be seen the evening of March 7th, but it would be a marginal sighting, with low illumination. It seems more likely to be sighted the day after (March 8th). This would make Rosh Chodesh (the head of the year) either March 8th or March 9th, but probably March 9th, including the evening before.

If the new moon of the Aviv is sighted the evening of March 8th, then the Passover would be the afternoon of March 22. Passover is a closed festival, only for dedicated and physically circumcised families.

The First Day of Unleavened would be on 3/23 (including the evening before). It is a day of no work.

The Wave Sheaf would be offered on 3/24, starting the Omer Count.

The Last Day of Unleavened would be on 3/29 (including the evening before). It is a day of no work.

Shavuot / Pentecost would be on 5/12 (including the evening before). It is a day of no work.

Teruah / Trumpets would be on the evening of 9/1. It is a day of no work.

Kippur / Atonement would be on 9/10 (and the evening before). It is a day of no work.

1 Sukkot / 1 Tabernacles would be on 9/15 (and the evening before). It is a day of no work.

Shemini Atzeret / Assembly of the 8th would be on 9/22 (and the evening before). It is a day of no work.

Nazarene Israel will send another email when the first crescent sliver is either seen or not seen, tomorrow. Please find also below a two-page summary of the calendar, which explains why we

only need one wave sheaf for the nation. The article on the Wave Sheaf in the Sabbath Year explains why it should be the very first of the barley in the land.

May Yahweh bless and be with His people. In Yeshua's name, amen.

Michael Rood sent out the following report based on many of the same sources we have shared.

AVIV BARLEY UPDATE:

NONE FOUND — 13TH MONTH REQUIRED

The barley is NOT aviv! On March 5, 2019, A Rood Awakening! International received word that sufficient aviv barley was NOT found in the land of Israel — this means there will be an Adar Bet (13th month) added to the Astronomically and Agriculturally Corrected Biblical Hebrew Calendar.

Calendars will be sent to the printer once the first sliver of the new moon has been seen later this week, the official start of the 13th month.

Calendars will be shipped once printing is complete, after our Passover celebration, March 22-24.

Because a 13th month is required for the barley to ripen, the ACTUAL date of Passover during the biblical Month of the Aviv will be in mid-April 2019 (as reflected in our upcoming calendar).

PLEASE NOTE: our "Passover 2019" event in Charlotte will NOT be moved; it is still scheduled for March 22-24.

Michael Rood will release a video later this week to explain the impact of a 13th month (Adar Bet) on this year's calendar.

The New Crescent Moon Has it or has it not been Sighted

Brian C. Hoeck wrote from Har Adar about sighting the moon the following.

There was no chance of visibility of the moon here in Har Adar — thick haze covered the sky. I did not expect it to be visible to the naked eye here from Israel even in better conditions

Becca Biderman reported the following for the sighting of the moon.

No new moon was seen in Poriyah Ilit. There was a huge wall of clouds as far as the eye could see that moved in and blocked visibility.

The Holy Day Dates 2019

As of right now our dates that we have set on our site continue to look accurate. By the time I post this, they may have sighted the moon, but it is going to be hard and I have to post this. If there are any changes Friday, I will update the site. So check in there to know for sure. [Here is the link to the Feast Dates](#). You can always access them on the side of our home page anytime.

Devorah Gordon wrote as well to say she could not sight the moon.

Dear Friends,

At the time of this writing, I am not aware of any positive new moon sightings from Israel this evening. I will of course send out an update should any positive confirmations come in later.

As a lunar month cannot be more than 30 days, if no positive reports come in from tonight's observation, the month will begin tomorrow evening, March 8, 2019.

On behalf of all of us who rely on these reports, we wish to thank everyone in Israel who looked for the new moon this evening (despite the weather) and sent in their observations in a timely manner.

I also want to thank everyone for all their nice messages thanking us for the Aviv Report. Although we can't respond to all of your notes, we do read them and appreciate that you took the time to send them.

If reliable first-hand New Moon and Aviv Reports from Israel are of value to you, please consider supporting our efforts.

Chodesh Tov! Make it a great month!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

The Views of Sightedmoon.com

Well, Brethren we have warned you it would be another controversial year and it is turning out to be just that.

We have been teaching you all how to discern the reports and the barley and why we need barley. I have purposely not commented on most of the reports so that my views and opinions do not sway any of you. I do not want to be the leader of a bunch of sheep. It is my desire that I will have instructed and taught you enough that each of you can become the leaders that Yehovah is seeking to lead His government. Not to follow me.

I was very pleased to read some notes that said they have decided and this is what they decided and why. And they sought my views after the fact. This is great. But I said nothing until now.

We have asked one reader to do some research on forming a Bet Din. A great Assembly of respected Elders who could weigh in and decide such a matter as exactly this. Much like the 120 Great Assembly that we wrote to you about a couple of weeks back.

Each of you are being called to judge angels.

I Cor 6:3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life!
4So if you need to settle everyday matters, do you appoint as judges those of no standing in the church? I say this to your shame. Is there really no one among you wise enough to arbitrate between his brothers?

Are you Brethren not able to decide what is the conclusion of all of these reports? And yet you expect to be judging angels? And yet you expect to be a ruler of cities in the Kingdom?

There are a number of issues that have come up again this year as they did in 2016 when we had the split.

The first thing you must decide is why do we need barley?

Answer- We need barley to make the wave sheaf offering on the first day of the week during the days of Unleavened Bread.

Lev 23:9 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land that I give you and reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest, and he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, so that you may be accepted. On the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

Barley is the first fruits of the land. And it must be in a state that is described in Lev 2:4 for grain offerings.

