

But, how do I Keep a Sabbatical Year? This is so Confusing

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(Extracted from various newsletters)

The Shemitah Year

The Year of letting the land rest

The Sabbatical year that begins March 10, Aviv 2016 and goes to Aviv 2017

Shabbat Shalom to The Royal Family of Yehovah,

This article is an accumulation of various questions that arose for this time. I will add to this article as time allows. For the vast majority of questions you may have, please go to my Facebook site: [Remembering the Sabbatical Year of 2016](#)

QUESTION #1

In the emails about the Sabbatical year I was often sent the concerns that people felt they would die if they did not or could not eat fresh vegetables every day. Others wrote about how they were forced to take this or that prescription medication or else they too would die, and they also had to have fresh veggies or else the end would come. Most of these concerns come from those who have never obeyed Yehovah and kept the Sabbatical year and stocked up on food the year before.

Recently I was shown the following [article on eating greens](#) and found the one on spruce tips very interesting. This was something my mother told me about that her father used to do while walking in the woods.

As to your own medications, I am not a Doctor nor pretend to be one. But each and everyone one of must get off our meds as soon as possible. You all know the end time prophecies we have been sharing with you. You will not be able to get medications when you are fleeing or in a prison camp. And they will become ever more increasingly hard to come by if you are in a place that is safe. SO begin to take health action now and pray to Yehovah for guidance and help.

May Yehovah bless each and every one of you for keeping the Sabbatical year commandment and breaking the curses that are upon our nations because we have not kept them in the past.

QUESTION #2

Go in Peace

I received the following email a couple weeks ago and want to share it with all of you and then comment on it.

I have a question. I started my garden in the spring I didn't think about the Sabbath year. It is all planted and growing. I am new to this Sabbath days and years, but the 4th commandment says to keep it holy. Anyway, I believe what you are saying about the word of God. I brought this up at bible study they said go and join the 7-day ad. church. I need a little help because I believe the bible is the word of God. I miss the 1st month feast days I don't want to miss the fall feast days. Should I walk away from the garden this year? I thank God for your web site. Thanks Lynn Jones

What would you answer? I shared this with my team at sightedmoon.com and was given sound advice. I prayed about it and was led to a teaching from Nehemiah Gordon & Keith Johnson on Naaman.

Here is the story and then I will add my comments after.

2Ki 5:1And Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and exalted man with his master, because Jehovah had given deliverance to Syria by him. He was also a mighty man, *but* a leper. 2And the Syrians had gone out by companies⁵ and captured a little girl out of the land of Israel. And she waited on Naaman's wife. 3And she said to her mistress, I wish my lord *were* with the prophet in Samaria! For he would recover him from his leprosy. 4And *one* went in and told his lord, saying, This and this said the girl from the land of Israel. 5And the king of Syria said, Go, go in and I will send a letter to the king of Israel. And he departed and took with him ten talents of silver and six thousand of gold, and ten changes of clothing. 6And he came in *with* the letter to the king of Israel, saying, And now when this letter has come to you, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to you. And you shall recover him of his leprosy. 7And it happened when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, *Am* I God, to kill and to make alive, that this *man* sends to me to recover a man from his leprosy? For consider now, and see, for he is coiling himself toward me. 8And it happened when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, Why have you torn your clothes? Let him now come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel. 9And Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. 10And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall come to you, and you shall be clean. 11But Naaman was angry, and went away. And he said, Behold, I said within myself, He will surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of Jehovah his God, and strike his hand over the place and recover the leper. 12*Are* not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? And he turned and went away in a rage. 13And his servants came near and spoke to him and said, My father, *if* the prophet had told you *to do* a great thing, would you not have done *it*? How much rather then, when he says to you, Wash and be clean? 14And he went down and dipped seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God. And his flesh came again like the flesh of a little boy, and he was clean. 15And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company. And he came and stood before him. And he said, Behold, now I know that *there is* no God in all the earth, but in Israel. And now please take a blessing from your servant. 16But he said, *As* Jehovah lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it, but he refused. 17And Naaman said, Please shall there not then be given to your servant two mules' burden of earth? For your servant will from now on offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but to Jehovah. 18In this thing may Jehovah pardon your servant, that when my master goes to the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he is supported by my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon; when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, may Jehovah pardon your servant in this thing. 19And he said to him, Go in peace. And he went away from him a little way.

When I first learned about the Sabbaths in 1982 I was working 7 days a week as a Pipeline Foreman. I had as many as 50 men working under my authority. We had the crew split up into three sections with straw bosses looking after each group of men, the Right-of-way and digging crew, the pipe gang and welding crew, the lowering in crew, and then the backfill and cleanup crew. We used to go up and down four lanes of traffic in Quebec City and Trois Riviere digging

up the one lane, cutting jackhammering and then doing all of our work and paving it by the end of the day. We would do about 1,000 meters every day. That was my crew.

