

It is the Ripe Barley and New Crescent Sighted Moon that determines the New Year and nothing else.

 sightedmoon.com/it-is-the-ripe-barley-and-new-crescent-sighted-moon-that-determines-the-new-year-and-nothing-else/

By Joseph F. Dumond

News Letter 5847-049

2nd day of the 12th month 5847 years after the creation of Adam

The 12th Month in the Second year of the third Sabbatical Cycle

The Third Sabbatical Cycle of the 119th Jubilee Cycle

The Sabbatical Cycle of Earthquakes Famines, and Pestilences.

February 25, 2012

Shabbat Shalom Brethren,

The New Moon was sighted from Israel.

Here is the report.

Karaite Korner Newsletter #545

New Moon Report

February 2012

Twelfth Biblical Month

On Thursday February 23, 2012 the new moon was sighted from Jerusalem. The moon was first sighted by David Cachicas as 5:31pm followed by Nehemia Gordon (5:33), Devorah Gordon (5:36), Yoel Halevi (5:42), and Willie Ondricek.

My photos of this month's new moon over Jerusalem are posted at:

<http://www.facebook.com/NehemiaGordon>

Rosh Chodesh Sameach!

Happy New Moon!

Nehemia Gordon

Jerusalem, Israel

This Sunday Feb 26, 2012 and Sunday March 3 and Sunday March 10 I will be teaching in

Sarnia Ontario at **<http://honeyandlocust.com/>**

Honey & Locust Internet Cafe and Specialty Book Store

180 Front Street North

Sarnia Ontario

Canada N7T 5S3

519-491-2588

We will be explaining the teachings I have been doing in the USA and Israel over the next three weeks between 10 AM-12 and then from 1-4PM Each Sunday. What has taken me 9 hours to present can now be expanded of 15 hours and give you more time to digest it all. Just

read the comments from Ocala and consider what you're missing out on. So if you're in Michigan then come on over. Sarnia is just on the other side of the Bridge at Port Huron.

Last week I posted an article trying to show how the curses were spread out over the previous seven years.

I had some that agreed and found it very interesting and I also had a number of you write in and share a similar comment to this one;

Question regarding the plaques of Mitzrayim happening over a Sabbatical. How are we to reconcile it with Acts 7:23 – 31 where we are told when Moses was 40 years old he went out among his brothers and he slew the Mitzri and left and then in verse 30 it says after 40 years had expired that the Malach YHWH appeared to him and then there is the 40 years in the wilderness which was after they left Mitzrayim? I tend to believe that the plaques happened within a year, but there is no real way to prove that either. But I believe they may have started around Pesach of the year before coming out and then kept coming in with the others. If it said Moses was about 40 years old then there could be up to 2 years of leeway and same if it was about 40 years when the Malach YHWH appeared unto him. So was it truly a Sabbatical that the 10 plagues were brought in or was it within a year?

How do I respond to this? At this time I have to admit that those showing me that Moses was 80 when he came back could have it right and I could be wrong; that the plaques all took place in one year. But I must do some more searching and I have not had time to do so. I hope to come back to this with more information at a later date. For now, I must concede to those who support the plaques in one year. There are however some cracks in the Moses 40, 40, 40 equaling 120 years in total. But for now I will concede the point.

Two weeks ago I wrote an article about Lashon Hara. It has had a number of responses but the two I liked the most are here.

Dear brother,

Very useful and encouraging teaching about lashon hara.

We grieved over those spreading hate and divisive words among the brothers, even long before it started to affect us personally.

We must remember always that we must love the redeemed, and that every word we utter will be accounted for. Love from all of the staff, and Shabbath shalom, brother Lew (Lew White)

Torah Institute

POB 436044, Louisville, KY 40253

Mr. Dumond,

Sir your letter this week hit me right between the eyes, I've made too many of the mistakes you pointed out, I had to go to The Father repenting and asking for forgiveness three times and sent an email apology to someone before I could even finish reading the newsletter.

Thank you so much for bringing this to my attention, I'm feeling very remorseful right now for things I've said about others, I'm printing this off to carry in my pocket to keep it ever in front of me until I see that I've turned from the error of my ways. Thank you again, you may well have

just saved my life. Your efforts and newsletter are helping and changing people, I'm living proof. May our Father Bless You and Keep You.

I did have some people write to others and to me about the meeting in Ocala two weeks ago. Let me tell you they put on a display of food that compared to the Cruise ships. There was a lot of food. We also had dance worship that was beautiful and about 50 Brethren from all over and one from Atlanta Georgia and others from Newfoundland. The hosts Ken and Jan Gordon did an exceptional job in both the technical side with the sound system and the hall preparations. I did not have to worry about anything and the people who came, came to learn and 9 hours later they all left full.

Here is a web site where you can look at the pictures from the meeting.