Lev 2:4 “When you bring a grain offering baked in the oven as an offering, it shall be unleavened loaves of fine flour mixed with oil or unleavened wafers smeared with oil. And if your offering is a grain offering baked on a griddle, it shall be of fine flour unleavened, mixed with oil. You shall break it in pieces and pour oil on it; it is a grain offering. And if your offering is a grain offering cooked in a pan, it shall be made of fine flour with oil. And you shall bring the grain offering that is made of these things to the Lord, and when it is presented to the priest, he shall bring it to the altar.

The barley is baked on a griddle to remove any moisture that may be left in the grain. And then it is ground up and put through sieves. The barley must be in a state that it can be roasted on a griddle and made into flour for the wave offering.

You now know what state it must be in and when it must be presented. So why is everyone in such a tither to search for the barley by the end of the 12th month? Where does it say we must have barley by the end of the 12th month? IT DOES NOT SAY THAT!!! If it does then please do show me. This searching for the barley by the end of the 12th month is what my friend calls man-made creations.

When is the Barley cut and prepared for the wave offering?

Answer- after the sun has set to end the Sabbath during the days of Unleavened bread.

How do I know this? From two sources.

The first source is from my News Letter [The Wave Offering](#).

Quoting from the book: “The Temple – Its Ministry and Services” by Alfred Edersheim, page 204-205: “When the time for the cutting the sheaf had arrived,... just as the sun went down, three men, each with a sickle and basket, formally set to work. But in order clearly to bring out all that was distinctive in the ceremony, they first asked the bystanders three times each of these questions: ‘Has the sun gone down?’ ‘With this sickle?’ ‘Into this basket?’ ‘On this Sabbath?’ – and lastly, ‘Shall I reap?’ Having each time been answered in the affirmative, they cut down barley to the amount of one ephah, or ten omers, or three seahs, which is equal to about three pecks and three pints of our English measure. ... Though one ephah, or ten omers, of barley was cut down, only one omer of flour, ... was offered in the Temple.”

Most modern Bible translations use the word “sheaf”, however, the priests did not wave a sheaf. The word “sheaf” is translated from the Hebrew word “omer”, which means a measurement of about two quarts or two liters.

The second answer is again from another News Letter. Pentecosts Hidden Meaning. We know that in Matt 27:50 we are told

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.
And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

When the Tombs were raised was the same as when the Barley is marked off Friday afternoon in preparation for the harvest to take place after the weekly Sabbath. They came out of the tombs when Yehshua, the first of the first fruits came out of the grave. These people then were taken to Heaven and presented to Yehovah. This is what the wave offering is all about. So when were they raise up from the dead? After the Sabbath day was over.

When is the barley to be harvested?

We have already addressed how much barley is needed. This 10% of the field or 20% or 50% is again man-made fantasies. I remember Nehemiah saying to me when I was out there looking with him that if he enough for a handful then he would declare the barley Aviv. But again he was doing this before the end of the 12th month. So how much barley do you need? Enough to make up an Omer.

Now having read all the reports and looked at all the pictures and listened to the video of each person, they all agree the barley is in varying stages from flowering to dough and is in the early stages of going from dough to seed. And every single one of them has admitted to having found patches of AVIV BARLEY.

But those who use a man-made rule that the fields must be a certain percentage, then say there was not enough barley to declare it Aviv. They then go on to say that in two weeks’ time this whole area will be Aviv.

We are to offer the FIRST of the First Fruits. Not the seconds or thirds or the end of the first fruits. We are to offer to Yehovah the very first. This is why we read in the book of Ruth that they harvested the

barley for 7 weeks as it matured at various rates. Sometimes the same fields would have barley at various degrees of ripeness. So you would take what is ready and then come back later when the rest was ready.

Therefore based on the evidence that all of the searchers have provided and agreed to, the fact that in two weeks' time there will be ample barley for the wave offering it is my opinion that we are now about to begin the month of Aviv. The New moon was not sighted on Thursday evening, making Friday the 30th day and the 1st day of the 1st month will begin At Sunset Friday as the Sabbath begins.

In 2016 when this split took place at that time in much the same way this one has, many "Brethren" were very accusatorial and became workers of Satan attacking each other. It was for this reason that Nehemia stepped aside and let others take over and look for the new moon and the barley. And even today I see some of those who do these reports for us all stepping aside and no longer willing to suffer the accusations and insults and public ridicule that comes not from the Christians or heathen, but that comes from those who call themselves brethren.

What are you going to do when we have no one to do the searching for us? What are you going to do when you have no one to site the moon for us? These are people who have volunteered their time to report what they see for our benefit. Respect the work they have done. If your criteria are different than theirs or mine talk in love or talk to the hand and shut up.

Each of you must now decide based on your understanding of these facts when you will keep the Holy Days this year. If your brethren have another understanding they are still your brethren and you are to still love them.

New Monthly Calendar Available

Pauline Reardon has been working tirelessly on many projects here and one of them is a simple to use monthly calendar that you can fill in each month once you have sighted the new crescent moon. Have a look at it and print it off and put it on your fridge or wall so that you can keep track of Yehovah time. [Here is the Link](#)

The logo for 'sightedmoon' features the word 'sighted' in a lowercase sans-serif font, followed by 'moon' in a similar font. Above the 'm' in 'moon' are five white circles of varying sizes, arranged in a slight arc, representing the phases of the moon.

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The Perpetual Calendar of יהוה

**Where the Crescent Moon Begins The Month
And The Barley Begins The Year**

*Includes 13 Worksheets & Feast Day Scriptures
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7th Day of the First Month

Last year I shared with you a teaching about the 7th day of the first month and have done so since 2013 when I learned of it.

I want to emphasize this important teaching once again this year as we approach the 7th day of the First month, with the new crescent moon having been sighted in Israel.

18 So says the Lord Jehovah: In the first month, in the first of the month, you shall take a bull without blemish, a son of the herd, and cleanse the sanctuary. 19 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering and put it on the doorposts of the house, and on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the gateposts of the inner court. 20 And so you shall do on the seventh of the month for each man who goes astray, and for the simple. So you shall atone for the house. (Ezekiel 45:18-20)

It is just seven days after this event until Passover when the blood is again placed on the door of the house for protection.

