PROPHECY FLASH!

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The Blood Red Moon of Passover 2014

"And there shall be signs in the sun, moon and stars . . ."

Have They Now Begun?

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> Editor William F. Dankenbring

A Voice in the Wilderness

God tells His servants in His Word, "Cry aloud, spare not. Lift up your voice like a trumpet and declare to My people their transgression and to the house of Jacob their sins!" (Isa.58:1, Parallel Amplified Bible).

God also declares: "Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to the heart of Jerusalem, and cry to her that her time of service and her warfare are ended, that [her punishment is accepted and] her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received [punishment] from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

We are living in a world gone berserk with anger and rage. "Why do the nations rage?" (Psalm 2:1). Answer – because they don't know the true God, and are in rebellion against His laws and teachings and the true way of life and peace!

"A voice of one who cries: Isaiah wrote: Prepare in the wilderness the way of the Lord [clear away the obstacles]; make straight and smooth a highway for our God. . . . And the glory (majesty and splendor) of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it" (Isaiah 40:3-5).

The Messiah is coming very SOON! Its time to prepare to MEET Him! "Surely the Lord will do nothing without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). The purpose of this magazine is to warn the world of what lies ahead, and to help prepare people to get ready to meet the Messiah, when He returns to restore all things (Acts 3:19-21), put an end to wars, and usher in the Kingdom of God! The prophet Amos declared, "Prepare to meet your God, O Israel" (Amos 4:12). No matter is more urgent, today!

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Blood Red Moon at Passover!

Passover evening a blood red moon lunar eclipse awed thousands of moon watchers. It is a part of a lunar "tetrad" with four blood red moons occurring on Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles in 2014 and 2015. What does it portend for the future? Are they related to Bible prophecies of the **End Times?**

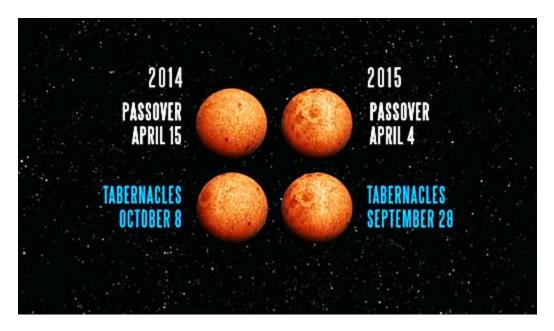
A similar tetrad occurred in 1948-49, when the state of Israel was born, and in 1967-68, the time of the Six Day War in Israel when it regained control of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. What is the significance of this THIRD tetrad? Does it mean we are now at the End of Days? -- William F. Dankenbring

The BLOOD RED MOONS - Countdown to the Messiah?

What is the significance of the tetrad of blood red lunar eclipses occurring on the Hebrew holy days of Passover and the Feastd of Tabernacles in 2014 and 2015? Is the END of this age drawing near? Is this a SIGN of the soon coming of the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord, and the return of the Messiah?

William F. Dankenbring

According to the Jewish calendar, the year 2008 was a Sabbatical year. A new Sabbatical cycle began September 29, 2008. 2015 will also be a Sabbatical year. But most amazing of all, it has been discovered that in the years 2014 and 2015 there will be two solar eclipses and four lunar eclipses, all of them occurring on Jewish Holy Days!



As WND has reported, Biltz, who promotes the Old Testament roots of Christianity at El Shaddai Ministries in Bonney Lake, Wash., began focusing in recent years on the precise times of both solar and lunar eclipses, with lunar eclipses often called

"blood moons" since the moon sometimes takes on a bloody color.

He logged onto NASA's eclipse website which provides precision tracking of the celestial events. Biltz noted a rare phenomenon of <u>four consecutive total lunar eclipses</u>, <u>known as a tetrad</u>, and saw that 2014 and 2015 would play a key role.

Says Biltz, "One morning, as I was praying, a thought popped into my head: Why don't I compare the dates of the eclipses on the NASA website to the dates on the biblical calendar? When I did, I was shocked to find that all four eclipses – over both years – fell on the biblical holidays of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. I just about jumped out of my skin.

"Immediately I ran to my computer and pulled up NASA's website to look up other times when there have been four consecutive blood moons, which are total lunar eclipses, where the moon appears blood red. NASA calls four total blood moons in a row a tetrad, and they list their occurrences. I noticed there weren't any in the 1600s, 1700s, or even the 1800s. The last time there was a tetrad was back in the 1900s, and to my amazement, they also fell on the feasts of Passover and Tabernacles.

"When I noticed the years these phenomena occurred, my mind began reeling. The last two times there were four blood moons in a row, they happened, first, right after Israel became a nation in 1948, and then again when Israel retook Jerusalem in 1967. I started doing a hallelujah dance. It was as if I had just found treasure buried in the sand. My heart was racing a hundred miles an hour as all those key Scriptures about the signs in the heavens, God's feast days, and the timing on the biblical calendar flooded my mind."

The find led Biltz on an incredible journey of discovery as he began linking the feast days in the Bible with the signs in the heavens.

Blood Red Moons 2014-2015

The Lunar eclipses break down as follows:

Passover April 15, 2014
Feast of Tabernacles October 8, 2014
Passover April 4, 2015
Feast of Tabernacles September 28, 2015

The two Solar eclipses connected with God's Holy Days in 2014-2015 occur:

Adar 29/Nisan 1(new year) March 20, 2015 Feast of Trumpets September 13, 2015

It was on Nisan 1 that the Hebrew new year's day occurred, according to the Scriptures (Exo.12:1-2). On the anniversary of this date, one year later, Moses raised up

the Tabernacle of God, inaugurated it, and the glory of God descended from heaven (Exodus 40:2, 17, 34).

The real shocker is that this phenomenon is extremely rare, for this pattern of eclipses to fall on both Passover and Sukkot in two years in a row, and for a solar eclipse to occur on important Holy Days in the same year (2015).

This intriguing, incredible discovery comes from Mark Biltz, pastor of El Shaddai Ministries, in Bonner Lake, Washington.

Biltz was intrigued with the statement in the Scriptures that connect the second coming of the Messiah with "signs in the heavens," particularly the signs that "the sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood" before the return of Christ.

He went on the internet, to the U.S. Government NASA website to see if there were any significant eclipses of the sun and moon during the next few years. To his surprise, he discovered four lunar eclipses in the Sabbatical year 2014/2015, and was intrigued by the fact that they occurred on God's annual Holy Days!

Writing about the amazing discovery in the May 2008 issue of *Prophecy in the News*, J. R. Church declares, "This is most unusual. It is a rare occurrence for four lunar cycles on successive Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) observances. It will not happen again for hundreds of years."

Says J. R. Church, in a letter accompanying the magazine issue, "Four lunar eclipses occurring on the Feast of Tabernacles and Passover in two successive years are phenomenal. But add to them two solar eclipses on the two days that open the Jewish year – Adar 29/Nisan1, just two weeks before Passover, and Tishri 1 (Rosh Hashannah) – is uncanny. On each of these six Jewish Holy Days, the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give her light. Will this happen again in the 21st century? No. Did it happen in the 20th century? Yes, in 1949/1950, the year following Israel's statehood, and 1967/1968, the year Jerusalem was liberated in the Six-Day War! Before that, you have to go back to 1493 for four successive lunar eclipses on Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles" (May 2008 letter).

Is God Almighty telling us something? Skeptics and scoffers will denounce the discovery as mere coincidence, but the prophet Daniel informs us, "Many shall be purified, made white, and refined. But the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but the wise will understand" (Dan.12:10).

Peter warned, "Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation" (II Pet.3:3-4).

Biltz focused on the precise times of solar and lunar eclipses, sometimes called "blood moons," by logging onto NASA's website on eclipses. He noticed a rare

phenomenon of four consecutive total lunar eclipses which are known as a "tetrad." During this century, tetrads occur at least six times, but the only string of four consecutive "blood moons" coincide with God's Holy days of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. This occurs between the years 2014 and 2015 on today's Gregorian calendar.

In the 20th century, he noticed that such successive blood moons coinciding with Passover and Tabernacles occurred only on 1967-68, the year the Jews liberated Jerusalem from the control of the Arabs. He also noted that the only other such combination of eclipses in the 20th century took place in 1949-50, the year following the Jewish state's hard-fought war of independence, when Israel became a nation.

"Signs" in the Heavens

Just how significant is this astounding information? Is this another tell-tale clue pinpointing the period of the second coming of the Messiah?

Why did God create the stars in the heavens in the first place? We read one significant answer in Genesis, the first chapter.

Moses wrote: "And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them *serve as SIGNS* to mark *seasons* and days and years" (Genesis 1:14, NIV).

The word for "sign" here, in the Hebrew, is *owth*, and means "a signal, as a flag, beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence," etc. The word for "seasons" is the Hebrew *moadim* and means "festivals, literally, appointed times."

Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon points out that this word means "a sign," "a token" (Exo.12:13; Josh.2:12), "signs and times" (Gen.1:14), i.e., "signs of times." It is used of a military ensign, a sign of something past, and a sign of something future, a portent, as well as a sign of anything which cannot be seen.

For "seasons", Strong's Concordance has "an appointment, i.e. a fixed time or season; spec. a festival." Gesenius has it, "(1) a set time, . . . (2) an assembly . . . (3) a place in which an assembly is held . . . (4) an appointed time, a signal."

Thus heavenly bodies, and the periodic return of comets, and celestial meteor showers, and eclipses, can be, in Biblical terms, a "heavenly sign"! Yeshua spoke of such signs occurring before His return to planet Earth. When such a sign occurs on a *moad or moadim*, or Festival of God, it is especially significant.

Biblical End-Time Prophecies

Jesus Christ Himself said, referring to the days before His second coming: "And there will be fearful sights and GREAT SIGNS from heaven" (Luke 21:11, KJV). Christ went on, "And there will be SIGNS in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars . . ." (Luke

21: 25).

Also speaking of His second coming, to rule this world, and to deliver mankind from its greatest crisis in all human history, Jesus foretold: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars [meteors] will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken [an incredible cosmic quaking and shaking -- see Hebrews 12:25-28; Hag.2:21-23]. Then the SIGN of the Son of Man will APPEAR in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will SEE the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and glory" (Matt.24:29-31).

Such signs are also mentioned as occurring before the day of the Lord in the Tanakh – the Old Testament Scriptures (Joel 2:30-31; Joel 2:10; Joel 3:14-16).

Does God often send mysterious "signs" in the heavens before He performs mighty works in the earth? What do the Scriptures say about this?