[http://hebrew-roots in-the-forest.webs.com/visitors.htm](http://hebrew-roots-in-the-forest.webs.com/visitors.htm)

I do have some bad news though. We had two cameras recording this meeting. Both had great videos recorded but both had no audio. And Ken did not do an audio recording because of the set up with two cameras. We had a poor audio from Texas, and then we improved and enhanced the third teaching for Kentucky and never got to finish it. I redid the third teaching again for Ocala and I feel it was the best teaching so far on the subjects I cover. So much more depth since I first gave it in Israel and then in Ontario. But we do not have one recording of it as yet.

I now have a page where we have some of the video recordings up for those of you who want to listen and watch. You can go to the web site here and then connect to the video.

https://sightedmoon.com/sightedmoon_2015/?page_id=771

Here are some of the comments.

Please don't tell me you've hit the snooze!

Recently I wrote a short article entitled: "You never know you've been asleep till you wake up." In it we discussed the differences between seeing Scripture in the pieces man divides them up into vs. in their entirety and contextual meaning. Many of us are starting to see now the relevance of the Sabbath and Jubilee Cycles in addition to ALL of Torah. We have had our alarm clock go off regarding the importance of these cycles to Yahovah's Covenant People thru the book The Prophecies of Abraham. Now, just to keep on top of things, I am checking back in to make sure none of you have hit the "snooze button" and thus, fallen back into your slumber.

IF you have, I have a suggestion- organize a small group of people in your area and invite Joseph Dumond to come and guide you in your knowledge of the Sabbath and Jubilee Cycles. Recently here in Florida we had some sweet folks that hosted one of these meetings and if you've read the book- terrific. If you have read the book but not heard the teaching in its entirety, I would suggest doing so. There is so much more than anyone can possibly include in one volume in this teaching. Not only that but since it was printed a few years ago, as we all know, our world is rapidly changing. Daily it seems. He will bring you up to date on current

events that you are unlikely to get from any of the “Faux News Channels” available to you. Applying all this to the Scriptures will, if you HAVE hit the snooze, wake you up for certain. If you are uncertain of what these Sabbath and Jubilee Cycles mean to YOU as one of His Chosen then I strongly suggest going to one of these meetings. Expect to be overwhelmed by all of the pertinent information you will hear- and then begin NOW applying it to your life.

Snooze time is over. It's really, really time to wake up and see what is happening all around us. AND what we can begin doing now to prepare for the soon-coming changes that Joseph explains in this teaching. Very in-depth!

Thank you, so much, Joseph Dumond for coming to Central Florida! The music that went off when the alarm clock first sounded for me was very ominous. I think it is your tune from “Pop Goes The Weasel” that is on the short video presentation you do. Not your childhood toy by any means. Thank you for your time and your generosity. Thank you for giving so much towards the Kingdom. You have impacted so many lives here in our area now. Especially mine. May the word spread quickly amongst your hearers from this area. Blessings from Central Florida!

Shalom,
Judith Dennis

Dear Brother Dumond,
WOW! What a day. I am still trying to wrap my mind around everything that was brought forth from your teaching. There was so much! And there was something for everyone that was there! Amazing. For myself, the two things that are the most prominent in my mind at the moment are the reference in Daniel to Messiah the Prince being King David, and Jacob's marriage to a “deception” after waiting and working for 7 years, being a foreshadow of times to come. Wow.

My adult daughter got something totally different. She said she had been wanting to know about her understanding the thoughts of others around her before they speak. She had been wondered if they were words to her, and if so did it place them in authority over her. (As her mom I cringed when she was telling me this.) However, I am relieved she heard that “they are just frequencies” and NOT a message to her and they are NOT the Holy Spirit! Gee! I don't even remember that part of the presentation! But I am glad Yah used you to give her that message!

Though I had invited others to come, and they had given their word to do so, there were many like me that had folks that backed out at the last minute. But YHWH had who He wanted there. My daughter called someone at 6:05 am, invited him for coffee, then invited the gentleman to come hear you. Without hesitation he said, “Yes” and they were both at my house at 8:00 am and they live 1 & 1/2 hours away! Then they came another 1 & 1/2 hours from my house to the conference. After the conference he thanked my daughter and myself many times for inviting him. He grew up as an Irish Catholic then had married a Jew and attended synagogue for

many years. He said he had never been to anything like it...ever. But he was going to research all he had heard. Yeah!

Thank you so much for your time, and your passion, and your love for us all. May YHWH bless you and keep you now and in the times to come!