We all have spouses, children, parents and family who do not and will not have anything to do with Torah. Yet it is now the Torah that has become *your* way of life.

Many times you wonder why they do not get it – why you are the only one. All these years and they still make fun of your Sabbaths and Holy Days.

Here in Ezekiel we are told to pray for our household on the 7th day of the first month. “Thus says Yehovah...”

Why? I do not know why – but He said to do this, so I am going to do this again this year and we will see what happens afterwards. We are often instructed to pray *and* obey. This time you are being told to obey *by* praying.

I **do** know that in the 7th month, on the 7th day of that month, is Shabbat Shuva- the “Sabbath of Return.” Is this a connection to that? I can only speculate, but look at the Scriptures you are to read on Shabbat Shuva (for the haf-Torah) and tell me this is not connected.

I also want you to notice what the bullocks are. We have explained this in our video teaching on Daniel 9:

Return, O Israel, unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast stumbled in thine iniquity. Take with you words, and return unto the LORD; say unto Him: ‘Forgive all iniquity, and accept that which is good; so will we render for bullocks the offering of our lips. (Hosea 14:1-2)

It is our prayers Yehovah is wanting; not the sacrifices of animals, ***but the sacrifices of our lips, symbolized by the bull itself.***

Therefore let us go forth to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach. 14 For here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By Him, then, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, *the* fruit of *our* lips, confessing His name. (Hebrew 13:13-15)

O Jehovah, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. 16 For You do not desire sacrifice; or else I would give *it*; You do not delight in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. (Psalm 51:15-17)

For I desired mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. (Hosea 6:6)

Look at what happened in Acts chapter 11 when they prayed:

12 And the Spirit told me to go with them, not discriminating. And these six brothers went with me, and we entered the man's house. 13 And he declared to us how he had seen an angel in his house, who stood and said to him, Send men to Joppa and call for Simon whose last name is Peter, 14 who will tell you words by which you and all your house shall be saved. 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, as on us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the Word of the Lord, how He said, John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit. 17 If God gave to them the same gift as to us, they having believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to be able to prevent God? (Acts 11:12-17)

Here we have Gentile believers receiving the Holy Spirit and *the whole household* was saved. Is this not what we all want for our families as well?

Yehovah has given us a specific date to meet Him; for us to plead for our families. Will you take Him up on this opportunity?

28 But Paul called out with a loud voice, saying, Do yourself no harm, for we are all here. 29 Then asking for a light he rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 And leading them outside, he said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved, and your household. 32 And they spoke the Word of the Lord to him, and to all who were in his household. 33 And taking them in that hour of the night, he washed from their stripes. And he was baptized, he and all his, immediately. 34 And bringing them up to the house, he set a table before them and rejoiced, believing in God with all his household. (Acts 16:28-34)

In both of these cases, it was just *one person* who believed and then the whole family was blessed. I have a hard time wrapping my mind around this. I cannot imagine having my whole family keeping this walk with me. How awesome would that be? I cry with joy if I think about it for too long.

If you are having trouble praying, here is one prayer that King David prayed that may help you get started:

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall rest under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of Jehovah, my refuge and my fortress; my God; in Him I will trust. 3 Surely He will deliver you from the fowler's trap and from the destroying plague. 4 He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall trust. His truth shall be your shield, and buckler. 5 You shall not fear the terror by night; nor because of the arrow that flies by day; 6 nor for the plague that walks in darkness, of the destruction laying waste at noonday. 7 A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; it shall not come near you. 8 Only with your eyes you shall look and see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because You, O Jehovah, are My refuge; if You have made the Most High Your dwelling-place, 10 no evil shall befall You, nor shall any plague come near Your dwelling. 11 For He shall give His angels charge over You, to keep You in all Your ways. 12 They shall bear You up in their hands, lest You dash your foot against a stone. 13 You shall tread on the lion and adder; the young lion and the jackal You shall trample underfoot. 14 Because He has set His love on Me, therefore I will deliver Him; I will set Him on high, because He has known My name. 15 He shall call on Me, and I will answer Him; I will be with Him in trouble; I will deliver Him, and honor Him. 16 With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation. (Psalm 91:1-16)

If you keep the Commandments and are striving to walk them out; If you keep the Weekly Sabbath, the Annual Holy Days and are going to keep the coming Sabbatical Year (all of which are part of the 4th commandment) and if you are walking in Torah – then you **are righteous. Even if you are not perfect.**

If you are doing this, then you are considered one of the righteous. And if you are one of the righteous, then Yehovah will hear your prayers.

Jehovah is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous. (Proverbs 15:29)

15 The eyes of Jehovah are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. 16 The face of Jehovah is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. 17 The righteous cry, and Jehovah hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. 18 Jehovah is near to the broken-hearted; and saves those who are of a contrite spirit. 19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but Jehovah delivers him out of them all. (Psalm 34:15-19)

16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will declare what He has done for my soul. 17 I cried to Him with my mouth, and exaltations were under my tongue. 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, Jehovah will not hear; 19 Surely God has heard; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed is God, who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me. (Psalm 66:17-19)

When we do not keep the Torah, when we will not keep the Sabbath Holy, nor the Holy Days, when we will not keep the Sabbatical Years... then Yehovah will not hear our prayers and it is those who will not repent that are hurt:

1 Behold, Jehovah's hand is not shortened so that it cannot save, nor is His ear heavy so that it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have come between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, from hearing. (Isaiah 59:1-2)

Do you remember the Lord's Prayer The Amidah we just studied? The prayer Yehshua offered to Our Father? In it, we confess our sins. This is what Solomon and Daniel did in their prayers. They confessed the sins of the nation and of themselves. It is *then* that Yehovah will turn and hear us where we are in our affliction and save us. Go, read these things and know He waits until *you* repent and then He answers.