The prophet Joel tells us, "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, BEFORE the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD" (Joel 2:31).

These awesome occurrences in the skies and heavens will stagger mankind, causing terrible fright and anxiety.

John in Revelation prophesied, that in the period just before the coming of the Messiah, and the "Day of the Lord," that great signs would take place: "I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood" (Rev.6:12).

"And the stars of heaven fell to the earth [meteor showers], as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place" (Rev.6:13-14). After this, then, comes the final "Day of the Lord" -- the time when God Himself begins to punish the nations, and bring His divine judgments of wrath and fury.

Jesus' Step-by-Step Prophecy

Jesus' disciples came to Him and asked Him privately, "When shall these things be? And what shall be the SIGN of thy coming, and of the END of the world [Greek aion, "age"]?" (Matt.24:3). Jesus warned them first of all to beware of false prophets and false religious teachers who proclaim heresy (Matt.24:4-5). He then prophesied wars and rumors of wars, but said these did not signal the end (verse 6). He even predicted wars, earthquakes, famines and plagues, but said these were but "the beginning of sorrows" (verses 7-8).

Jesus then warned that persecution of true Christians would greatly increase

(verses 9-20), and many false prophets and deceivers would rise up (verse 11). This has begun to happen around the world -- with Christians being persecuted vehemently in Turkey, Egypt, India, China, Moslem countries, and even in "secular" societies like the United States, and the western world!

Jesus then announced, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (verse 12). This has begun to happen! The world has seen a sharp increase in violence, lawlessness, and general immorality and iniquity. Riots, looting, arson, murder, pornography, violence in movies, profanity, and the breakdown of the home and family -- all are contributing to a world gone berserk and gangs and rioters running amok! Civil disorder and ethnic strife and hatred are rapidly increasing.

In the midst of this, Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in ALL THE WORLD for a WITNESS unto all nations; and THEN the END will come" (verse 14). That also has begun to happen! In the pages of *Prophecy Flash*, and via the internet and worldwide web around the world, this final message of the coming of God's KINGDOM is being hurled around the globe!

Jesus said that the next thing to look for is "the abomination of desolation" standing in the Temple of God in Jerusalem (Matt.24:15) – and when we see that happening, those in Jerusalem should FLEE to the hills and mountains for safety (verses 16-20). That final invasion of Israel and Jerusalem in the Middle East will lead to a captivity and time of travail lasting 42 months (compare Matt.24:21-22 with Rev.13:4-6, 11:1-2, 12:6, 14).

Notice – Jesus gave us a specific TIME TABLE of many sequential prophecies, each to be fulfilled in their proper order, BEFORE and LEADING UP TO HIS SECOND COMING! After this Great Tribulation, Jesus foretold great signs in the heavens, followed by the "Day of the Lord" – the time He will return in awesome glory and power (Matt.24:29-31). This will occur at the seventh or "last" trumpet (I Cor.15:50-51; I Thess.4:14-17; Rev.11:15).

Isn't this plain?

These are NOT mere "speculations"! The apostle Peter wrote in these terms: "We have also a MORE *SURE WORD* OF PROPHECY; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a LIGHT that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

"Knowing this first, that *NO prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation*. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, *but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit*" (II Pet.1:19-21).

Prophecy is a vital and integral part of the Word of God! It is not something which should be treated lightly, cavalierly, with disrespect and dishonor. It is vital to our SALVATION! If it were not so important, then God would not have inspired

2/3rds of His Word to deal with prophecy, and 90% of that to apply to the LAST DAYS, the generation alive just before the return of the Messiah in awesome power and glory to deliver His people and to save the earth from utter annihilation, destruction, and cosmocide!

Paul wrote, even commanded, "Never disdain prophetic revelations" (I Thess.5:20, Moffatt), or, "Do not scoff at those who prophesy" (TLB). Have you become a scoffer in these last days?

What is the main lesson these vital End-Time SIGNS in the heavens show us?

OUR GENERATION -- this present generation -- will be the FINAL, LAST, END-TIME GENERATION that will see all these things come to pass, and that will WITNESS the awesome, spine-tingling return of JESUS CHRIST, THE MESSIAH in tremendous power and unimaginable GLORY!!!

Jesus Himself said: "Verily I say unto you, *This generation shall not pass*, till ALL these things be fulfilled" (Matt.24:34). You and I – those of us of THIS present generation of the Atomic Bomb, nuclear weapons, biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction – *WE* are the ones living in the Biblical "time of the end" – the FINAL generation! The time has come. The Messiah's footsteps are approaching. His coming is near. His heavenly stallion is getting nervous, chomping at the bit, getting ready for that great ride through the sky (Rev.19:11-14). The heavenly army is growing tense with excitement and anticipation. The time is near – the moment we are all breathlessly waiting for.

The "signs" are increasing, for those who have eyes to see and hearts to understand! John declares:

"The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer.

"But in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, *the mystery of God would be finished*, as he declared to His servants the prophets" (Revelation 10:5-7, NKJV).

The Awesome Significance

Biltz told WND, "Four total lunar eclipses happening the next two years herald possible war in the Middle East as well as global economic collapse."

He says historically, these types of solar eclipses have been signs, "foretelling

important events such as the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem. Two happened right in a row at the time of destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. and on feast days," he said.

"Around eight months before the Temple was destroyed we find on 10/18/69 there was a partial lunar eclipse on the Feast of Sukkot. A total solar eclipse followed this on Nisan 1-3/30/70, the beginning of the religious year. Two weeks later there was a penumbral lunar eclipse on Passover on 4/14/70. An annular solar eclipse followed this on Rosh Hashanah on 9/23/70. Then another penumbral lunar eclipse on Sukkot on 10/8/70," he explained.

Biltz stresses what makes the coming events so startling is the fact they'll take place during the Feast of Passover and Feast of Tabernacles in consecutive years.

"This has happened only eight times over the last 2,000 years!" Biltz said. "And the last two times these occurred on the Jewish holidays there was a war in the Middle East regarding the nation of Israel. These are patterns and historical facts that cannot be disregarded. The Jewish Talmud records that total lunar eclipses are indicators or omens for the nation of Israel."

Among those championing the need to pay attention to Biltz's message in Blood Moons" is Joseph Farah, the founder and CEO of WND.

"It's not a question of *if* these signs will occur. It's not even a question of *when* they will occur. About that there is no doubt," said Farah. "The only questions that remain to be answered are: what they mean – and whether they are biblical harbingers of things to come for the world and for God's people. No one has perspective on these questions like Mark Biltz."

Farah added: "The wisdom of decoding these heavenly messages from our Creator . . . is overwhelmingly persuasive . . . God is trying to get our attention. And I am convinced He has anointed Mark Biltz to help us understand the times in which we live and the urgent warnings God is trying to deliver to us all."

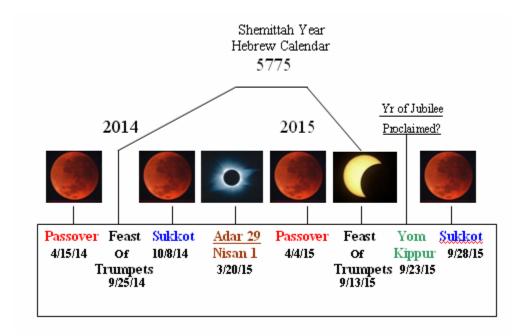
Farah calls the blood red moon discovery a powerful spiritual teaching "so detailed, so improbable, so mysterious it could only be the result of divine handiwork."

But what IS the real significance of the blood red llunar eclipses occurring on the Jewish holy days of Passover and Sukkot?

Could the years 2014-2015 picture the final years of the countdown to the approaching footsteps of the Messiah? Could this be the beginning of Daniel's 70th week, which heralds in the "end of the age," "to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy"? (Dan.9:24-27).

Could this be the final "seven times" or "years" of Leviticus 26 – a time of

plagues and punishments upon all Israel? God says, "I will punish you seven times ["years"] more for your sins. I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. And your strength shall be spent in vain" (Lev.26:18—20).



Four blood moons occurring on Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles in two consecutive years is fantastic, phenomenal. But when two solar eclipses on the two days that open the Jewish year March 20, 2015 (Nisan 1), and September 13, 2015 (Tishri 1) which is the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) are added, it is mind boggling.

Are these heavenly signs a powerful indicator that we are on the cusp of frightening days of judgment, and that the Great Tribulation is now about to begin, and the coming of the Messiah is right around the corner?

"And there will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment and perplexity [without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring (the echo) of the tossing of the sea" (Luke 21:25, Amplified Parallel Bible).

Are the tell tale end-time signs now beginning in earnest?

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Are These Really the End Times?

How much time is there left until Messiah comes? What is the timetable to the Apocalypse? Here are some new approaches for counting down the days and years left until the coming of Christ and the kingdom of God!

William F. Dankenbring

Wayne Allen Root in "Is Obama Accelerating the Collapse of America?" declares that the United States is now being governed by a "stealth tyrant." He says, "In my latest book, *The Ultimate Obama Survival Guide*, released in spring 2013, I called Barack Obama a 'stealth Marxist' out to destroy capitalism and make Americans dependent on government. This wasn't just guesswork. Obama and I were classmates at Columbia University, where we were taught how to overwhelm the system until the economy collapses with spending, debt and entitlements. In my book, I called Obamacare the perfect 'Trojan Horse' that would make it all happen" (*Personal Liberty*, Feb.20, 2014).

Declares Root, "The cloak is off. Obama is no longer hiding his plans to destroy America. For anyone who isn't blind, deaf or very dumb, it's now all out in the open.

"The news of this past week proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that Obama is accelerating the destruction of America. Why the sudden rush? Obama and his Marxist cabal see the writing on the wall. Their internal polls show they are headed for a landslide defeat in November. Now that the disastrous effects of Obamacare are clear for the voters to see, they know Democrats are about to be destroyed at the polls.

"Knowing Democrats can no longer get elected, or re-elected, Obama has decided to go it alone. Without regard for the law, the Constitution or the American people, he and those pulling his strings behind the scenes have obviously decided to do the most damage possible to America during his final three years. He's finally taken off the mask and shown himself to be the true communist tyrant he is."

Look At The Facts

In February, 2014, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office finally reported the truth: Obamacare is the perfect job-killing machine. Says Root, "Millions of people have already been downsized from full-time to part-time work, and now we know from the CBO that an additional <u>2.3 million jobs will be eliminated</u>. As I predicted from Day

One, this is exactly what Obamacare was intended to do: destroy the middle class and make us all dependent on government checks to survive.