Sincerely,
Yolanda

Joseph, it was such a pleasure to have met you in person last night. You are so full of wisdom. Yahweh has His hands upon you that is so clear to see. My husband and I look forward to more times in fellowship with you. We were the ones who sat in front next to Judith and her dear husband. Todah rabah for putting on such a wonderful conference that even I could understand! Yah love you my achi! We certainly do. Patty Anne Politowicz

Guys, it was an awesome meeting- even after a 2-hour drive home my head still feels like it's going to implode with information over-load... (It's amazing- it's like I've been asleep and just woke up!) lol It certainly did make for interesting conversation on the trip home as well from hubby- the former PoA cameraman- He had a lot of questions and was definitely challenged to apply this now. Much better than getting read the riot act all the way home like I thought might happen!!! =:/ It would be so great to do a week-long session of learning but I know Joseph that your heart is to be *home* for Sukkot. We'll let Yah work that one out... still hopeful though that we could all do one together... The 10-hour teaching is just a weeeee bit more intense than the DVD so I challenge you all to GO IF YOU CAN to hear this teaching- even if it means a long drive! We are blessed to be given the opportunity to learn this and to do so with such a great teacher- thanks, Joseph. You have blessed us!

Hebrew Roots in the Forest

Ken & Jan Gordon

Hello Mr. Dumond

We wanted to take a little time to thank you for coming to share all your research on the subjects of The Prophecies of Abraham, The Jubilee Years and the Laws of Niddah. It was a very enlightening day and we thank you for all the materials you had available that we can use to continue looking into these most important messages of this age !! We received very positive feedback about the conference and they want to know when we can get you to come again !! Per our phone conversation, we knew it was going to be a long day and it would also be a Shabbat Day. So we planned for an abbreviated Shabbat service and also many breaks during the day with water and snacks available so the people could be refreshed throughout the day. The food offerings were outstanding and we have thanked them repeatedly. We had sent out emails before your arrival explaining all that you wanted to share with us and it would be a long day. We tried our best to make this event as successful as possible. Please stay in touch with us and we will keep you updated on happenings here in Florida Blessings, Ken & Jan Gordon, Silver Springs, FL

We also want to share some of the comments that came in by email:

The conference was wonderful, quite the load of understanding with much to study and much motivation to act on what YHVH places in front of us. As always YHVH knows what we need most, a 2 x 4 as Joseph said!

Love you lots and thank you for all of your efforts, it was just what we needed.

Diana Gordon of Deland, FL

This conference don't leave my mind and I can very well see the strong tie between what Diana and I began to do in our congregation, to bring awareness to our brothers and sisters there of what's coming. So YHVH, through this conference, gave us a 'ton' of information to share. You sent me the 3 PDF files of which I am going to share with those that are interested in receiving them.

{Adeenah} Nilda Tsounis of Deland, FL

We had a wonderful time at the meeting and it was our pleasure to help out with what we could! Sure wish we lived a lot closer- I could "Feast" like that every Shabbat and LOVE it!!! Looking forward to getting together with you all again sometime in the future when maybe we can coax Joseph back to the Sunshine State to speak!!! I think I could listen to that quite frequently- just to let it all sink in!! There is so much info we need to know!! Thank you all for your hard work in putting this together! You have blessed us!! Judith & Martin Dennis

I want to take the time to thank you for presenting such a wonderful time for my husband and I. The facility was wonderful place for such an event and Joseph, the guest speaker was such an inspiration to us. Thank you for the opportunity by sharing this place and your time for such a great time of learning! In His Service

Mark & Patty Politowicz

I was asked by email from the wife of a Rabbi of Ariel Congregation in Orange City, FL : "How did your conference work out?" and this was my message to her. You can use any of it. Jan

Hello Mrs. Falk

Our guest speaker was Joseph Dumond from Canada and his basic message was "prepare, prepare, prepare" for war is coming to our homeland and millions will die.

The unrest in the Islamic realm is not happenstance but orchestrated and will culminate into a massive struggle for ruler ship of the whole world. That has always been their agenda ever since their Caliphate was conquered in the past. They are waiting for their final imam to appear and rumors are adrift now that he is already here but waiting his opportunity to rule. Europe already has Sharia Law in some areas and it is also being used in Canada. There have been attempts here in America to get it in our courts and you may even remember the incident right here in Florida not long ago.

It is just a matter of a short time period and it will happen as America is "asleep at the wheel" and it will be a quick victory for the Muslim world and America will be almost removed from the earth with nuclear war... unless there is repentance ... but She keeps moving away from even a slight hint that She would even repent as corruption and evil are expanding at a rapid rate.

Be careful what you ask for ! ha ha So you asked me how the conference went and that was the thrust of his message and I wanted to share it because of its massive importance to America and to the believers in America who need to prepare both physically and spiritually for what is coming.

Love & blessings to all of your Ariel Congregation Jan

To all of you, and to those who have already heard my presentation; I am more than willing to come and share this with each and every group out there. I do need your help in being able to afford the traveling and the time off of work. But in the mean time you now have the videos posted above. And in a little while we will make a DVD with the final message that has not been recorded as yet so that you all can study this on your time spread over a number of weeks. And then you can review it a number of times and search these things out as group bible studies. So your prayers in this are needed.