11 Let him turn aside from evil and do good. Let him seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears open to their prayers. But the Lord's face is against those who do evil. (1 Peter 3:11-12)

We are de-leavening right now, all in preparation for the Days of Unleavened Bread. It is symbolic of putting sin out of our lives. Do not cover up your secret sins, nor walk past the obvious elephants in the room. Take care of them and address them and turn back to the truth and have your prayers heard.

He who covers his sins shall not be blessed; but whoever confesses and leaves them shall have mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)

Who can understand *his* errors? Oh make me pure from secret *faults*; 13 and keep Your servant back from presumptuous *sins*; do not let them rule over me; then I shall be upright, and I shall be innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Jehovah, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:12-14)

Yehovah listens to those who fear Him, who stand in awe of His greatness, goodness and power. Ask Him to expose your secret sins that you do not want anyone to know about and those which you try to hide from even yourself. Get rid of them the same way you are doing now with the leaven in your homes. Get rid of it and do not bring it back in.

16 Then those fearing Jehovah spoke together, each man to his neighbor. And Jehovah listened and heard. And a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who feared Jehovah, and for those esteeming His name. 17 And they shall be Mine, says Jehovah of Hosts, for the day that I will make up My treasure. And I will pity them as a man has pity on his son who serves him. 18 Then you shall again see the difference between the righteous and the wicked, between him who serves God, and him who does not serve Him. (Malachi 3:16-18)

16 Confess faults to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous one avails much. 17 Elijah was a man of like passion as we are. And he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for the time of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth caused its fruit to sprout. (James 5:16-18)

Our Bibles are full of examples of people who prayed, and Yehovah heard their prayers and answered them. Repent of your sins and your secret sins and return to the Truth. Let your name be found in the Book of Remembrance as one whose prayers were heard and answered.

Take the time this year, at the appointed time, to pray for your family on Aviv 7, 5855. That falls on March 14, 2019, this year.

A Bet Din for The Lost House of Israel

Just over a month ago I was talking to this man named Wilson and the subject came up of forming a Beit Din. Having seen this come before and how those who do this do so in order to be in control, I was not interested in being a part of it. But I suggested to Wilson that he write up how we could form one.

I have also spoken to Nehemia Gordon about this same subject and he too thinks it would be a good thing IF....

We need a council to approve of the crescent moon sightings. Last year there was a controversy at Yom Teruah. In 2016 there was a controversy about the Barley and when it had to be ready by. And that same controversy could take place again this year. We are in need of a group of elder that we all could respect and agree to follow their decisions. But being stiff-necked Israelites I understand just how hard that is going to be for us to obey.

With that background, this is the note I received from Wilson about this subject.

Shalom brother Joseph,

I just got done reading this week's newsletter and the following comments. It was informative, as usual, thank you. What really struck me was your response to David. Your willingness to reconsider your approach with him and apologize for being 'testy' only testifies to your humble heart.

I just finished reading chapter 10 in '2300 days..'. I think for someone who has a good grasp of the Scriptures and Hebrew Roots, they could read this one chapter to answer 80% of the end time questions. The rest of the book is great, but that chapter answered some very deep questions for me. I plan to have a few of my studied brothers and sisters read that chapter. I think it will cause them to want to read the rest of the book. I realize the book was written for someone who does not have an in-depth background into the end times from a Hebraic perspective; for that it is great. For some, 700 pages is a daunting task, so the one chapter, for those with nagging questions, is a great starter. In my opinion.

As far as the subject we talked about on the phone a few weeks ago, I wanted to give you an update. I have written quite a long paper on the subject of what it means to be 'Hebrew Roots' in the first week after we talked. After I got to a place where I felt I was close to done, I stopped writing and just thought about what I wrote and how it would be received. At the moment, I just don't have a peace about it in the current form. Part of my issue is me telling others how to form a fellowship properly, when I have been unable to do it myself. I believe the wisdom is there based on Scripture and all of my failures in fellowship over the years. So, for now, I am thinking, and praying on how to proceed with the article. When I get done, it may not be something you want to use, that is totally fine. It has been good for me to write some of my thoughts down, regardless of the outcome.

Sincere blessings to you! Wilson

If you have thoughts and views on this then please do post them at the end of this Newsletter in the comments area.

Awesome to See the Student become the Teacher

I am always thrilled to see people who search for the truth begin to share it. And I am very pleased to know I have had a part in this persons understanding. May Yehovah send many more labourers for the fields are indeed ripe.