"Obama's Kool-Aid-drinking supporters are so far in the tank that when the CBO courageously pointed out that Obamacare makes it less likely millions of Americans will want to work, they called it 'choice.' Obama's propagandists painted it a wonderful development. But letting middle-class wage earners and small businesses pay for all those who want to be freed from the need to work, so they can enjoy their free time and pursue their hobbies isn't 'choice.' It's theft."

Says Wayne Allen Root, "Folks, it is time to stop treading lightly and being politically correct. Let's call it what it is. This is communism, pure and simple. Anyone who thinks the American dream is to choose to stay home, not work and collect a government check is reading directly from Karl Marx. Anyone who thinks some people (who vote 100 percent Democrat) should have a 'choice' not to work, by stealing the money of others, is reading directly from *The Communist Manifesto*."

Root goes on, "But wait; it gets far worse. As part of the new illegal Obamacare directive to postpone the law for businesses with 50 to 99 employees, Obama put the Internal Revenue Service in direct control of critical U.S. business decisions. He demanded that businesses must 'justify' hiring and firing decisions to the IRS to qualify for the exemption. Plain and simple, putting government in charge of the decisions of a private business is the *very foundation of communism*. It is how *communist economies like North Korea, Cuba, the old Soviet Union and East Germany have always been run*. [Italics mine].

In addition to these things, Obama now shows his total disdain for Congress and the American people, by unilaterally loosening the rules for citizenship to allow foreigners with only a "minor" connection to terrorism to become citizens!

Why is our President so desperate to open the borders and let in "minor" terrorists? What is the pressing need in a country with 92 million unemployed workingage Americans to bring in potential terrorists and give them safe haven and work opportunities? Is this the way Obama creates instant Democratic voters?

Says Wayne Allen Root, "The evil and terrible news is coming in waves. And it's all coming from one man — a man no longer hiding the fact that he is a tyrant, dictator, communist and hater of America, capitalism and Judeo-Christian values.

"Obama no longer cares to hide his radical Marxist ideology. It's now clear it's 'pedal to the metal' toward the destruction of America.

"The question is: Who will stop him?"

That is indeed the question! What is the answer? What does the future hold?

The Apostle Peter's Commentary

In Psalm 90:4, we read: "For a *thousand years* in thy sight are but as *yesterday* when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

The apostle Peter seems to have this Scripture in mind when he writes, in the New Testament, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that ONE DAY *is with the Lord as a THOUSAND YEARS, and a thousand years as ONE DAY.* The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the *day of the Lord* will come as a thief in the night: in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (II Peter 3:8-10).

The *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, by Dr. David H. Stern, in a commentary on II Peter, chapter 3, dealing with the "day for a "thousand years" equation, explains that this idea "has deep roots in Judaism, specifically in connection with *dating the Messianic Era.*" He then quotes the Talmud, in tractate Sanhedrin, as follows:

"Rav Kattina said, 'The world will exist for six thousand years, then for one thousand it will be desolate, as it is said, "The Lord alone will be exalted in that day" (Isaiah 2:11). Abaye said, 'It will be desolate two thousand, as it is said, "After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, and we will live in his sight" (Hos.6:2).

"It has been taught in accordance with Rav Kattina, 'Just as every seventh year is a year of *sh'mittah* [letting the land lie fallow], so it is with the world: one thousand years out of seven are to be fallow -- as proved by the following three texts taken together [in which the key word is "day"]: "The Lord alone will be exalted in that day' (Isaiah 2:11); 'A psalm and song for the day of *Shabbat*' (Psalm 92:1), meaning the day that is entirely *Shabbat*; and, "For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past" (Psalm 90:4).

"The school of Eliyahu teaches: 'THE WORLD EXISTS FOR SIX THOUSAND YEARS -- two thousand of them *tohu* ["void"]; two thousand, *Torah*; and two thousand, the era of the MESSIAH. But because of our numerous iniquities many of these years have been lost" (Sanhedrin 97a-97b).

Notice that even the seven year Sabbatical cycle points to the truth of a Six Thousand Year Plan of God. Each series of "six years" is followed by a seventh year which is a SABBATICAL YEAR – or year of release, and rest to the land! (Leviticus 25:1-8).

Notice also that that the first 2000 years are characterized, by the school of Elijah the prophet, as years of "tohu" – that is, waste, emptiness, confusion and chaos – or "void." That would be the world prior to Abraham, including the Flood of Noah's time, from 4004 B.C. to 2004 B.C. The next 2,000 years is the time of the "Torah," or "Law"

of God – from the time of Abraham, 2004 B.C. to the birth of Jesus Christ in 4 B.C.!

The "Messianic Era," then, runs from 4 B.C. to 1997-98 A.D. – our time, today!

Yet, because of the sins of the people, the prophecy states, the Messianic Era itself would be "delayed." When Christ came in 4 B.C., and began His ministry in 27 A.D., He – the Messiah – was rejected by His people, and scorned, and crucified – killed! That was the beginning of the Messianic Era, when Christ came, and offered Salvation to His people. But since they rejected Him, He returned to heaven where He sits today, waiting for His people to repent of their sins, and cry out for Him – at which point He will return to save them from utter destruction!

David H. Stern writes concerning this fateful prophecy:

"According to Jewish tradition, there were 2,000 years without Torah spiritual tohu -- between the creation of Adam and the time when Abraham, aged 52, began convincing people to worship the one true God.

"The second 2,000 years supposedly lasted from then until 172 years after the destruction of the second Temple, that is, until 244 C.E. That was the year 4000 by the Jewish calendar. *But no significant event in Jewish history took place then.* However, Biblical chronology has a number of uncertainties, so that not all agree that the Jewish calendar accurately dates the biblical beginning of creation. James Ussher, Archbishop of Armagh, Ireland, writing in the 17th century, placed the Creation according to Genesis at 4004 B.C.E., exactly 4000 years before Yeshua's supposed birthdate . . .

"Concerning the third 2,000 years, a footnote to this passage in the Soncino English edition of the Talmud says, 'Messiah will come WITHIN THAT PERIOD. He should have come at the beginning of [it]; the DELAY is due to our SINS.' It should be obvious that the Messiah, who 'should have come at the beginning' of the last 2,000 year period is in fact Yeshua, who did come then. The delay is not of his coming but of our recognizing him, and this delay is indeed 'due to our sins.' . . .

"Yet as Kefa [Peter] points out, there is a delay in his second coming, and this is, in a different sense, 'due to our sins': 'The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise . . . on the contrary, he is patient with you; for it is . . . his purpose that everyone should turn from his sins,' literally, 'that everyone should come to repentance'" (*Jewish New Testament Commentary*, page 763-764).

When the Messiah returns, He will inaugurate a millennial kingdom lasting one thousand years. As John wrote, when Messiah comes, the Adversary – Satan the devil – will be bound for one thousand years (Rev.20:1-3). During that same period, John says, "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and REIGNED WITH CHRIST A THOUSAND YEARS. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years

were finished" (Rev.20:4-5).

Therefore, when the apostle Peter tells us that a "day" is with God as a thousand years, we should sit up and take notice! This implies that seven days of the week would equal SEVEN THOUSAND YEARS. And when we learn from prophecy that the Millennial day of "rest" or Millennial SABBATH is one thousand years, literally (Rev.20:4), then this tells us plainly that the preceding six days equal six thousand years!

Counting from Creation of Adam and Eve in 4004 B.C., the six thousand years of man's rule of earth would end in 1997 A.D., as there was no year zero. But from what year should we begin counting? Is 4004 B.C. the correct date? Not necessarily! According to the book of Jubilees, Adam and Eve did not sin until seven years after Creation. Therefore, they did not come under Satan's influence and rulership until 3997 B.C. Counting from this date would put the end of 6000 years at 2004 A.D.

The Book of Jubilees

The Jewish book of Jubilees tells us that the 6,000 years of man's rule should not be counted from the date of Creation, but implies that we should count from the date of Adam and Eve's transgression in the garden of Eden – when they came under the influence of the serpent, Satan the devil. *This was seven years after their original creation!*

Although we cannot state with absolute certainty, the indication from Biblical prophecy and Biblical evidence, is that the 6,000 years from Adam and Eve should be counted from the time they sinned, and were expelled from the Garden of Eden. That's when the countdown began. The book of Jubilees tells us that this occurred seven years after their original creation in 4004 B.C. Notice:

"And during the first week of the first jubilee Adam and his wife had been in the garden of Eden for SEVEN YEARS tilling and guarding it. And we gave him work and we were teaching him to do everything which was appropriate for tilling. And he was tilling. And he was naked, but he neither knew it nor was he ashamed. And he was guarding the garden from the birds and beasts and cattle and gathering its fruits and eating. And he used to set aside the rest for himself and his wife. And what was being guarded he set aside."

The author of Jubilees goes on, "At the END OF SEVEN YEARS which he completed there, *SEVEN YEARS EXACTLY*, in the second month on the seventeenth day, the *serpent came* and drew near to the woman" (Jubilees 3:15-17).

As we know, Eve and Adam both sinned, were enticed into transgression, and banished from the Garden. This occurred most likely, therefore, seven years after their original creation, in 4004 B.C. – or in the year 3997 B.C. The seven years of idyllic paradise should not be counted in the 6,000 years during which mankind has been subject to the "god of this world," Satan the Adversary (II Cor.4:4, Eph.2:2).

Thus we have:

4004 B.C.	6000 years	2003 A.D.	
<u>-7</u>	-3997 B.C.	<u>+1</u>	
3997 B.C.	2003 A.D.	2004 A.D.!	

Some may wonder why we "add" a year in the final column, to reach 2004 A.D. The answer is simple. There is no year "zero." Therefore, when counting from B.C. to A.D., we must "add" an extra year for the years to correspond to reality.

The Measure of the Mikvah

The mikvah pool in ancient times was a minimum of 40 *seahs* in volume of capacity. To understand this, we begin with a simple "egg." To the ancient Hebrews, the egg was the smallest unit of *volume* measure and also symbolically represents an increment or unit of *time*.

A person can hold 3 eggs in one hand; 6 eggs in two hands. Six eggs is called a log. Four logs comprise a cab of measure, or 24 eggs (4 x 6 = 24). Six cabs (24 x 6) equals 144 eggs. This is the volume of a seah. Since there are 40 seahs in a mikvah, this means that a mivah (symbol of a larger unit or measure of time) equals (40 x 144) a total of 5760 eggs! Thus, understanding that an "egg" represents a "year," the mikvah period represents a time of $5760 \ YEARS \ in fulfillment!$

What is so significant about that? Simply this: *The year 2000-2001 in the Jewish Calendar was the year 5760!*

Thus we have completed one complete TIME CYCLE of the Mikvah – one complete "baptism" or period of "immersion." The year 5760 was the final year of the preceding "mikvah period" – from the time of Creation to the END OF DAYS!