I also again want to thank everyone in Florida for their help in making this an exceptional meeting. Thank you all.

Brethren in the DVD which I did in March of 2008 I warned you all of the coming famine and pestilence and earthquakes. Many laughed at me at this time. No one wanted to believe this stuff and even I myself was unsure. I am not unsure any more though. The more I learn the more information I am given.

One of the things I had said was that famine was coming to the USA. Since then food prices have gone up and up until many can't afford groceries anymore. I explained this by telling you of the coming crash and you now know that the economic crash did come. But the famine is not so visible.

I was sent the following ½ hour documentary done in the USA. Please stop everything you're doing and sit down and watch this video.

<http://theeconomiccollapseblog.com/?s=americans+are+doing++just+to+survive>

Once you have watched this video you can double check what I said starting at the following YouTube # 8 and then go to the 9th and 10th YouTube.

https://sightedmoon.com/sightedmoon_2015/?page_id=251

And as you do think about the young girl in the video above. This could be your daughter or granddaughter. This little girl in pink from Detroit in the video above lives just one hour from my Granddaughter and three hours from me.

The Famine is already here in the USA. Watch this video.

Brethren I need your help. You can see the videos of the presentations we are teaching; you can see that those things I am saying are coming to pass; but we need to teach more groups and do it more often so they have time to learn.

You can help in gifts to help pay the cost associated with the travels. You can help me to do this full time. You can let others know or invite me to speak to your group. But I need you all to pray about this and as you do think about the little girl in the video you just watched as she eats her next meal of rats. Please consider supporting me in this effort. As there is no one else teaching the brethren about the Sabbatical and Jubilee years as far as I know.

Also in the news this past week have been the following headline news.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/countryside/9089030/Only-the-heavens-can-prevent-adreadful-drought-in-England.html>

Only the heavens can prevent a dreadful drought in England

Last summer's rains only provided brief relief – Britain is now facing the biggest water crisis since 1976.

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2012/02/11/1991009/mystery-disease-killsthousands.html>

A mysterious epidemic is devastating the Pacific coast of Central America, killing more than 24,000 people in El Salvador and Nicaragua since 2000 and striking thousands of others with chronic kidney disease at rates unseen virtually anywhere else. Scientists say they have received reports of the phenomenon as far north as southern Mexico and as far south as Panama.

<http://english.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/02/14/194568.html> The Prophecies of Abraham are right again.

Sudanese warplanes dropped several bombs, wounding four soldiers in a contested area claimed by South Sudan, breaking a non-aggression pact signed two days earlier, Juba's army spokesman said Tuesday.

<http://theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2012/02/13/health-warnings-issued-inbangladesh-from-deadly-outbreak-of-nipah-virus/>

An outbreak of the Nipah virus in northern Bangladesh has killed 30 people since the start of 2011, prompting national health warnings against the fatal pathogen spread by fruit bats. Everyone who got infected, died.

<http://theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2012/02/13/mexico-swine-flu-deaths-reach81/>

Eighty-one people have so far died of swine flu in Mexico this year, while at least 3,522 have been infected with the virus, health officials said. From Jan 1 till Feb 9, there have been 3,882 confirmed flu cases, the health secretariat said in a statement. Three seasonal viruses are currently active in Mexico — AH1N1, AH3N2 and influenza B. The AH1N1 — or swine flu — has been the predominant one, with 91 per cent of the infections. The AH1N1 virus broke out in Mexico in March-April 2009. By June 2010, around 1,300 deaths had occurred and more than 70,000 people had contracted the disease.

<http://theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2012/02/19/incurable-virus-killingthousands-of-lambs-in-uk/>

A new virus is causing lambs to be born with deformities so severe that they die within seconds. It is thought midges brought the Schmallenberg virus to Britain from continental Europe last autumn. The fetuses of newly-pregnant ewes bitten by the insects often fail to develop properly.

I also received an email from one sister asking if I had heard of anything about the birthing of deformed animals. She wrote to say that many in her area were having births which were so severely deformed that they had to put down the new born. Is this connected to the story above I do not know.

<http://www.wsws.org/articles/2012/jan2012/mexi-j24.shtml> Famine devastates states of northern Mexico

24 January 2012

Malnutrition and famine are killing peasants in northern Mexico. The destruction of their crops by drought, coupled with rising food prices, have made access to the most basic foods impossible for many peasant families—already chronically underfed. In 2011 over one million hectares of food crops were lost, together with 42,000 head of cattle.

It is once again that time of year when huge debates will rage back and forth over when the New Year begins. We are now in the 12th month and it is important for those of you who are new to understand how the New Year is begun. So let me share a few articles with you in this regards.

http://www.hoshanarabbah.org/pdfs/vis_moon.pdf

The Biblical Calendar—

New Moon: Visible or Conjunction?

