

### Week 3 Time: Months

Last week I promised to discuss the months of the Sacred Calendar as they are known today. I'm going to do a brief synopsis of the months and where they are found in the Bible.

The first month is Nisan. It is found mentioned in Nehemiah 2:1 and Esther 3:7. Nisan is the first month of the year. An Important date are the 14<sup>th</sup> which is Passover, The Feast of Unleavened Bread, and Feast of First Fruits. Initially, Nisan was the month of Abib as we discussed last week.

Iyar is the second month and I can find no mentioning of Iyar in the Bible. The only mentioning I have found is when it was known as the month of Ziv as we discussed last week.

The third month is the month of Sivan and is found in Esther 8:9. Shavuot when the Law was given at Mt. Sinai and Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out as well as the Feast of Weeks.

The fourth month is Tammuz and can be seen in Ezekiel 8:14.

The fifth month is Av and there is no mentioning in the Bible that I can find at this time. It is the time of Tish B' Av as I talked about last week.

The sixth month is the month of Elul. Elul is identified in Nehemiah 6:15. It is the month preceding the High Holy Days and is the beginning of Teshuvah.

Tishri is the seventh month and is the beginning of the new year. Although I cannot find the month of Tishri in the Bible, there are several events that are mentioned on certain days of the seventh month. The First Day is currently Rosh Hoshana. It was once Yom Teruah or the day of the great shout. Immediately following is the Feast of Trumpets which is the only Feast that has not been fulfilled. Then, is Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Then is the Feast of Tabernacles or Feast of booths. Then we have Shmini Atzeret and Hoshana Rabba.

Chesvan has no mentioning in the Bible by name that I can find.

Kislev is found in Nehemiah 1:1.

Tevet is found in Esther 2:16.

Shevat is not mentioned in the Bible but is mentioned in the deuterocanonical books of the Apocrypha.

Adar has many mentionings and is the month of Purim. Also it is the time that God promised Moses that He would soon release Israel from Egypt with four blessings that would become the Passover. Additionally, In Adar was the time that the plagues began in Egypt. Ezra 6:15. Esther 3:13, 8:12, 9:1,15,17, 19, and 21.

These months make up the Sacred Calendar or the Hebrew Calendar or the "Jewish calendar". Why are they important? Because the essence of the calendar is not when the year starts or ends.

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The important thing to understand is that this is a lunar calendar and that the “seasons” dictate more so than actual time in that it highlights harvests. The Feasts, God's appointed times and the other Feasts all cycle around harvests. It is set up for the harvest of crops, livestock, and souls. The Feasts are times to remember all that God has done and offer thanksgiving. The Feasts are times for worship and praise to elevate. The Feasts are times to come before God and we are not to appear empty handed. Deuteronomy 16:16 reads

<sup>16</sup>Three times a year all your males are to appear before *ADONAI* your God in the place He chooses—at the Feast of *Matzot (unleavened bread)*, the Feast of *Shavuot (Pentecost)*, and the Feast of *Sukkot (Booths)*. No one should appear before *ADONAI* empty-handed— <sup>17</sup>the gift of each man's hand according to the blessing *ADONAI* your God has given you. <sup>1</sup>

As Tish B'Av is a time when the enemy is trying to steal the harvest of the blessings of Passover and Pentecost. The Feasts are times of receiving bountiful blessings. It's all related to God's time.

I am The Old Watchman and now you know.

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<sup>1</sup> Messianic Jewish Family Bible Society. (2015). [\*Holy Scriptures: Tree of Life Version\*](#) (Dt 16:16–17). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.