The Number "13"

God is patient and forbearing, not willing that any should perish. So He gave mankind additional time to repent, before divine judgment comes upon mankind like a flood. "13" is the number of "rebellion," and 13 years added to 2004 bring us to 2017 A.D. Thirteen years is certainly enough time to give a people to see if they are going to obey and repent of their sins, or continue in rebellion against God!

2017 is exactly one hundred years – or two Jubilee cycles – from the date when God opened the doors of Palestine to Jewish immigration through the Balfour Declaration, in 1917. It was General Allenby's conquest of the Holy Land in 1917, freeing it from the Turkish Empire, that brought Palestine under British control and the British mandate, enabling the Jews to immigrate to the land of their forefathers.

Another Amazing Prophecy

In the book of Ezekiel we read that the prophet was told to lie upon his side for 390 days as a sign to Israel. "And you, son of man, take a tile and lay it before you, and make upon it a drawing of a city, even Jerusalem.

"And put SIEGE works against it, build a siege wall against it, and cast up a mound against it; set camps also against it and set battering rams against it round about.

"Moreover, take a plate of iron and place it for an iron wall between you and the city; and set your face toward it and it shall be besieged, and you shall press the siege against it. This is a SIGN to the house of Israel!

"Then [bound as you are] lie upon your left [and north] side to bear symbolically the iniquity of the house of the TEN TRIBES of Israel upon that side. According to the number of days that you shall lie upon it you shall bear their iniquity.

"For I have laid upon you the *years of their iniquity, according to the number of days*, 390 days [representing 390 years]; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel" (Ezekiel 4:1-5). This is talking about the times of Israel's punishment!

In Leviticus 26, God says to Israel, if they disobey Him and break His covenant, reject His Torah,, His laws and way of life: "I will chastise and discipline you *seven times more* for your sins" (Lev.26:18); "I will bring seven times more plagues upon you" (v.21); "I will smite you seven times for your sins" (v.24); "I also will chastise you seven times for your sins" (v.28).

The siege of ancient Israel, the northern ten tribes, was from 721-718 B.C., when they were carried captive by the Assyrians.

Notice! So if you take 390 years of punishment God decreed on Israel, and multiply it by "7" times, you come to 2,730 years. $390 \times 7 = 2,730$ years.

2730 years

-721 B.C.
2009 A.D..

+1 (because no year zero)
2010 A.D.!

2730 years

-718 B.C.

2012 A.D. +1 (because no year zero) 2013 A.D.

If you add Daniel's final 7 years to 2010, it brings us to 2017 A.D. If you add it to 2013 A.D., then the end date becomes 2020 A.D. Either way, both scenarios indicate that the coming of the Messiah and the END of the prophecy will come sometime between 2017 and 2020 A.D., or shortly thereafter!

The Enigmatic "65 Years"

Another very interesting prophecy is found in the seventh chapter of Isaiah. God tells the prophet, "In *sixty five years, Ephraim will be broken* [lit., "shattered"], so that it will not be a people" (Isa.7:8, NKJV). I have often wondered if this verse has a message for the end-times, our day. What is this mysterious "sixty five" years? When would it be counted from? Ephraim refers to the United States and its allies, descended from ancient Ephraim the son of Joseph and leading tribe of the northern kingdom of Israel.

If we count 65 years from 1947, the year the United Nations voted to partition Palestine and create a Jewish state in the Middle East, we come to the year 2012 A.D. If we count from May 14, 1948, when Israel became an independent nation, then we come to Let's hear the drum roll!

2013 A.D.!

Hebrew years overlap the Roman year, and go from spring to spring or fall to fall. Therefore this is really 2013-2014 A.D.

Could this date signal the beginning of the fall of end-time Ephraim, the United States of America? Could it be the time when we begin to lose our national sovereignty and descend into national slavery and great tribulation? Could it signal the beginning of and formation of the New World Order – end-time "Babylon"?

We are living in dangerous times.

Will another WAR occur soon in the Middle East? Will its worldwide consequences lead to the devastation of Damascus, Syria, and its ruination? Isaiah foretold, "See, Damascus will cease to be a city, and will become a heap of ruins" (Isa.17:1).

Will Arab terrorists or Iranian secret cells in America respond by setting off terrorist nuclear bombs – even satchel sized weapons – within the borders of the United States? Will biological-chemical agents be unleashed in American cities?

Will America's fleet – her pride and power – suffer a devastating attack? Isaiah prophesied for Ephraim – modern America, "The fortress will disappear from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus. . . . On that day the glory of Jacob will be brought low, and the fat of his flesh will grow lean" (Isa.17:3-4, NRSV). We are certainly entering into harrowing times.

Another Scenario

Let's apply this principle to the "seven times" punishment God said He would pour out on his people if they broke His covenant (Lev.26). A prophetic year is 360 days.

Thus $360 \times 7 = 2520 \text{ years!}$ Let us count 2520 years from 604 B.C.

2520 years
<u>-604</u> B.C.
1916
<u>+1</u> (no year zero)
1917 A.D.

What happened in 1917 A.D. that relates to the kingdom of Judah?

Counting from 604 B.C., 2,520 years brings us to 1917 A.D. – the very year General Allenby conquered Jerusalem and wrested control of Palestine from the Turkish Empire during World War I! *In that very same year, the Balfour Declaration in Great Britain paved the way for the return of the Jewish people to their homeland in the Middle East.*

Arthur James Balfour (1848-1930) served as the Prime Minister of Great Britain from 1902 to 1905 and was a leader of the Conservative Party for over 20 years. The Balfour Declaration issued in 1917 bore his name. He served as Foreign Secretary in the coalition war cabinet of David Lloyd George from 1916 to 1919.

The Balfour Declaration dealt with the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. The Declaration read as follows:

"His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

In 1922 the League of Nations endorsed the declaration and gave Great Britain a mandate to rule over Palestine. The British mandate ended in 1947. In 1948, the Jews in the territory mandated to Britain established the independent state of Israel.

1917 was the pivotal year. Notice! Once again, a very significant fulfillment of prophecy occurred, 2,520 years after the original nation of Judah was taken into captivity by Babylon in 604 B.C. This amazing prophetic fulfillment, like that for the kingdom of Israel, clearly validates the prophetic principle of 2,520 years of punishment on God's people for disobedience – for both Israelites and Jews.

The Jubilee Cycles

The "Jubilee cycle" is a yearly cycle of 50 years, the 50th year being the "Jubilee" year, or year of release, liberty, and freedom – the great year of "blessing" (see Leviticus 25:8-15). Since the punishment on Judah was completed in 1917, it makes sense that we

should begin once again counting "Jubilee cycles" from that date. If we do so, several interesting things develop. Notice!

 $\frac{1917}{+50}$ $\frac{1967}{1967}$

1967 could also be considered the end of one Jubilee cycle beginning in 1917 when Israel was "restored" in Palestine by the Balfour Declaration! It is also the fateful year of the miraculous "Six Day War" in which Israel defeated the surrounding Arab states in a blitzkrieg type war in a mere six days!

Says the Worldbook Encyclopedia in regard to this marvelous event:

"UN troops prevented raids across the Israeli-Egyptian border after the 1956 war. But Arab raids continued from Syria and Jordan into Israel, and Israeli forces raided those countries in return. Border clashes increased greatly in the mid-1960's.

"In May 1967, Israel and the three Arab countries all alerted their armed forces for possible war. At Egypt's demand, the UN troops left the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula. The Egyptians then again closed the Gulf of Aqaba to Israeli ships.

"On June 5, 1967, Israeli planes attacked airfields in Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. The Israelis destroyed the Arab air forces almost completely. Then they defeated the Arab armies. By June 8, Israeli troops occupied the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula, and Jordanian territory west of the River Jordan, including Jordan's half of Jerusalem. On June 10, Israel captured Syria's Golan Heights. The war was over in six days.

"When the brief war ended, the Israelis controlled Arab territory totaling more than three times the area of Israel itself. In June 1967, Israel officially made Jordan's half of Jerusalem a part of Israel" ("Israel," p.393).

This astounding war occurred exactly 2300 years from the pivotal battle between Greece and Persia that began Daniel's vision of the eighth chapter. This furious battle, like its predecessor 2300 years ago, was fought against overwhelming odds, and the outcome was decided by Divine Providence. Something occurred during this battle in 1967 which proves it was the terminus of this ancient prophecy. The Jews seized the Old City of Jerusalem, historic Jerusalem, and along with it THE SACRED TEMPLE MOUNT, where history shows that Solomon's Temple, and the Second Temple, were both constructed!

Is this astonishing victory for Israel in 1967 significant? A nation of 2 1/2 million put to rout the armies and military forces of Arab nations with a combined population of over 140 million. This was "a staggering achievement," in the words of Winston S. and Randolph S. Churchill. Colin Legum in *The Observer* called the Israeli victory "a *miracle* of arms" (*ibid.*,p.194-195). He added that one of Israel's leading soldier-politicians remarked:

"The only analogy I can think of is if Britain had found herself in

occupation of Berlin just three days after Dunkirk. The suddenness of the transformation from a situation of acute danger to unparalleled victory is too much for any people to absorb. It will take time to get over it" (*ibid.*). On June 27 three laws were passed through the Knesset annexing the Old City of Jerusalem and reuniting it with the New City on the next day. Was this amazing Six Day War significant in relation to Biblical prophecy? *Of course it was!*

But now let's continue the "Jubilee cycle." The next 50 years ends in the year 2017. Could this also be significant?

1967 +50 2017

Notice! This date, 2017, is the same date as the 70 years beginning in 1947, the year of the UN mandate to divide Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state! By this reckoning, the year 2017-2018 is a JUBILEE YEAR! Could this be the "Jubilee year" on which the Messiah will return in glory?

Could all this be mere coincidence? Or is GOD Almighty in control of the times and the seasons of Biblical prophecy and their fulfillment?

The Ten "Sefirot" of God

These final 10 years are also pictured by or correspond to the "ten sefirot" of God – His ten characteristics revealed to mankind. The first three are "hidden" from view. The visible "sefirot" are seven in number, depicting the final SEVEN years of the age. The ten sefirot picture the final 10 years – but the first three are "hidden" or "obscure" and not easily recognized.