The first question we need to ask is what is the biblical Hebrew word for new moon? It is the Hebrew word *aSJ /chodesh* (Strong's H2320/TWOT 613b) meaning “the new moon, month, monthly, the first day of the month, the lunar month.” It is found in the Tanakh (Hebrew Scriptures or Old Testament) 276 times and is translated in the King James Version as “month” 254 times, “new moon” (20 times), and “monthly” (1 time). We see that from these definitions that the terms “month” and “new moon” are synonymous. It has been understood for millennia that ancient Israelites began their month with the new moon.

Why was it important for the Israelites to know when the new moon occurred and when the month began? The dates of the annual biblical festivals that YHVH gave to Israel and instructed them to observe were determined based on when the new moon occurred (Lev 23:5, 6, 24, 27, 34).

The next question to answer is this: when does the biblical month begin? As we noted above, for modern astronomers the term “new moon” means something different than it did to the ancients, including those who YHVH inspired to write the Bible.

Ancient calendars were determined by the moon, while modern ones are not. Some biblical expositors teach that the new moon begins when the moon is in conjunction or in line with the earth and the sun and is in its dark phase. Others believe that the month begins just after the moon has moved out of its dark phase and begins to show a sliver of light, which is called the visible or crescent new moon. Who is right?

Some Bible teachers claim that there is no place in the Scriptures that specifically states that the new moon begins at the first visible sliver after being dark for several days. Therefore, they reason, it is an assumption to say that it does (even though, as we will see below, this was the understanding of the ancient Israelites), and therefore, the new moon should be determined from its conjunction with the earth and sun while it is in its dark phase. While on the surface, this may seem like a valid argument, one important verse in the Scriptures, however, and some simple logic quickly disproves this notion. It is Genesis 1:14.

And Elohim said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons [moedim/biblical festivals], and for days, and years."

In this verse we see that the sun and the moon are "signs" for seasons, days and years. The word "sign" is the Hebrew word owt/

What do all these examples of how the Bible uses the Hebrew word owt have in common? They were all a visible sign that one could see. This is the definition of the word owt and how it is used in the Hebrew Scriptures. Simply stated, the visible sliver of the new moon fits the definition of owt as used in Genesis 1:14, while the astronomical conjunction (when the moon is in its dark phase and is invisible to the eye because the earth is between the moon and the sun) does not. Psalm 104:19 is definitive biblical proof that the moon's purpose is to determine the biblical feasts when it says YHVH "appointed the moon for seasons [Heb. moedim, which means 'appointed times' or 'biblical holidays']." The moon cannot be a visible sign to determine seasons or biblical festivals if it is hidden or dark.

The fact that ancient Israelites determined the new moon based on the sighting with the naked eye of the moon's sliver has been substantiated repeatedly by historians and religious scholars over the past 2000 years.

http://www.karaite-korner.org/new_moon.shtml

The New Moon in the Hebrew Bible

The Biblical month begins with the crescent New Moon, also called First Visible Sliver. The Hebrew word for month (Hodesh) literally means New Moon and only by extension the period between one New Moon and the next.

The Rabbanite Midrash relates that when God said to Moses "This month (HODESH) shall be for you the beginning of months" (Ex 12,2) the Almighty pointed up into the heavens at the crescent New Moon and said "When you see like this, sanctify! [=declare New Moon day]". This Rabbinic fairy-tale highlights an important point, namely that the Bible never comes out

and says we should determine the beginning of months based on the New Moon. The reason for this is that the term for “Month” (Hodesh) itself implies that the month begins with the crescent New Moon. As will be seen, this would have been obvious to any ancient Israelite present when Moses recited the prophecies of YHWH to the Children of Israel and therefore there was no need to elucidate this concept any more than such terms as “light” or “dark”. However, due to the long exile, we have lost the use of Biblical Hebrew in day to day speech. Therefore, we will have to reconstruct the meaning of Hodesh from the usage of the word in the Biblical text using sound linguistic principles.

He Created the Moon for Holidays

There can be no doubt that the biblical Holidays are dependent on the moon. The strongest proof of this is the passage in Ps 104,19 which declares:

“He created the moon for Mo’adim [appointed times]”

The Hebrew term Mo’adim [appointed times] is the same word used to describe the Biblical Holidays. Leviticus 23, which contains a catalogue of the Biblical Holidays opens with the statement: “These are the Mo’adim [appointed times] of YHWH, holy convocations which you shall proclaim in their appointed times [Mo’adam]”. So when the Psalmist tells us that God created the moon for Mo’adim [appointed times] he means that the moon was created to determine the time of the Mo’adim of YHWH, that is, the Biblical Holidays.