In Quebec City I had 5 crews, all of about 50 men, each doing this throughout the city and we all worked 7 days a week.

I was both a Foreman and then a Supt. And yet I was being called to keep this Sabbath rest on Saturdays. I tried to prove it wrong and could not. Even my Catholic Church said if I went by the bible that I would have to admit that the Saturday Sabbath is the Sabbath.

With all of this responsibility I had and trying to build a name and a career, I now had to wrestle with this Sabbath question and working on Saturdays.

I was praying and reading and learning lots of things I was never taught in church.

So, I decided to set up my crews and line them out with the day's work each Saturday morning and then once they were going I would sneak away and drive the 3-hour drive to Montreal to attend Sabbath service. The people were so nice and so generous, inviting me to stay with them and to eat with them after Sabbath. But then when I went back to work the next day I was greeted with a disaster. the first week they hit a major electric line, shutting down over half of Trois Riviere. The next Sabbath I sneaked away they hit a major trans Canada Bell Line and then the third week they hit a major water line. During the week nothing went wrong but, on the Sabbath, when I was supposed to be there, disasters struck. Why God? I am trying to obey.

My boss and the owner of the company came to me and asked me what was going on. I thought I was about to be fired. My career was about to be destroyed. I explained to them why I was going to Montreal each Saturday. I walked out of the meeting with my head low and about to pack up my things and return home. I was working out of town. Monday, they sent out a memo to all employees stating that this company would no longer be working on Saturdays. This upset many of the men who wanted the overtime and it stunned me as Yehovah had brought this about for my sake. I was happy and stunned at the same time.

Another story: A man has to plant rice in order to pay for his mortgage on his land or he will lose the land. It is the Sabbatical year and the man just learned about it. He plants the fields even though he knows he should not. His prior commitments force him to do so, even though he does not want to. Should we condemn this man for having a lack of faith? No, not at all. Then other men in the faith have stepped in and offered to pay the mortgage so that he can keep the Shemitah year.

Other people use the name of Jesus and God when they first come into this walk. Should we jump right on them and tell them not to say it but instead to say Yehshua or Yehovah? No. Absolutely not.

Let us get back to Naaman.

Naaman became a believer in Yehovah after he was healed and wanted to obey Him. But he says in

17And Naaman said, Please shall there not then be given to your servant two mules' burden of earth? For your servant will from now on offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but to Jehovah. 18In this thing may Jehovah pardon your servant, that when my master goes to the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he is supported by my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon; when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, may Jehovah pardon your servant in this thing.

As the Commander for the Syrian King Naaman had to hold the hand of King as he bowed in the Temple of Rimmon. If he did not bow along with the King, it could mean his life would be killed. Naaman no longer believed in Rimmon as we have just read but was trapped in a situation he did not know how to get out of. Much like I was. Much like many of you are when you are called. You had no idea you were sinning when you first learned about the Sabbath and Holy Days.

But Yehovah is the one calling you and just as He did with me – He provided a door of escape for me and He will do the same for you.

What was Elisha's response? Did he condemn Naaman for worshipping idols like many of you do to others who are still learning, like I was when I first started?

19And he said to him, Go in peace.

All of us are on a learning curve. Some are just starting, and others are well along on the curve. Many have forgotten how they once were when they first began.

To Lynn Jones I say share your garden with others. Eat some of it for yourselves. Do not put any away for the winter. And continue to study Yehovah's word. Go in Peace.

What did the Apostles say in Acts?

Act 15:6And the apostles and elders were assembled to see about this matter. 7And after much disputing, Peter rose up and said to them, Men, brothers, you recognize that from ancient days God chose among us *that* through my mouth the nations *should* hear the Word of the gospel, and believe. 8And God, who knows the hearts, bore them witness, giving them the Holy Spirit even as to us. 9And He put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. 10Now therefore why do you tempt God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples, a yoke which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11But we believe that through the grace of *the* Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, according to which manner they also *believed*. 12And all the multitude kept silent and listened to Barnabas and Paul declaring what miracles and wonders God had worked among the nations through them. 13And after they were silent, James answered, saying, Men, brothers, listen to me. 14Even as Simon has declared *how* God *at* the first visited the nations to take out of them a people for His name. 15And the words of the Prophets agree to this; as

it is written, 16“After this I will return and will build again the tabernacle of David *which* has fallen down; and I will build again its ruins, and I will set it up, 17so those men who are left might seek after the Lord, and all the nations on whom My name has been called, says the Lord, who does all these things.” 18All His works are known to God from eternity. 19Therefore my judgment is that we do not trouble those who have turned to God from among the nations, 20but that we write to them that they should abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and from blood. 21For Moses from ages past has those in every city proclaiming him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.