The number "ten" is very important, Biblically. There are ten patriarchs and ten generations of mankind before the Flood; there were ten plagues on ancient Egypt; God gave Israel the "Ten Commandments"; there were ten tribes in the northern kingdom of Israel; the fourth beast of Daniel has ten horns (Dan.7:7, 24); the beast of Revelation has ten horns also (Rev.13:1); ten kings will fight Christ when He returns (Rev.17:12-14); the Church of God is described as being composed of *ten virgins* (Matt.25:1); the tithe is *one tenth* of one's income (Lev.27:30-32).

Ten is also a number of perfection or completion. But it signifies completion or perfection of God's divine order. The first ten numbers is the pattern for the whole numerical system, as "numerical DNA" as it were – and originates the system of numerical calculation called "decimals." Completeness of order, then, is represented by the number "ten."

And, of course, there are the "ten days of Awe." In end-time prophecy, when God begins to reveal Himself, the ten days represent ten years – a day is a year being

fulfilled. So if we add 10 years to 2012, we come to 2022 A.D.!

All together, then, there are ten divine *sefirot* or "traits" of God which represent the connecting link or "chain of command" between God and our physical world in which we live. These *sefirot* are revealed in the "Omer Count," in the spring of the year. God commands His people to "count the Omer" each day, from the beginning of barley harvest (Abib 16), till Pentecost, seven weeks later (Lev.23:15-16).

The first three of the divine sefirot are *chochma* (Wisdom), *binah* (Understanding), and *dat* (Knowledge). These are invisible attributes. Could these also refer to the first three years, of the final ten days of this world before Christ comes? In other words, could the first three "invisible" years begin from 2012, and end in 2015?d But only in 2015 will people wake up and SEE what has been happening, right under their noses!

The Blood Red Moons

Interestingly, a rare cycle of solar and lunar eclipses will begin this year 2014, occurring at the time of God's holy days cited in the Bible.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Joel states, "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come" (Joel 2:31).

In the New Testament, Jesus is quoted as saying, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light . . . And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:29-30).

In 2014 and also in 2015, a tetrad of blood red moons, or lunar eclipses, occurs on both Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. Could this be the beginning of the final week of Daniel 9, and a signal that the final visible seven "sefirot" of God will be revealed?

"All these signs, coming together at one time, are potentially the culminating signals that God is closing this chapter of human history," declares pastor Mark Biltz, author of the brand-new book and DVD, *Blood Moons: Decoding the Imminent Heavenly Signs*.

This could be the final curtain call before the Great Tribulation mentioned in the Bible. God has always wanted to warn His people, and the rest of the world, before He intervenes. What better way to communicate to us than through the universal language of heavenly signs that speak to every tribe, tongue, and nation!

According to Jewish interpretation, each one of the final seven revealed or visible

sefirot is represented by one of the patriarchs, who exemplified that particular trait, or characteristic. For example:

Patriarch	Hebrew term	English meaning
Abraham	chesed	loving kindness, hospitality
Isaac	gevurah	power, contained strength,
Jacob	tiferet	beauty, mercy, harmony, compassion
Moses	netzach	victory, triumph, eternity, dominance
Aaron	hod	splendor, majesty, glory
Joseph	yesod	foundational strength, foundation
David	malchut	kingdom, manifestation, kingship

What is not generally realized is that these *seven* patriarchs, and these *seven* emanations of God's sefirot, ALSO CORRESPOND *TO GOD'S SEVEN-THOUSAND YEAR PLAN that He is working out on the earth!*

In other words, each of these characteristics fits, in descending order, one of the seven millennia down through human history, including the "Sabbath rest" 1,000-year period of the reign of the Messiah (Rev.20:1-4).

Notice carefully:

<u>Patriarch</u>	Hebrew term	Period of Years
Abraham	chesed	4004 BC-3004 BC
Isaac	gevurah	3004 BC-2004 BC
Jacob	tiferet	2004 BC-1004 BC
Moses	netzach	1004 BC-4 BC
Aaron	hod	4 BC-997 AD
Joseph	yesod	997 AD-1997 AD

Thus if we count the millennia from the Creation of man, Adam and Eve were created in 4004 BC, according to archbishop Ussher's carefully compiled Biblical chronology. This means the end of the sixth millennium was 1997 AD, and we are now living in "the birth pangs of the Messianic Age"!

However, notice that the sixth millennium, just before the coming of the Messiah and the inauguration of the seventh millennium, belongs to the patriarch "Joseph." Joseph was the son of Jacob sold into slavery by his brothers, who suffered in Pharaoh's prison, but was ultimately raised to rulership over the whole land of Egypt, and he was the "Messianic figure" of that age, a *type* of the true Messiah – God used Joseph to save his family, and all the nations of the world, from the scourge of famine and drought! Even so, during the past ages, the world has been blessed by the descendants of Joseph – Ephraim and Manasseh.

The house of Joseph today is the United States (Ephraim) and Great Britain and Canada (Manasseh), with some mixture between. They have ruled much of the world in

the last few centuries, bringing democracy and capitalism to the world, and safeguarding it from Nazism, Socialism, and Communism and various forms of totalitarianism.

A Plan for the End-Time Sefirot of Years

But what is most interesting is to look at the ten sefirot as corresponding to the last ten years of this age, before Messiah comes. The ten sefirot correspond to the "Ten Days of Awe." If we begin the countdown from 2012, then the first three years commencing then are "invisible" years, pictured by the invisible attribute of God. These are years where most people still don't "see" what is happening – they are still in a dream-like state, their minds beclouded by a spirit of stupor. What is developing in the world is still "hidden" from their view and understanding. These would be the years of:

1. Chochmah	2012	Wisdom
2. Binah	2013	Understanding
3. Dat	2014	Knowledge

Wisdom, understanding, and knowledge are invisible to the naked eye. The seven "visible" sefirot years pick up at that time, during the period book-marked by the red moon eclipse tetrads. The first one would be 2015, and the last one would be 2021-2022.

If that is the case, then we have the following spiritual blueprint for God's people, to work on developing the characteristics of God in their lives:

1. Chesed	2015	Loving kindness
2. Gevurah	2016	Containing strength, self control
3. Tifiret	2017	Beauty, compassion, peace
4. Netzach	2018	Overcoming, enduring, eternity
5. Hod	2019	Glory, majesty, splendor, humility
6. Yesod	2020	Foundation, faith, obeying Torah
7. Malchut	2021	The Kingdom of God, Manifestation

Does this provide a pattern or blueprint for the last ten years of this present age – a countdown period ending with the coming of "Malchut" – the Kingdom of God?

These characteristics also give us a blueprint to facilitate our character development – learning to overcome our faults and poor character traits by adding these divine components to our character through the help of the Holy Spirit of God. Doing this will help us get through and survive the Great Tribulation and times of stress, anxiety and fear coming upon the world!

It may well be that we are coming to the final seven years till the END of this age! We are definitely living in the END TIMES foretold by the prophets and the apostles and Jesus Christ, the Messiah Himself! Are you prepared for that fateful day?

[&]quot;PREPARE to meet your God, O Israel!" (Amos 4:12).

Prophecy Briefs

Global Slaughter of Christians But America's Churches Stay Silent

Christians are being singled out and massacred from Pakistan to Syria to the Nairobi shopping mall. Kirsten Powers on the deafening silence from U.S. pews and pulpits.

Christians in the Middle East and Africa are being slaughtered, tortured, raped, kidnapped, beheaded, and forced to flee the birthplace of Christianity. One would think this horror might be consuming the pulpits and pews of American churches. Not so. The silence has been nearly deafening.

As Egypt's Copts have battled the worst attacks on the Christian minority since the 14th century, the bad news for Christians in the region keeps coming. On Sunday, Taliban suicide bombers killed at least 85 worshippers at All Saints' church, which has stood since 1883 in the city of Peshawar, Pakistan. Christians were also the target of Islamic fanatics in the attack on a shopping center in Nairobi, Kenya, this week that killed more than 70 people. The Associated Press reported that the Somali Islamic militant group al-Shabab "confirmed witness accounts that gunmen separated Muslims from other people and let the Muslims go free." The captives were asked questions about Islam. If they couldn't answer, they were shot.

Pakistanis protest against violence against Christians in Lahore on Sept. 24, 2013. (Arif Ali/AFP/Getty Images)

In Syria, <u>Christians are under attack</u> by Islamist rebels and fear extinction <u>if Bashar al-Assad falls</u>. This month, rebels overran the historic Christian town of Maalula, where many of its inhabitants speak Aramaic, the language of Jesus. The AFP reported that a <u>resident of Maalula</u> called her fiancé's cell and was told by a member of the Free Syrian Army that they gave him a chance to convert to Islam and he refused. So they slit his throat.

Nina Shea, an international human-rights lawyer and expert on religious persecution, <u>testified in 2011 before Congress</u> regarding the fate of Iraqi

Christians, two-thirds of whom have vanished from the country. They have either been murdered or fled in fear for their lives. Said Shea: "[I]n August 2004 ... five churches were bombed in Baghdad and Mosul. On a single day in July 2009, seven churches were bombed in Baghdad ... The archbishop of Mosul, was kidnapped and killed in early 2008. A bus convoy of Christian students were violently assaulted. Christians ... have been raped, tortured, kidnapped, beheaded, and evicted from their homes ..."

Lela Gilbert is the author of *Saturday People, Sunday People*, which details the expulsion of 850,000 Jews who fled or were forced to leave Muslim countries in the mid-20th century. The title of her book comes from an Islamist slogan, "First the Saturday People, then the Sunday People," which means "first we kill the Jews, then we kill the Christians." Gilbert wrote recently that her Jewish friends and neighbors in Israel "are shocked but not entirely surprised" by the attacks on Christians in the Middle East. "They are rather puzzled, however, by what appears to be a lack of anxiety, action, or advocacy on the part of Western Christians."

COMMENT: It says in Daniel 9:27—"he, the end-time prince," the little horn that rises up (Antichrist) is going to "force a treaty with the many." The King James Bible translation says, he will confirm a covenant with many. This land was bequeathed by God to Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Jacob (Israel). How can this American peace program work out for the good when Palestinians hate the Jews and admittedly purpose to destroy Judaism and every last Jew remaining in the Middle East by driving them into the Sea? John Kerry must have blinders on, be drunk, or insane.