“Hodesh” Is Related To the Moon

The above verse clearly teaches us that the holidays are related to the moon. But when the Torah was given Ps 104 had not yet been written by the Levitical prophets, and the question still remains of how the ancient Israelites could have known this. The answer is that the Hebrew word for month (Hodesh) itself indicates a connection to the moon. We can see this connection in a number of instances in which Hodesh (month) is used interchangeably with the word “Yerah”, the common Biblical Hebrew word for moon, which by extension also means “month”. For example: “...in the month (Yerah) of Ziv, which is the Second month (Hodesh)...” (1Kings 6,1)

“...in the month (Yerah) of Ethanim... which is the Seventh month (Hodesh)...” (1Kings 8,2)

Another proof that Hodesh is related to the moon (Yerah) is the phrase “A Hodesh (month) of days” (Gen 29,14; Nu 11,20-21) [meaning a period of 29 or 30 days] which is equivalent to the phrase “A Yerah (month/ moon) of days” (Dt 21,13; 2Ki 15,13). Clearly then Hodesh is related to “Yerah”, which itself literally means “moon”.

“Hodesh” Means New Moon (Day)

The primary meaning of Hodesh (month) is actually “New Moon” or “New Moon Day” and it is only by extension that it came to mean “month”, that is, the period between one New Moon and the next. This primary meaning is preserved in a number of passages such as 1Sam 20,5 in which Jonathan says to David “Tomorrow is the New Moon (Hodesh)”. Clearly, in this verse Hodesh is used to refer to the specific day on which the month begins and not the entire month. Another passage which uses Hodesh in its primary sense is Ez 46,1 which talks about “The Day (Yom) of the New Moon (Ha-Hodesh)”. Clearly in this verse Hodesh (New Moon) is a specific event and the beginning of the month is the day on which this event (New Moon) occurs.

The Biblical New Moon is the “First Crescent”

“Hodesh” (New Moon), is derived from the root H.D.SH. meaning “new” or “to make new/renew”. The Crescent New Moon is called Hodesh because it is the first time the moon is seen anew after being concealed for several days at the end of the lunar cycle. At the end of the lunar month the moon is close to the sun¹ and eventually reaches the point of “conjunction” when it passes between the Sun and the Earth.² As a result, around the time of conjunction very little of the moon’s illuminated surface faces the Earth and it is not visible through the infinitely brighter glare of the sun. After the moon moves past the sun it continues towards the opposite side of the Earth. As it gets farther away from the sun the percentage of its illuminated surface facing the Earth increases and one evening shortly after sunset the moon is seen anew after being invisible for 1.5-3.5 days. Because the moon is seen anew after a period of invisibility the ancients called it a “New Moon” or “Hodesh” (from Hadash meaning “new”).

Crescent New Moon vs. Astronomical New Moon

Many people have been led astray by the inaccurate use in modern languages of the term “New Moon”. Modern astronomers adopted this otherwise unused term, which had always referred to the first visible sliver, and used it to refer to conjunction (when the Moon passes between the Earth and the Sun, at which time it is not visible). The astronomers soon realized that the inaccurate use of “New Moon” to refer to conjunction would lead to confusion so to be more accurate scientists now distinguish between “Astronomical New Moon” and “Crescent New Moon”. “Astronomical New Moon” means New Moon as the term is used by astronomers, i.e. conjunction. In contrast, “Crescent New Moon” uses the term in the original meaning of the first visible sliver. A good English dictionary should reflect both meanings. For example, the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged Edition defines New Moon as: “The moon either when in conjunction with the sun or soon after being either invisible [Astronomical New Moon] or visible [Crescent New Moon] only as a slender crescent.” (square brackets added by NG).

The Supposed Evidence For “Concealed Moon”

Having been confused by the use of the term New Moon in modern astronomy some people have sought Biblical support for this incorrect meaning of the term. Ps 81,3 [Heb. 81,4] is usually cited which says:

“Blow on a horn for the Hodesh (New Moon)

On the Keseh (Full Moon) for the Day of our Hag (Feast).”

According to the “Concealed Moon Theory”, the term “Keseh” is derived from the root K.S.Y. meaning “to cover” and thus means “covered moon” or “concealed moon”. According to this interpretation, when the verse says to blow on a horn on the day of Keseh it actually means “[blow on a horn] on the day of Concealed Moon”. However, the language does not support this argument for the second half of the verse also refers to the day of Keseh as “the day of our Feast (Hag)”. In the Bible, Feast (Hag) is a technical term which always refers to the three, annual pilgrimage-feasts (Matzot, Shavuot, Sukkot; see Ex 23; Ex 34).³ New Moon Day (Hodesh) is never classified as a “Pilgrimage-Feast” so Keseh/ Hag cannot possibly be synonymous with New Moon Day (Hodesh). It has further been suggested that Keseh refers to the Biblical holiday of Yom Teruah (Day of Shouting), which always falls out on New Moon

Day. However, the Bible describes Yom Teruah as a Moed (appointed time) and never as a Hag (Pilgrimage-Feast) so Keseh/ Hag cannot refer to Yom Teruah either.