If You Build It They Will Come

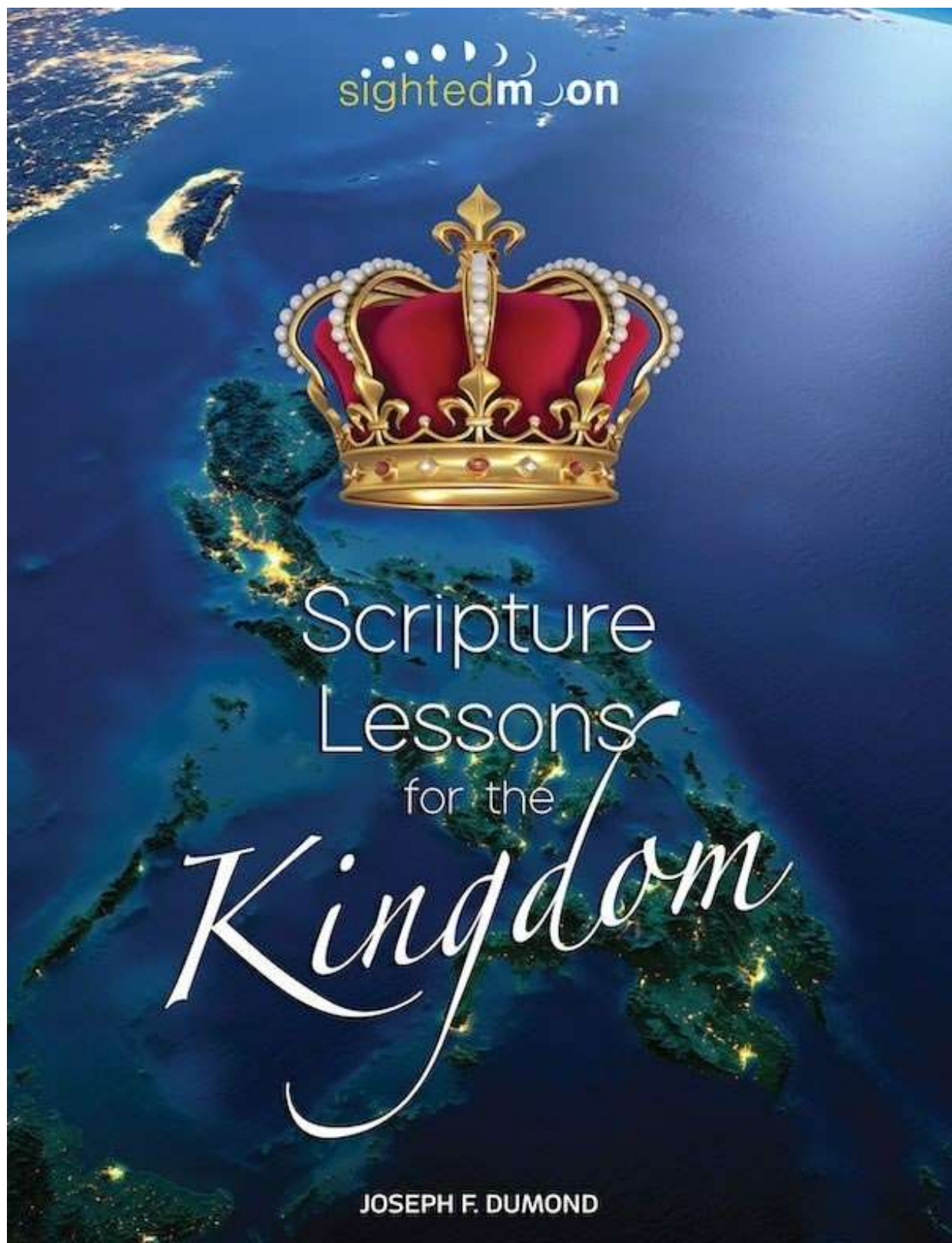
I have to tell you what is going on and show you how Yehovah is doing a work and how we get to be a part of it if we want to.

Since losing our ability to be on the radio a few years ago, I have not stopped wanting to return to the airwaves. But my lack of time to learn the trade has held me back, not to mention my lack of technology skills.

I have been growing my Messianic music collection though and add new artists and songs regularly to my itunes. January 2019 the urge came back once again and it was strong to get this radio thing going. James and I discussed it and we began to learn how we could do so.

At this same time, one of our Lesson teachers took the lessons and edited them all down to one or two-page teachings and put them in a book. He then let Pauline Benges design the cover and along with James they got the book ready for print at Lulu.com for a very low cost. A great deal of thanks goes to our mystery writer who wants to remain anonymous as well as Jan for her contributions and Pauline for the awesome cover and James for his help in setting this up at sightedmoon.com.

If you would like to have a copy and have it printed you can order it through our [store at this link](#). Yes, we are going to make a few dollars with each book you buy. And this money can then be used to help us further this work as I am about to explain. So please do order it and use it to help teach others these basic simple truths. Use it for your kids and grandchildren. Use it for yourself.



I chose this cover because of the target audience we are aiming this book at. Test marketing of this type of cover has brought us excellent results in the past years in the Philippines. We do ask for your prayers and support as we are about to launch a major campaign in the Philippines in co-ordination with Bro Aike who continues to do the work there along with others teachers who are joining with us.

While this book was going on I told James to go ahead and prepare a web site for Sightedmoon.com Radio. And he has been working on this. I have been studying the ins-and-outs of doing the radio show. My biggest problem is time or the lack of it. But I have found a way to do this. I have also recruited some speakers in the Philippines and UK and Canada to help co-host the show.

So all of this is going on in during January and February 2019. And my urge to get this radio program going is getting stronger and stronger. I am not able to stop thinking about it all day and all night.

In the 1989 movie "A Field of Dreams" an Iowa corn farmer played by Kevin Costner, hearing voices interprets them as a command to build a baseball diamond in his fields; he does, and the 1919 Chicago White Sox come.



So I looked at some of the radio messianic stations out there right now. Here are some I like.

<https://messianicradio.com/#/> <https://tunein.com/radio/Agapefm-s189998/>

What I can't stand are those stations that host conspiracy teachers or flat earth teachers or other teachings that are not found in the Torah and they have a regular platform from which to spread these things I do not agree with. Christian radio stations with the lies they put forward each day make me sick and the music they play is pathetic. I wanted one station with good music and good teachings and I have not found any, that I can listen to regularly on my phone or in my car. But I did like the two above.

I also loved the podcast I was getting from Celtic & Irish music podcast by Marc Gunn. <http://celticmusicpodcast.com/>

So it was in trying to combine those things I like with good teachings and to have them on a regular basis and not to have all those things I do not like and do not want to hear that this desire to create a radio station has come from. And as another tool to reach those groups and people who do not have time to sit and read or who are not able to read English, but who might like to listen as they drive or go to work. I then began to contact teachers and artists and began to get positive feedback and support and given permission to use their material.

I also wanted a tool I could use to reach the millions in the Philippines and in Africa and the rest of Asia and music kept coming up as one of the answers.