God says, "Hear, you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see. Who is blind but My servant [Israel and its leadership], or deaf as My

messenger [the house of Israel and its leaders who were to be a light to the world] whom I send? Who is blind but he who is perfect [Jacob, who was a 'perfect' man], and hlind as the LORD's servant [the house or Jacob or Israel]? Seeing many things, but you do not observe; opening the ears, but he does not hear" (Isaiah 42:18-20).

Why is our leadership so deaf and blind? "Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with intoxicating drink. For the LORD has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes . . ." (Isa.29:9-10).

Barack Obama Breaks Up with Boy Friend

"We are living in amazingly strange times, friends. The White House today issued a historic and unprecedented press release – where a male President of the United States has announced his breakup with a male staffer and longtime lover.

"In the press release, the term 'body man' is used instead of 'boyfriend', 'lover,' 'paramour,' special friend,' 'buddy' or all sorts of other appropriate vocabulary. But if you're someone who hasn't been in a coma for the last couple of years, you know the real deal.

"Barack Obama is more like Elton John than the White House admits in the press release." (Hillbuzz, Kevin DuJan, Nov.10, 2011).

Says Wikipedia about Obama's boy friend and staffer Reggie Love: "Reginald L. Love (born April 29, 1981) served as the special assistant and personal aide, commonly referred to as body man for taking care of the president's needs, to United States President Barack Obama. Love left this position at the end of 2011, to complete his Master of Business Administration degree at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School."

Heaelined the Sandra Rose blog: "Obama Vacationed Alone with Reggie Love, Bans Media from Taking Pictures." It went on to warn:

"The contents of this post may be upsetting to some of you unrepentant Obama apologists. You

may want to sit this one out and wait for the next post which will be up shortly.

"For years there have been rumors about President Barack Obama's sexual preferences. To understand why I am entertaining the rumors today, I have to take you back to November 2011, when Obama's "body man" Reggie Love resigned from his manufactured position as "deputy political director" to Mr. Obama.

"At the time, the WH press pool that follows Obama everywhere speculated quietly that the president and Mr. Love had broken up. The rumor mongers within the press pool speculated that Love was asked to resign — so close to the November elections — because 'compromising' pictures from his college days had surfaced online — and the pics were zooming along the Internet highway at such a rapid pace that the White House could not contain them.

"According to <u>this blog</u>, the pictures purportedly showed a "heavily inebriated" Mr. Love performing a homosexual act on another male.

"It was important for Reggie Love to tender his resignation if Mr. Obama had any hopes of being reelected. So, exit Mr. Love stage left.

"Now, fast forward to this past week, when word leaked that the Obamas were taking separate vacations. As soon as the White House confirmed the reports, the devoted members of the Church of Obama dropped to their knees in fervent defense of their Savior.

"One reader quipped: 'When your relationship is strong and secure, you can take a separate vacay over a long weekend.' (Yea, sure. As if the reader wouldn't snap if her husband even hinted that he was taking a separate vacation away from her)

"It's important to note that the Obamas have taken separate vacations before. So why was it different this time? Well, this time Mr. Obama violated the rules by banning the White House press pool from laying eyes on him (or taking pictures) the entire weekend, which I'm sure is mandated in the Constitution somewhere.

"The WH press pool was said to be 'furious' at the lack of access to the president this weekend (as if it was the first time that Obama has blocked them from recording his extracurricular activities for all future generations to see).

"The usually fawning media vented their frustrations in a most un-lapdog-like way.

" 'The way the president's availability to the press has shrunk in the last two years is a disgrace,' snapped ABC News White House reporter Ann Compton, who **Politico.com** notes has covered presidents all the way back to Gerald Ford."

Then on Monday came <u>this blurb</u> from a journalist returning to Washington on board Air Force 1 with the president:

"AF1 wheels down Andrews at 7:45pm. POTUS came back to have a 10-minute off the record talk with pool at the end of the flight.

"Reggie Love departed AF1 soon after POTUS, apparently a guest for the weekend.

"Marine One wheels up 7:55 pm

"Now we understand quite clearly why First Lady Michelle Obama's body language reveals such quiet aggression whenever Obama touches her. It must be difficult being the first black president who is also gay. But somehow, Mr. Obama is making it work."

From **Hillbuzz.org**: With no political career left to worry about, he can openly be himself. Draped in colorful muumuus, with a retinue of hunky shirtless Secret Service studs around him, Barack Obama will find himself in a new kind of paradise no doubt.

"Go ahead and laugh at the idea now, if you want. I remember hearing how some women scoffed at the idea that Elton John was gay back in the day too. "But he's married!", "He has a wife!", "I can't believe he's gay!". Well, believe it, sisters.

"The current President of the United States is as gay, or even more gay, as Elton John. It might take ten years or so for him to finally come out and hold court on the circuit party scene, or this might be a case like with Rock Hudson and Liberace where the truth only comes out once

Barack Obama has passed on far into the future...but there's just no reason for guys like Kal Penn and Reggie Love to play the strange roles that they have played in Barack Obama's life unless they were his boyfriends."

Obama Tells Senior UN Official "The United States Will be a Muslim Country by 2016"

At a meeting of the David Allen Lewis "Eschatology Club" a year ago in Springfield, Missouri, where I was the featured speaker, I was told by the organizers that in the previous monthly meeting, Pastor Don Jones made a disturbing statement about President Barack Obama's plan to Islamicize America.

Jones went to one of his orphanages in Haiti after the massive earthquake there and met with a senior UN official, who said Obama had told him that the US would be a Muslim country by 2016, or by the end of his second term in office.

While that may seem far-fetched, it is not beyond the realm of possibility. First, Obama's biological father was a Muslim—which makes the President a Muslim. His stepfather was an Indonesian Muslim who raised Obama as a Muslim in a mosque and madrassa (Islamic religious school) in Indonesia until age 11. His halfbrothers in Kenya are Muslims.

My wife Rachel, who is a radio and TV monitor in the Arabic language for Israel Radio in Jerusalem, has picked up many broadcasts indicating that the Arabs see Obama as a Muslim. In one broadcast prior to the 2008 elections, the Saudis claimed that "we will have a Muslim in the White House."

Another Saudi broadcast said: "Obama's job is to terminate the Shiite threat [Iran] and the Jewish threat [Israel]. And if he cannot do this, he should pack his bags and go home."

America has always been a Judeo-Christian nation, but demographically at least, this is no longer true. While there are more than 250 million Christians in the US, the 6 million Jews are now outnumbered by Muslims who total about 20 million (9 million Iranians who fled after the fall of the Shah, 7 million Arabs and at least 3 million black Muslims, with the

remainder being from Somalia and the former Yugoslavia).

Numerically, the Jews are now no. 3 or 4 along with the Hindus in the US, whose population is about the same as the Jews. According to Obama's Inauguration Day speech, America is a "Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu" country. Numerically, he is right. So much for Judeo-Christian America.

In the June edition of Israel Today, I wrote about the worsening conditions of the Christians in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. International investment in Egypt has all but dried up since the Revolution. What international (Christian) corporation will invest in a country which is killing and ethnically cleansing its Christians? So the Egyptian economy appears doomed to collapse, which would create fertile ground for a takeover by the radical Muslim Brotherhood.

This would leave 70 million Muslims in Egypt in dire poverty.

The same applies to other countries in the Middle East that could be taken over by Islamic militants. In the case of Syria, the ruling Muslim Alawite sect will probably share the same fate as the Christians. This could lead to a flood of Arab Muslims to greener pastures in the West.

The Bible says Egypt will be a desolation and Egyptians will flee to other countries because the nation will be uninhabitable for 40 years (Ezekiel 29). If the official Syrian newspaper Tishrin is correct in saying that 600,000 Palestinian refugees and Syrians will march on the Golan Heights to reclaim their land, then a war with Syria is inevitable, which means that Syria will be a desolation as well (Isaiah 17).

The result could be tens of millions of Muslims fleeing to the US and Europe. President Obama would welcome these "brethren" on humanitarian grounds, and in effect, America would become a Muslim country.

I was just convicted and given a three-year jail sentence in Switzerland for helping defeat a plan to build minarets at the nation's mosques by a 57 percent majority. But the Muslims in Switzerland are already returning with a new minaret initiative. They are tenacious in their plans to Islamicize Switzerland and Europe. Why

not the US? (Victor Mordecai, *Sharia Unveiled*, June 2013).

Obama's Plan to Islamize America

On the surface, the fact that the U.S. Commerce Department is considering granting "disadvantaged minority" business status to Arab Americans doesn't appear to elicit a cause for alarm.

But when aligned with other developments, both here in the U.S. and across the Middle East, it creates a larger context that says otherwise, states Avi Lipkin, a U.S.-born Israeli citizen, former member of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and a former translator inside the Israeli Prime Minister's office.

Apart from maintaining his circles within Israel and the international diplomatic community, Lipkin also—together with his wife, Rachel, an Egyptian-born Israeli—closely monitors various media transmissions throughout the Arab world.

Combining the content of those transmissions with American domestic developments under the Obama administration—from Obama's policy decisions with regard to Iran, Israel and the so-called Arab Spring, to many of his czar appointments, right down to his infamous 2009 bow to the Saudi king—the notion that Obama could be executing a Saudi plot to Islamize America becomes increasingly unnerving.

Consider Obama's stance on immigration. According to Arabic language broadcasts intercepted and interpreted by Lipkin, "The Moslem world is saying that President Obama wants amnesty for the current 12 million illegal Hispanic immigrants in the U.S. in order to pave the way for the next wave of tens of millions of illegals from the Middle East to the United States, leading to 50 to 100 million Muslims living in the U.S. before the end of Obama's second term...

Furthermore, Lipkin has a source with a senior United Nations official that has also said the U.S. will be a Muslim country by 2016—a scenario that makes the Commerce Department's latest deliberation to grant Arab businesses a leg up rather peculiar in its timing. Lipkin outlined his best speculative assertion of how Obama is carrying out a three-phase Saudi plan that involves the following:

- 1. See to the end of the Iranian Shi'ite threat, be it with assistance from Israel or via the rise of a fanatic Muslim Brotherhood Sunni Regime born out of the Arab Spring.
- 2. Following the takeover of the regimes in the Middle East and the Arab Spring unrest, allow the inevitably massive exodus of Sunni Muslims and Christians from Egypt and other nations to find amnesty in America and Europe—thus bringing about Muslim majorities in the U.S., Europe, Canada and Latin America.
- 3. Terminate the "Jewish threat" by allowing the Muslim Brotherhood nations to march on Israel.