What Does Keseh Really Mean?

It is likely that Keseh is related to the Aramaic word “Kista” and the Assyrian word “Kuseu” which mean “full moon” (see Brown-Driver-Briggs p.490b) [Hebrew, Aramaic, and Assyrian are all Semitic languages and often share common roots]. This fits in perfectly with the description of Keseh as the day of the Hag since two of the three Pilgrimage-Feasts (Hag HaMatzot and Hag HaSukkot) are on the 15th of the month, which is about the time of the Full Moon!

More on “Concealed Moon”

Another point to consider is that there is no actual “day” of concealed moon. In fact the moon stays concealed anywhere from 1.5 to 3.5 days in the Middle East. It has been proposed that the “day” of concealed moon is actually the day of conjunction (when the moon passes between the Earth and Sun). However, it was only 1000 years after Moses that the Babylonian astronomers discovered how to calculate the moment of conjunction. Therefore, the ancient Israelites would have had no way of knowing when the moment of conjunction takes place and would not have known on which day to observe “Concealed Moon Day”.

It has been suggested that the ancient Israelites could have looked at the “Old Moon” and determined the Day of Conjunction by when the Old Moon was no longer visible in the morning sky. However, such a method would not work in the Middle East where the so-called “concealed moon” can remain concealed for as many as 3.5 days! It is in fact common for the moon to stay concealed for 2.5 days and in such instances how would the ancient Israelites have known which day was the Day of Conjunction?

In contrast, the ancient Israelites would have been well aware of the Crescent New Moon. In ancient societies people worked from dawn to dusk and they would have noticed the Old Moon getting smaller and smaller in the morning sky. When the morning moon had disappeared the ancient Israelites would have anxiously awaited its reappearance 1.5-3.5 days later in the evening sky. Having disappeared for several days and then appearing anew in the early evening sky they would have called it the “New Moon” or “Hodesh” (from Hadash meaning “New”).

Here are two articles I have written which prove from the scriptures which moon you should be using. https://sightedmoon.com/sightedmoon_2015/?page_id=22 Conjunction or Sighted Which?

https://sightedmoon.com/sightedmoon_2015/?page_id=20 The Return of Yehshua

Once you read these two articles you will then know from scriptures which moon to use. Start in Isaiah 7 and then go to Revelation 12.

But besides knowing when the moon is to begin the month you must also have barley that is ripe and ready for the wave offering during the days of Unleavened Bread. So this next article explains the barley for those of you who are new.

<http://www.karaite-korner.org/abib.shtml>

Abib (Barley)

Biblical Leap Years

The Biblical year begins with the first New Moon after the barley in Israel reaches the stage in its ripeness called Abib. The period between one year and the next is either 12 or 13 lunar months. Because of this, it is important to check the state of the Barley crops at the end of the 12th month. If the barley is Abib at this time, then the following New Moon is Hodesh Ha-Aviv (“New Moon of the Abib”). If the barley is still immature, we must wait another month and then check the barley again at the end of the 13th month.

By convention, a 12-month year is referred to as a Regular Year while a 13th month year is referred to as a Leap Year. This should not be confused with Leap Years in the Gregorian (Christian) Calendar, which involve the “intercalation” (addition) of a single day (Feb. 29). In contrast, the Biblical Leap Year involves the intercalation of an entire lunar month (“Thirteenth Month”, also called “Adar Bet”). In general, it can only be determined whether a year is a Leap Year a few days before the end of the 12th Month.

Where is Abib Mentioned in the Hebrew Bible?

The story of the Exodus relates “This day you are going out in the the month of the Abib.” (Ex 13,4).

To commemorate that we left Egypt in the month of the Abib, we are instructed to bring the Passover sacrifice and celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Hag HaMatzot) at this time of year. In Dt 16,1 we are commanded:

“Keep the month of the Abib and make the Passover (sacrifice) to YHWH your God at night, because in the month of the Abib YHWH your God took you out of Egypt”. [click here to hear the verse in Hebrew!]

Similarly, we are commanded in Ex 23,15:

“You will keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread; seven days you will eat unleavened bread, as I have commanded you, at the time of the month of the Abib, because in it you went out of Egypt.”

The same is commanded in Ex 34,18:

“You will keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread; seven days you will eat unleavened bread, as have I commanded you, at the time of the month of the Abib, because in the month of the Abib you went out of Egypt.” What is Abib?