This is all background as to what is going on at sightedmoon.com while Yehovah is doing something else or maybe even the same things. You decide.

I found some people whom I thought were from Malaysia and I was trying to contact their leaders to share our message about the Jubilee years. They introduced me to many leaders and many others in a whatsapp group. This group was very actively talking about the bible and then I realized they were from India and not Malaysia. It was still a couple of days later that I learned they were not just from India but from the northeast of India as well as from Nepal and Myanmar. The old Burma area. I remembered that there was a group in this area that were from the World Wide Church of God group I used to be with.

In one of the chat rooms, there was a discussion of over 1200 people taking place in one day and I was asked to share my teaching there. I did and we talked about it before I got lost in the many translations. Then one young man took me aside and said how much he liked the teaching and that he understood it for the most part but would have to study more into it. Then a young lady came on and shared some video music and only then did understand who these people are. They are the ones the world are saying are the tribe of Manashi of the lost tribes.

And this whole group have their eyes on Israel and watching to see if the barley is ripe or not. How awesome is that?

I listened to her music and it was beautiful and although I did not know the words I did recognize some and was enchanted by the music. Through that link, I found others and other artists. One of them being the young man who just said he understood my message. He too has an amazing voice and many songs.

In our conversation, he shared the following and it struck a chord with me. Read what he says in his own words. This is taken from the middle of one of our talks.

I love to praise, preach for the glory of YHWH in my whole life time. But as we know most of the Messianic people are poor, illiterate/uneducated, minority among other people we live mostly in rural area where we earn our day to day livelihood.

I am sad to say for all these reasons it is a bit problem for us to compete with other civilized/developed religions, society which we always run behind them.

Like sharing, preaching by orally or by distributing printed valuable book to our brethrens brothers, sisters, elders, communication support becomes difficult among the messianic.

You know Uncle, now a day I am having a plan to produce my second step Album..

KUMSANG LENGGAM (MOUPUI GOLVAH-II) in our dialect.

And I have more than 40 songs to be recorded which is enough to be 4 Albums but since I always have a low budget I could not support myself to promote without sponsorship by anyone who encourage me, love and charity to help me.

I am a graduated man under Manipur University and now I am already 37 years old, eldest brothers among my siblings. I have 4 elder sister, 1 younger brother, NEOPI is my youngest sister.

After my graduation ignoring govt. job I am doing self-employ to earn my day to day wage to support my family that my brother help me too.

All my sisters have got married.

Besides that, because of religion issue in my home address/village we the messianic settlers are forcibly warrant to drove out from our home, the majority Christian in our village with the administrator warned us to migrate to another place..

With a lot of difficulties, having critical case and condition my family including 20 homes, families, relatives we transfer from our hometown to another rural land that my father hardly own it.(my father is the founder of messianic in my hometown among his fellowmen)

So, in the year 2017 i.e. 31st March, 2017 was the date line for us to vacate our home. From that onward we settle down here in our own small land, we feel solitude very much. We build our house, we re-grow our plant, we face many difficulties till today although 1 year have gone. Since it is a new village, we are not yet having synagogue but now we are planning to build a simple one until we could effort to have a better one.

By the grace of our loving Father YAHWEH we can manage our livelihood and becoming more ease day by day.. we pray let bless be with us till we die for Him.

Because of this unbearable condition in memorable and dedicated to my beloved fellow messianic I myself composed a song name as Aw Messianic thulhung that I sung in my dialect.

As I have passion and love to share songs among my fellow messianic I am trying my level best to bring up our messianic songs especially among the Christian songs.

(There are uncountable christen songs in our dialect- kuki, Hmar, Paite, vaiphei, Lushei, Mizo etc. But only few countable messianic songs)

For these reason too, I feel sad why all the truth way, words, even sacred songs becomes under other nations, not just other society but even among my poor society/dialect speaking...?

When I asked him to direct me to the leadership of their group he provided with names and an organized structure for various areas and districts and counties for what seemed like most of

northeastern India and Myanmar. I got what seems like the whole organization. I was stunned. Then about 30 seconds later I got the email from my good friend Stephen Spykerman whom I had given some books to, for a convention he was doing in Colorado and he was updating me on that convention.

Here is a video of these people keeping the Passover Feast in 2018 which was just released this Feb 28, 2019. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EictVyU9wM8&feature=youtu.be>

I believe the lady singing at the start of the video is the sister to the man who wrote the note to me above. You can skim through the rest of the video just so you can see and understand.

Now, before you read his email to me, from Stephen another short update. It was last winter in 2018 or maybe 2017, that I contacted one Margot Crossing about presenting the Sabbatical and Jubilee teaching along with the Daniel 9 teaching to the groups she was reaching in Myanmar. We exchanged a few emails before she stopped responding, to my disappointment.

Now with this background read what Stephen wrote me not knowing anything about what was going on with me and the directions I was being led into.

Got your stuff okay before I flew to Phoenix. I displayed your materials on our bookstand and they quickly vanished on the first day of the conference. Your poster for the 2300 Days of Hell book cover was displayed on the big screen as part of my talk, which greatly sobered many in the hall. The talk was titled; “one day soon they will recognize our authority!” The subject was based upon the Apostle Paul’s experiences on his way to Rome by ship to be heard by Caesar, as recorded in Acts 27. This is just how it is in our Western societies – they simply will not take any notice of us or our message until all appears to be totally lost.

There was one young lady ages 22 who took a particular interest in the fearsome title of your book. She had experienced an unhappy family background devoid of love and was ambitious to improve her future prospects, so much so that she had been put in charge of looking after the conference facilities of the Holiday Inn Hotel at Phoenix Airport. Her name was Amber and she expressed interests in what we were about, what is more, she wanted to buy your book! Out of fatherly concern, I counseled her against it, as for her very first entry into our faith I felt it would be too much for her, and I suggested some of our other books on display. In any case, I had your one book reserved for another person, one who might influence many others. In our first interval break, I saw Amber in the hallway and she told me that she had ordered your book from the Internet with the words: “I am a rebel you know!” I told her she was a naughty girl!