Obama Backed Wrong Side in Syria

Thanks to Barack Obama, all Americans have innocent blood on their hands because of his decision to support Christian-killing terrorists in Syria with weapons purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars.

After threatening to use U.S. military force to topple Syria's Bashar Assad, Obama backed off and sent weapons to Muslim Brotherhood rebels pledged to overthrow him. Those forces have been routed by al-Qaida and its allies and all the weapons the U.S provided have been captured.

That would be bad enough, but it's much, much worse.

The Syrian rebels, now led by al-Qaida and al-Qaida affiliates, are systematically massacring Christians and other non-Sunnis wherever they are found. The rule is convert or die.

Thousands have been butchered, beheaded – entire Christian towns destroyed.

It's a familiar lesson in the Middle East: Assad is a monster, a dictator, a murderer, a tyrant. But he was the devil we knew – the devil who actually protected Christians and other religious minorities in Syria, one of the last Arab countries offering such protection. We got a glimpse of how insanely hellish conditions are now for Christians in parts of Syria not controlled by Damascus any longer.

The first shocker is from Sister Hatune Dogan, a Syrian Orthodox nun working with persecuted Christians. The atrocity stories she conveys are heart-wrenching beyond words. But she tells one story that is hair-raising.

She told WND's Jerome Corsi in a Skype interview that Sunnijihadists at war with Assad's government are beheading Christians, draining their blood in buckets and then selling small vials of the blood to wealthy supporters of their terrorism in Saudi Arabia for up to \$100,000 so they can wash their hands with it in a ritual they believe helps them atone for their sins.

The Christians, she said, are beheaded in ceremonies in which they are forced to kneel, with their hands and feet bound, as the Muslim radicals read a death sentence imposed because the victim refuses to renounce Christianity and embrace Islam.

She detailed how the head of the victim is brutally severed with knives. The blood spurting from their necks is captured in basins and then bottled.

"The Muslims sever the necks and collect the blood in vessels to sell the blood," said the nun. "The Muslims believe that if they kill a Christian and wash their hands in the blood of the Christian, they will go to heaven."

But that's not all.

Former terrorist-tumed-Christian persecution activist Walid Shoebat has published a video of Sunni Muslim terrorists playing soccer with the heads of those they murdered in Syria.

Who enabled all of this monstrous, demonic activity?

Barack Obama and U.S. taxpayers.

It was Obama's decision to back the Syrian resistance, which has always been led by al-Qaida-style jihadists. Now, having overrun the less radical elements supplied by Americans, al-Qaida and al-Nusra have a monopoly on the movement to topple Assad -as well as a monopoly on all the U.S. weapons, communications gear and other supplies Obama provided.

What is our investment supporting?

Beheadings, trade in the drained blood of Christians, soccer played with the heads of innocent victims. This is what happens with Americans elect amateurs or worse to lead their country and place in their control the arsenals of war.

It's time for American Christians to get on their knees in repentance for what we have done. Our own sins are responsible for Obama.

There is no way God would use him as a judgment on America if believers were faithful, humble, repentant, seeking His face, prayerful. There is no way other believers around the world would be paying for our sins in unimaginable tribulation if American believers were faithful, humble, repentant, seeking His face, prayerful. (World Net Daily, Joseph Farah, Jan.3, 2014).

Pope Francis Revamps Catholic Church Basic Doctrine

One man who is out to open many old "secrets" in the Catholic church is Pope Francis.

Some of the beliefs that are held in the church but contrary to the loving nature of God are now being set aside by the Pope who was recently named **The Man of The Year** by **TIME Magazine**.

In his latest revelations, Pope Francis said:

"Through humility, soul searching, and prayerful contemplation we have gained a new understanding of certain dogmas. The church no longer believes in a literal hell where people suffer. This doctrine is incompatible with the infinite love of God. God is not a judge but a friend and a lover of humanity. God seeks not to condemn but only to embrace. Like the fable of Adam and Eve, we see hell as a literary device. Hell is merely a metaphor for the isolated soul, which like all souls ultimately will be united in love with God."

In a shocking speech that is reverberating across the world, Pope Francis declared that: "All religions are true, because they are true in the hearts of all those who believe in them. What other kind of truth is there? In the past, the church has been harsh on those it deemed morally wrong or sinful. Today, we no longer judge. Like a loving father, we never condemn our children. Our church is big enough for heterosexuals and homosexuals, for the pro-life and the pro-choice! For conservatives and liberals, even communists are welcome and have

joined us. We all love and worship the same God."

In the last six months, Catholic cardinals, bishops and theologians have been deliberating in the Vatican City, in discussing the future of the church and redefining long-held Catholic doctrines and dogmas. The Third Vatican Council, is the largest and most important since the Second Vatican Council was concluded in 1962.

Pope Francis convened the new council to "finally finish the work of the Second Vatican Council."

The Third Vatican Council concluded with Pope Francis announcing that Catholicism is now a "modern and reasonable religion, which has undergone evolutionary changes. The time has come to abandon all intolerance. We must recognize that religious truth evolves and changes. Truth is not absolute or set in stone. Even atheists acknowledge the divine. Through acts of love and charity the atheist acknowledges God as well, and redeems his own soul, becoming an active participant in the redemption of humanity."

One statement in the Pope's speech has sent traditionalists into a fit of confusion and hysteria.

"God is changing and evolving as we are, For God lives in us and in our hearts. When we spread love and kindness in the world, we touch our own divinity and recognize it. The Bible is a beautiful holy book, but like all great and ancient works, some passages are outdated. Some even call for intolerance or judgment. The time has come to see these verses as later interpolations, contrary to the message of love and truth, which otherwise radiates through scripture. In accordance with our new understanding, we will begin to ordain women as cardinals, bishops and priests. In the future, it is my hope that we will have a woman pope one day. Let no door be closed to women that is open to men!"

COMMENT: Read our article "Is Pope Francis Peter the Roman, the Last Pope?" and "Pope, Papacy and Prophecy!"

Is the Passover and Crucifixion just too Complicated?

How important is it that we understand the true date of God's Passover, and the Crucifixion of Christ? Is this subject just too complex and confusing for us to discern and understand the truth? Does it really matter? Is there so much controversy and difference of opinion that we might as well throw up our hands and admit defeat?

William F. Dankenbring

Just how complicated is it?

I received a letter asking me about the Passover and true date of the crucifixion of Christ. The writer said: "Hi, I read with much interest your arguments for a Thursday crucifixion in your article, "How Long Was Jesus in the Grave?" (http://www.triumphpro.com/jesus-in-grave-new-truth.htm). In that article, you give the following timeline for Passion Week:

April 2,	April 3,	April 4,	April 5,	April 6,	April 7,	April 8,
Sunday,	Monday,	Tuesday,	Wednesday	Thursday,	Friday,	Sabbath,
Abib 10	Abib 11	Abib 12	Abib 13	Abib 14	Abib 15	Abib 16
Jesus' entry	Jesus in	Lord's	Jesus' trial	Passover,	Holy Day	Counting of
Jerusalem	Temple	Supper	by Pilate	Crucifixion	I st Day UB	Omer begins

"However, the following Scriptures indicate that the Lord's Supper occurred on the first Day of Unleavened Bread, which does not seem consistent with your chart above.

Matt.26:17-19: "On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He replied, 'Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, "The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house." So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover."

Mk.14:12-16: "On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, 'Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, 'Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar

of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, "The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.' The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover."

"Could you explain how you reconcile these passages with your timeline?"

At first glance, this would seem to be a dilemma. How can it already be "the first day of Unleavened Bread" but they have not yet even begun to "prepare for the Passover," which is the beginning event of the Feast of Unleavened Bread?

The answer is really very simple.

A Matter of Translation

Notice! The King James Version has inserted the words "day" and "feast of" in Matthew's account. These words do not belong! In the original Greek, as the *Englishman's Greek-English Interlinear* shows, the correct rendering is as follows:

"Now on the first [day] of unleavened bread."

Thus the real Greek reads, "Now on the first of unleavened bread." However, the first *day* of unleavened bread would not come till Nisan 15th arrived! What does the expression "the first of unleavened bread" really mean? The Greek word for "FIRST" here is #4418 in Strong's Concordance – *PROTOS* – and means, "FOREMOST (IN TIME, PLACE, ORDER OF IMPORTANCE) – *BEFORE, BEGINNING*, BEST, CHIEF."

Therefore, this verse in Matthew merely states, "Now in the *beginning of* unleavened bread," or "Now *before* unleavened bread!" This refers to a period of TIME at the beginning of or preceding the Feast of Unleavened Bread – *an indefinite period which is not specified but which is related to the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!*

The Word "DAY"

But what about the word "day" as found in the accounts of Mark and Luke? Mark says it was the "first day" of unleavened bread "when they killed the passover." Luke says it was "the day" of unleavened bread when the passover "must be killed."

Now the Passover lambs were killed on Nisan 14, but the Feast did not begin until the 15th day of the month. So, "Houston, we have a problem!"

Again, the answer is very simple, with a little research and investigation!

Many ASSUME that this word "day" MUST mean Nisan 14, because that is the

literal 24-hour day the Passover lamb was commanded to be killed (Exo.12:6). However, the truth of the matter is that the Greek word "DAY" also has *many different meanings!*

"Hemera"

Notice! The Greek word translated "day" in these verses is *HEMERA*. It is #2250 in Strong's Concordance and means – "DAY, i.e. (lit.) *the time space between dawn and dark, or the whole 24 hours* . . . fig. A PERIOD (ALWAYS DEFINED MORE OR LESS CLEARLY IN THE CONTEXT) – AGE . . . DAY . . . TIME, WHILE, YEARS."

Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words defines hemera as follows: "(a) the period of natural light . . . (b) the same, but figuratively for a period of opportunity for service . . . (c) one period of alternate light and darkness . . . (d) A PERIOD OF UNDEFINED LENGTH MARKED BY CERTAIN CHARACTERISTICS, such as 'the day of small things,' Zech.4:10, of perplexity and distress, Isa.17:11; Obad.12-14; of prosperity and of adversity, Ecc.7:14; of trial and testing, Ps.95:8; of salvation, Isa.49:8; 2 Cor.6:2; cf. Luke 19:42; of evil, Eph.6:13, of wrath and revelation of the judgments of God, Rom.2:5; (e) an APPOINTED TIME, Eccl.8:6; Eph.4:30 . . . (f) a notable defeat in battle, etc., Isa.9:4 . . . (g) by metonymy – 'when,' 'at the time when.'"

Clearly, this word has many different uses in the Greek language and most certainly does NOT always refer to a particular 24-hour "day"!