Abib indicates a stage in the development of the barley crops. This is clear from Ex 9,31-32 which describes the devastation caused by the plague of hail:

“And the flax and the barley were smitten, because the barley was Abib and the flax was Giv’ol. And the wheat and the spelt were not smitten because they were dark (Afilot).” The above passage relates that the barley crops were destroyed by the hail while the wheat and spelt were not damaged. To understand the reason for this we must look at how grain develops. When grains are early in their development they are flexible and have a dark green color. As they become ripe they take on a light yellowish hue and become more brittle. The reason that the barley was destroyed and the wheat was not is that the barley had reached the stage in its development called Abib and as a result had become brittle enough to be damaged by the hail. In contrast, the wheat and spelt were still early enough in their development, at a stage when they were flexible and not susceptible to being damaged by hail. The description of the wheat and spelt as “dark” (Afilot) indicates that they were still in the stage when they were deep green and had not yet begun to lighten into the light yellowish hue

which characterizes ripe grains. In contrast, the barley had reached the stage of Abib at which time it was no longer “dark” and at this point it probably had begun to develop golden streaks.

Parched Abib

We know from several passages that barley which is in the state of Abib has not completely ripened, but has ripened enough so that its seeds can be eaten parched in fire. Parched barley was a commonly eaten food in ancient Israel and is mentioned in numerous passages in the Hebrew Bible as either “Abib parched (Kalui) in fire” (Lev 2,14) or in the abbreviated form “parched (Kalui/ Kali)” (Lev 23,14; Jos 5,11; 1Sam 17,17; 1Sam 25,18; 2Sam 17,28; Ruth 2,14).

While still early in its development, barley has not yet produced large enough and firm enough seeds to produce food through parching. This early in its development, when the “head” has just come out of the shaft, the seeds are not substantial enough to produce any food. At a later stage, the seeds have grown in size and have filled with liquid. At this point the seeds will shrivel up when parched and will only produce empty skins. Over time the liquid is replaced with dry material and when enough dry material has amassed the seeds will be able to yield “barley parched in fire”.

Abib and the Harvest

The month of the Abib is the month which commences after the barley has reached the stage of Abib. 2-3 weeks after the beginning of the month the barley has moved beyond the stage of Abib and is ready to be brought as the “wave-sheaf offering” (Hanafat HaOmer). The “wavesheaf offering” is a sacrifice brought from the first stalks cut in the harvest and is brought on the Sunday which falls out during Passover (Hag HaMatzot). This is described in Lev 23,10-11:

“When you come to the land which I give you, and harvest its harvest, you will bring the sheaf of the beginning of your harvest to the priest. And he will wave the sheaf before YHWH so you will be accepted; on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest will wave it.”

From this it is clear that the barley, which was Abib at the beginning of the month, has become harvest-ready 15-21 days later (i.e. by the Sunday during Passover). Therefore, the month of the Abib cannot begin unless the barley has reached a stage where it will be harvest-ready 2-3 weeks later.

That the barley must be harvest-ready 2-3 weeks into the month of the Abib is also clear from Dt 16,9 which states:

“From when the sickle commences on the standing grain you will begin to count seven weeks.” From Lev 23,15 we know that the seven weeks between Passover (Hag Hamatzot) and

Pentecost (Shavuot) begin on the day when the wave-sheaf offering is brought (i.e. the Sunday which falls out during Passover):

“And you shall count from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day you bring the sheaf of waving; they will be seven complete Sabbaths.”

Therefore, the “sickle commences on the standing grain” on the Sunday during Passover, i.e. 2-3 weeks after the beginning of the month of the Abib. If the barley is not developed enough so that it will be ready for the sickle 2-3 weeks later, then the month of the Abib cannot begin and we must wait till the following month.

It should be noted that not all the barley ripens in the Land of Israel at the same time. The wave-sheaf offering is a national sacrifice brought from the first fields to become harvest ready. However, the first-fruit offerings brought by individual farmers can vary in ripeness anywhere from “Abib parched in fire” to fully ripe grain which may be brought “crushed” or “coarsely ground”. This is what is meant in Lev 2,14:

“And when you bring a first-fruit offering to YHWH; you shall bring your first-fruit offering as Abib parched in fire or crushed Carmel” (Carmel is grain which has hardened beyond Abib to the point where it can be “crushed” or “coarsely ground”).

All of the above passages have been translated directly from the Hebrew and it is worth noting that the King James translators seem to have only understood the various Hebrew agricultural terms very poorly. In Lev 2,14 they translated Carmel as “full ears” and “Abib” as “green ears” whereas in Lev 23,14 they translated Carmel as “green ears”!

In summation, barley which is in the state of Abib has 3 characteristics:

1. It is brittle enough to be destroyed by hail and has begun to lighten in color (it is not “dark”).
2. The seeds have produced enough dry material so it can be eaten parched.
3. It has developed enough so that it will be harvest-ready 2-3 weeks later.