At the end of the conference she had purchased a number of my books, and having listened in to a number of presentations including mine, it seems she was ready to commit herself to go further. A porter and another member of the serving staff also seemed most interested, and they were all referred to local groups who were represented at that conference. All in all it was quite the most anointed conference I have ever attended. Virginia had described our conference as one where teachers would be taught, and this proved to be the case.

We heard a lot about the growing interest of Israelite communities in India, Malaysia, the Philippines, China and Indonesia. I mentioned of your success in the Philippines with the government passing a law that would compel employers to give time off to believers who wanted to observe the Biblical Holydays of Leviticus 23. Another amazing thing to me is that my, “Christians & Jews – The Two Faces of Israel” book is being translated into the Mizoram language of North-East India. The entire population of Mizoram consider themselves to be descended from Manasseh and they were converted by Welsh missionaries in the late 19th century. Truth is they converted one prominent family and the Mizoram people did the rest. Some Jewish rabbis have been there converting them to rabbinic Talmudic Judaism, and indeed some 12000 Mizoram people have been permitted to make Aliyah to Israel. Margot Crossing, a dear friend from Australia has been going there for the past ten years and she is busy reversing this trend by converting them back to embracing the Messiah of Israel with a powerful message from Ezekiel 37 in which she exhorts them with: “DON’T CHANGE STICKS!” A local professor from India stated that conservatively estimated there are some 500,000 million Israelites in India and at least the same number in China. For the first time, many of us realized the gigantic scope of the number our Hebrew relatives who are waking up to their ancestral heritage in Jacob all around the five continents of the world.

Many blessings from

Stephen J. Spykerman

I then told Stephen the above story and he wrote back with the following.

Wow! Wow! & Wow! I was just talking about you with Margot Crossing on the phone from Australia yesterday morning and she was asking me for help and advice for her people in Mizoram and also in Africa in the context of making those people agriculturally more independent. I told her about you and your teaching that the land was cursed because they had not rested the land on the seventh year etc., and how effective your teaching had been in the Philippines and Africa. She was completely open to what I was saying and she asked me to contact you and in fact is sending me several emails with details for me to pass on to you. I also talked with her about you at the conference, although not in detail, just saying you were a good friend doing great work in the Philippines and Africa – I mentioned how the Philippine government had changed their laws to allow believers the right to observe the High Holy Days of Yehovah mentioned in Leviticus 23. Well it seems she is open to you now and I can tell you she is a great and most wonderful person to work with, being Australian she is very down to earth.

I will let you know when I get her info and will pass it on straight away.

Richest blessings & Shalom,

Stephen

Brethren there are many things we can do to help them. One is to help them build a synagogue having been driven from their own lands in March of 2017. The other we are going to do is to get this radio station going and give them a louder voice and us too at sharing this message around the world. I am fully aware of the time we are in and how little time is left. I am asking you to get behind this

work and help us. Use the Amidah prayers we showed you two weeks ago to go before Yehovah and ask for His intervention and help in organizing this to a standard worthy of the calling to which we are called.

Deleavening Your Home

With this News Letter, you will now know whether or not the Barley is Aviv and going to be ready for Passover in two weeks' time. We will also begin to celebrate the 7 Days of Unleavened Bread. We read in;

Matt 24:45 "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season?"

Are you that faithful servant who is going to keep the Holy Days at the proper time? Are you that faithful servant who is going to feed the flock manna in due season?

So with the Passover season approaching and with many new people learning the Torah and wanting to keep the Holy Days, we shall begin now to teach on these.

Once again I am telling you to turn off Oprah and Dr. Phil and to start to read your bible. There is nothing on TV worth watching. Many of you are sharing this Newsletter and encouraging others to read it and to prove those things said here true or false. I do thank you. But in reality, it is those who have come here and learned the truth that are thanking you. You have saved their lives.

But once you have been turned on to the truth, do not just read what is written here. Search other sites and other groups and learn also from them, what is true and what is not true.

I keep telling you how little time is left and so I am trying to give you as much information as I can without you being overwhelmed. Turn off the TV and this will help.

On the very same day as Passover comes the first festival that begins to show us the plan of salvation that Yehovah has revealed to us to understand. After Yeshua is sacrificed as the Passover Lamb, and the penalty or debt for our sins paid for, or us being redeemed, how do we continue to avoid sin, since we must go on living in this newness of life? How do we live as Yehovah's redeemed people? When we consider just how great a price was paid for this redemption of us how can we return to sin again? We find the remarkable answer in the symbolism of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

When Yehovah freed Israel from slavery in Egypt, He told His people that for

"seven days you shall eat unleavened bread" (Exodus 12:15).

Verse 39 further explains:

"And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they had brought out of Egypt; for it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared provisions for themselves."

The leavening process, which makes bread rise, takes time. The Israelites had no time to spare when they left Egypt, so they baked and ate flatbread. What started out as a necessity continued for a

week. Yehovah appropriately named this time the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Leviticus 23:6), or Days of Unleavened Bread (Acts 12:3).

When Yehovah came to earth as a human, Yeh Shua (Yehovah Saves), He observed this seven-day festival sometimes called the Feast of Passover by the Jews because of the proximity of the Passover to the Days of Unleavened Bread. Passover is the meal that is eaten to begin the 7 Days Feast. Yehshua kept it as a child and later as an adult (Luke 2:41; Matthew 26:17). The early Church kept it as well. So are Christians not keeping this Feast also?

Yehovah gave His earliest instructions concerning this festival to the Israelites as they prepared to leave Egypt.

“This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come, you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD a lasting ordinance. For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast.