These new people would continue to learn and grow each week as they went to where Moses was taught. You do not have to perfect them all in one sitting. Let them have time to grow and digest and think. Yehovah called them, not you. Let Him work with them. Show them mercy as you were shown mercy. Plant your seed and let it grow.

Now go in Peace

QUESTION #3

I was asked about eating grapes during the Sabbatical year. I said you cannot eat grapes because the vines are untended. Others said you could eat the fruit of the land that year.

Let's take a look at this for a moment.

Lev 25:4But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest to the land, a sabbath for Jehovah. You shall neither sow your field, nor prune your vineyard.

Notice the very next verse.

Lev 25:5You shall not reap that which grows of its own accord of your harvest, neither gather the grapes of your undressed vine. It is a year of rest to the land.

It is when we examine this word 'undressed' that we get some meaning as to whether or not we should eat the grapes during the Sabbatical year.

H5139 na'z??yrna'zir naw-zeer',naw-zeer'

From H5144; *separate*, that is, consecrated (as *prince*, a *Nazirite*); hence (figuratively from the latter) an *unpruned* vine (like an unshorn Nazirite). (The translation, *Nazarite*, is by a false alliteration with Nazareth.): – Nazarite [by a false alliteration with Nazareth], separate (-d), vine undressed.

H5144 na'zar naw-zar'

A primitive root; to *holdaloof*, that is, (intransitively) *abstain* (from food and drink, from impurity, and even from divine worship (that is, *apostatize*)); specifically to *setapart* (to sacred purposes), that is, *devote*: – consecrate, separate (-ing, self).

A Nazarite vow is one in which the person cannot touch anything comes from the grape.

Num 6:1And Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying, 2Speak to the sons of Israel, and say to them, When a man or a woman shall vow a vow, a vow of a Nazarite, to be separated to Jehovah, 3he shall separate from wine and strong drink and shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink; neither shall he drink any liquor of grapes, nor eat moist grapes or dried. 4All the days of his Nazariteship he shall eat nothing that is made of the grapevine, from grape seeds even to a stem. 5All the days of his vow to separate, no razor shall come upon his head. Until all the days are fulfilled in which he separates to Jehovah, he shall be holy. He shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow.

Like a Nazarite who does not shave or cut his hair, the grape vine is allowed to run wild and shagged. It is not to be cut. And like a Nazarite who cannot touch the grape, it is my position that we are not to touch the grape during the Sabbatical year.

But some are saying this next verse is the one that says they can eat the grapes during the Shemitah year.

Lev 25:6And the sabbath of the land shall be food for you, for you and for your servant, and for your slave woman and for your hired servant, and for your stranger who stays with you,

You who are to judge angels must now decide what you will do. Work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

We did receive the follow views about the grapes. I share it and will let you think on it.

Joseph

You asked me about the Nazarene vow aspect of the word for Undressed vine. Well, in Leviticus 25:5 in Hebrew the main verb associated with the word “grapes” is “to gather”, then you have the aleph tav which is an object marker pointing to the word “grapes”. The word “nazir” is an adjective describing the “grapes”. This verse is not telling us to “nazir” the vine. If it was used as a verb, then you would be correct in what you say. But it is merely used as an adjective to describe untended vines (they look like Nazirites who have not trimmed their hair – it is a picture or figure of speech), not the action we are to take. The action is found in the verb “to gather”, which emphasizes the command not to gather in large quantities to process.

Also, this would then be a contradiction of the next verse (v.6) to eat “the produce of the land”. We can eat a bunch of grapes off of the undressed vine or pick some grape leaves to make dolma for dinner; we just can’t harvest them to store up. Also if the grape products were “nazir” during the

shmittah year, then all the wine, juice, raisins, and other products of the vine that they had stored up from the last year would also be off limits.

These are just a few of my thoughts on the verse. I am no expert and am open to correction. I am just a humble student of Yah's Word.

Blessings

Marisa

QUESTION #4

Mr. Dumond,

Thank you for the teachings on the shemitah year. We have a Torah study group here in Ca. that has decided to not buy during the shemitah year. We have a question though. Can you plant onions and garlic in Oct/Nov 2015 and eat them when they grow in the spring/summer 2016? Is this a violation of letting the land rest or would this be considered grown of itself?

Thank you for you input and time.

Blessings, Curt

Shalom Curt and to your Group, Yehovah bless each of you as you obey His commandments. Awesome.

It says not to plant and not to harvest DURING the Sabbatical year. Whatever is sown before, if it comes up then, yes you can pick what you need. You cannot harvest it all and store it for winter. The animals can also take what they want. Your neighbours can also come and take what they want.

So I have spread my seeds this fall and onions and we will see what comes up next year. I have removed the fence so the animals can get in.

Just so everyone understands you cannot harvest it. You can take what you need for the day or the week. But to take and pull all the onions and store them would be considered harvesting and this we cannot do.

Again Yehovah bless you and your group for obeying His words.