On the first day hold a sacred assembly, and another one on the seventh day. Do no work at all on these days, except to prepare food for everyone to eat—that is all you may do” (Exodus 12:14-16, New International Version).

This is where we get the expression of spring cleaning from De leavening our homes.

Each year as the Israelites observed this feast, it reminded them of Yehovah’s deliverance of their forefathers from Egypt. The Creator instructed,

“Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt” (verse 17, NIV).

The exodus from Egypt remains as a foundational reason for observing this feast today. Just as Yehovah delivered ancient Israel, He delivers us from our sins and difficulties.

Now notice Yehshua’s teaching about leaven, which expands the meaning of this feast.

During Yehshua’s ministry, He performed two miracles in which a few fish and loaves of bread fed thousands of people. After one of these incidents, when His disciples had gone around the Sea of Galilee, they forgot to bring bread with them. So Yehshua told them,

“Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.”

The disciples thought Yehshua was referring to their lack of bread. However, He was using the occasion to teach them by calling on the symbolism of leaven. Yehshua asked them,

“How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Then the disciples “understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees” (Matthew 16:5-12, NASB).

Some of the members of the religious establishment of Yehshua's day appeared to be righteous, yet they secretly practiced sinful behaviour. Yehshua let them know He knew their hearts. They may have appeared righteous to other people,

“but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness” (Matthew 23:28).

The Days of Unleavened Bread remind us that with Yehovah's help we must remove and avoid all types of sin symbolized by leaven, in all areas of our life.

Symbolically we do this by cleaning our homes and our places of business and our cars and removing any bread or bread products that contain leaven or yeast from them.

During the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the apostle Paul taught the same spiritual lessons as Yahshua, invoking the comparison of sin to leaven. In the context of reprimanding the Corinthian congregation for its divisions, jealousies, and tolerance of sexual misconduct, Paul wrote:

“Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Yehshua, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth” (1 Corinthians 5:6-8).

The church at Corinth was obviously and unmistakably keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread, to which Paul repeatedly alluded. However, Paul used the Corinthians' faithful obedience in keeping the feast physically (removing leaven from their homes) as a basis to encourage them to celebrate this feast with the proper understanding of its spiritual intent.

Today removing leaven from our homes for seven days reminds us that we, too, through prayer and Yehovah's help and understanding, must recognize, expel and avoid sin. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is thus a time of personal reflection. We should meditate on our attitudes and conduct and ask Yehovah to help us recognize and overcome our shortcomings.

The seven days represent the 7 Millennial Days. This is showing us that we should be removing sin, that is not keeping the commandments, not keeping the Holy Days and Sabbatical and Jubilee years and having other gods that we then serve, those things found in the Ten Commandments.

1 John 3:4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

Sin is the act of not keeping the commandments. Sin is not keeping the 4th commandment or any of the others. So we are to stop being lawless and to start to keep them.

Paul spoke of this much-needed self-reflection in 2 Corinthians 13:5 when he told the Corinthian church:

“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Yehshua the Messiah is in you? “unless indeed you are disqualified.”

Paul explained the significance of the phrase “Yehshua the Messiah is in you” in Galatians 2:20:

“I have been crucified with Yehshua; it is no longer I who live, but Yehshua lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of Yehovah, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

These seven days of self-examination prove invaluable in helping us to devote our lives to Yehovah. This week-long period also pictures our eventual triumph over sin. As Yehovah delivered the ancient Israelites from enslavement to Egypt, so He delivers us from our enslavement to sin (Romans 6:12-18).

We learn by doing. We learn spiritual lessons by doing physical things. Performing the task of deleavening our homes reminds us to vigilantly watch for sinful thoughts and actions so we can avoid them. Yehovah knows that, in spite of our good intentions, we all sin.

Many years after his conversion, Paul described the powerful human tendency to sin.

“I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of Yehovah according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank Yehovah-through Yehshua the Messiah! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of Yehovah, but with the flesh the law of sin” (Romans 7:21-25).

Paul knew life itself is a battle with sin. The Bible speaks of “the sin which so easily ensnares us” (Hebrews 12:1). We have our own part to play in struggling to overcome sin.

Yet, paradoxically, we must rely on Yehovah to help us. Paul explained this to the Philippians by telling them to

“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is Yehovah who works in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Philippians 2:12-13, King James Version).

Our observance of the Days of Unleavened Bread helps us realize our need for Yehovah’s help in overcoming our weaknesses. Yet this feast is certainly a time for rejoicing because Yehovah freely gives us the help we need. Yehshua, the Lamb of Yehovah, was sacrificed for the forgiveness of our sins, thus unleavening, or cleansing, our lives. He continues to help us live obediently through Yehovah’s Spirit dwelling in us.

Paul tells us in

Ro 2:13 (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified;

James tells us it is the doers of the law who will be justified.

Jas 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Let’s read what James also has to say about doing things.

James 2:14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your F6 works, and I will show you my faith by my F7 works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? F8 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." F9 And he was called the friend of God. 24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. 25 Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Some brethren do not believe we should keep the days of Unleavened bread. Some do but they say you do not have to remove the leaven from your homes.

The bible says we do have to keep this time, these Feasts, forever, and that you do have to remove the leaven, and that by doing so you are acting out your faith by your works.

I am sharing this message now with you so that you have time to begin to clean before the Days arrive. You will see as you move your frig and stove how the crud has piled up over time and how hard it is to remove. This is the same as sin sneaking into your lives and you not knowing it until one day it is exposed. Then you see how hard it is to remove or correct that sin. It is not easy.

You will learn by doing. Please consider doing the necessary work in cleaning your home so that you will be ready for the Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Always remember that as you move closer to Yehovah, He moves closer to you. When you stop so does He and he waits for you to make the next move.

The more you learn and practice the more that will be revealed to you. But if you do nothing you learn nothing.

So may your spring cleaning be bountiful in teaching you many lessons from the scriptures.