Notice how it is used in various Scriptures in the New Testament!

"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day [the period of Christ's coming]: and he saw it, and was glad" (John 8:56).

"At that TIME [HEMERA] there was a great persecution against the church" (Acts 8:1).

"But to Israel he saith, All DAY long [i.e., for a very long time] I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people" (Rom.10:21).

"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that ONE DAY is with the Lord AS A THOUSAND YEARS, and a thousand years as one day" (II Pet.3:8).

"But the DAY OF THE LORD [period of Christ's intervention] will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (II Pet.3:10).

With this understanding then, we see that the verses in Mark and Luke can be translated, and understood, as follows:

"And the *beginning period of unleavened bread*, when they killed the Passover" (Mark 14:12).

"Then came the *TIME of unleavened bread*, when the passover must be killed" (Luke 22:7).

Thus the ostensible problem is really very easily solved!

The Road to Emmaus

In the book of Luke we read a striking account regarding two disciples who were traveling to Emmaus that Sunday, the first day of the week, following the resurrection. Jesus joined up with them, His identity hidden, and He conversed with them. Notice the account:

"Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. And He said to them, 'What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?' Then the one who was Cleopas answered and said to Him, 'Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which Happened there in these days?' And He said to them, 'What things?' So they said to Him, 'The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the THIRD DAY since all these things happened" (Luke 24:13-21).

Notice! It was Sunday, and these two disciples said it was "THE THIRD DAY since all these things happened"! Now if we think Christ was crucified on a Wednesday, and count from Wednesday, when Jesus was crucified on the stake, we have – Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday – FOUR DAYS – it would have been FOUR days "since these things were done"!

The Englishman's Greek Interlinear has this verse, "But then with all these things THIRD THIS DAY brings today, SINCE these things came to pass." The Interlinear Bible has it: "But with all these things THIRD this day comes today SINCE these things occurred!" Obviously, Sunday is NOT "three days" from Wednesday but FOUR days! A Friday crucifixion would not fit the facts, either. Sunday is only TWO days from Friday! Therefore, the only available option is a Thursday crucifixion!

The Jewish Calendar Proof

The Jewish calendar makes this truth irrefutable and plain. Interestingly, in this day of computers, moon shots, and fly-bys of the moons of Jupiter, Saturn, and landing

spacecraft on the planet Mars, mankind has seen scientific and astronomical knowledge explode exponentially. As the prophet Daniel was told of the last days, or end times, "knowledge shall be increased" (Dan.12:4).

The whole question can be settled, once and for all, by the knowledge of astronomy and the Jewish calendar. Rabbis admit that in the time of the second Temple, the Jewish calendar was regulated by the moon. That is, each month began when a "new moon" crescent was sighted by appropriate observers, and then certified by the Sanhedrin (the Supreme Court).

Writes Arthur Spier in his book *The Comprehensive Jewish Calendar:*

"In the early times of our history the solution was found by the following practical procedure: *The beginnings of months were determined by direct observation of the new moon.* Then those beginnings of the months (Rosh Hodesh) were sanctified and announced by the Sanhedrin, the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, after witnesses had testified that they had seen the new crescent and after their testimony had been thoroughly examined, confirmed by calculation, and duly accepted" (p.1).

Astronomical tables and calculations today can give us the time and occurrence of every "new moon" as it would have been seen from Jerusalem (or other major cities) backwards in time for centuries and millennia.

The Swift Guide to the Galaxy, a software program for computers, under "Lunar Calendar," provides such a program. For the first month of Nisan or Abib, 30 A.D., it gives a calendar showing all the moon's phases, as seen from Jerusalem, for every day of the month.

In A.D. 30, for the month of March, the molad or conjunction of the New Moon occurred on Wednesday, March 22. The crescent New Moon was seen in the evening of Thursday, March 23, making Abib 1 Friday, March 24. Therefore, in A.D. 30, the 15th day of Abib – the First Day of Unleavened Bread – was *Friday*, *April* 7th!

This means that in 30 A.D. the day of the Passover sacrifice, Abib 14, was NOT ON WEDNESDAY, BUT RATHER ON THURSDAY, April 6^{th} !! In other words, the date of the crucifixion was THURSDAY, APRIL 6^{TH} , 30 A.D.!

Corroborating this witness, Dr. Monzur Ahmed, author of the "mooncalc" software program, was contacted by Nick Wood in England. Dr. Ahmed sent him the dates and times of all the lunar conjunctions for the years 29, 30, and 31 A.D. These figures agreed with his own software "COSMI Guide to the Galaxy," which show the positions of all the heavenly bodies, including the Sun and Moon, for any given day or hour, all the way back to way before 1 BC. As he says in an e-mail, "I am sure that the Solar System has been stable since the Exodus and Joshua's 'Long Day', so there is no need to really dispute these figures."

There is a website devoted to the Phases of the Moon, called *Obliquity*. You can

go on their website and obtain the New Moon conjunction data – time and date for the New Moons for the year 30 A.D., especially March (which New Moon would correspond with the Hebrew month Nisan or Abib). Just go to http://www.obliquity.com/cgibin/lunar.cgi?Year=30&Month=3. You will find that the conjunction of the Nisan New Moon was on March 22, at 17:29 GMT. This would have been 19:29 Jerusalem time (the Jerusalem time zone is two hours after GMT). 19:29 would have been 7:29 PM, Wednesday evening.

Since Hebrew days begin at sunset, this would have been the beginning of the next day by Hebrew reckoning. Thus the first sighting of the new crescent would have most likely been Thursday evening, around sunset, about 22 ½ hours later. Thus would mean that Friday, March 24th (beginning Thursday evening) would have been the first day of the New Moon/Month of Nisan/Abib. This means the 14th day of the month – the day the Passover was killed – would have been Thursday, April 6th, and Friday, April 7th was the annual holy day (First Day of Unleavened Bread).

Roger Rusk, Professor of Physics at the University of Tennessee, has also provided astronomical evidence that in A.D. 30 the New Moon crescent for the month of Nisan would make Nisan 14 occur on a Thursday. So reported *Christianity Today*, a well-known Christian magazine (March 24, 1974).

Jack Finegan in *Handbook of Biblical Chronology* says absolute astronomical evidence proves the crucifixion date could not have been on a Wednesday for the years A.D. 29 to A.D. 33. He points out April 25 could NOT have been a possible date in 31 A.D. because it would involve an extra lunar month, and the barley would have been ready to begin harvesting much sooner, by March 27th. (If the previous winter had been long and cold, the necessary barley sheaves could have also been obtained from the region of Jericho. Passover (Nisan 14) on March 27 would not have fallen on a Wednesday, but on a Tuesday.

A major article appeared in the journal *Bibliotheca Sacra*, vol.27, back in 1870, entitled "The Crucifixion on Thursday – Not Friday," by J. K. Aldrich (p.401-429). Then Professor Wescott of Great Britain maintained Thursday was the proper day, in *An Introduction to the Study of the Gospels* (Cambridge, 1881).

In addition to these witnesses, a book entitled *Astronomical Tables of the Sun, Moon and Planets* by astronomer Jean Meeus (second edition, published by Willmann-Bell, Inc., PO Box 35025, Richmond, Virginia 23235) gives the proof. Part four deals with the "Phases of the Moon." This remarkable work provides tables by which readers can compute the phases of the moon, including the New Moons (molads) with an accuracy within 10 minutes or less, for any year from 1500 B.C. to 2999 A.D. (The calculations of course may not work for years prior to the Exodus or Noah's Flood, if the earth's orbit or the moon's orbit were changed during those periods of upheaval). However, the tables work just fine for the year 30 A.D., when the Messiah was crucified!

Using these tables, and doing a little math, it turns out that this witness concurs

completely with the previous witnesses! My calculations, using the tables in this book, show that the conjunction of the New Moon for March, 30 A.D., was on the 22nd day of the month (Wednesday), at 17:32 GMT– that is, 5:32 PM, Wednesday evening! This would have been about 7:32 Jerusalem time.

Since the conjunction occurred Wednesday evening, the New Moon crescent for the month just beginning – Abib – could not possibly have been seen before *Thursday* evening. You cannot see the crescent the same evening the conjunction occurs! Normally it is visible about one day or 24 hours later – which fits the picture perfectly.

This information means that Abib 1 was a Friday that week, and Abib 14 – the day of the crucifixion – had to be on a Thursday, not a Wednesday! There is no disputing these facts – and the Jews plainly state that in those days the months were determined by the sighting of the New Moon crescent by confirmed, authorized witnesses who were posted to watch for it.

Our conclusion, then, has to be that the Wednesday crucifixion theory is wrong, disproved by this indisputable astronomical evidence! The Friday crucifixion theory also fails to conform to all the Biblical evidence. But the Thursday crucifixion fits perfectly with both Biblical evidence and astronomical evidence!

Too Complicated?

However, after explaining this principle, in the article I sent to him, I asked in a following email if he had had a chance to read the articles I sent. He replied:

"Hi, Yes I did read it, and I found your explanation persuasive. Unfortunately, as I got further into it, I decided this issue was *too complicated for me to understand* without putting in an exorbitant amount of research."

I was aghast! What a cop-out! He went on:

"After all is said and done, what is apparent to me is that the followers of Jesus all considered that Jesus' statement about being three days and three nights in the heart of the earth had been fulfilled by His crucifixion and resurrection. So while I am not sure which one of the different theories are correct, one of them is, and that is the one that Jesus' followers understood by Jesus' statement."

In other words, he is not sure whether Christ was crucified on a Wednesday, a Thursday, as I show in the original article, or on the traditional "Good Friday," as it is believed by most of so-called "Christendom."

His remark struck me. Is this "issue too complicated" for people to understand? Does it require an exorbitant amount of research to find the truth? Is the Passover irrelevant? Is the crucifixion merely an intellectual exercise?

Does it really matter?

The word of God says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov.14:12; 16:25).

What is of little importance to men may be of great importance to God! The apostle Paul commands us, "STUDY to prove yourself approved unto God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim.2:15). The New King James Version says, "BE DILIGENT."

Solomon in the book of Proverbs attests, "The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labour" (Prov.12:24). Further, "He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich" (Pro.10:4). Solomon adds, "He who is slothful in his work is brother to him who is a great destroyer" (Prov.18:9).

In the Living Bible we read: "Steady plodding brings prosperity; hasty speculation brings poverty" (Prov.21:5). The Moffatt translation says, "A diligent soul will have plenty, but lazy creatures will all end in poverty."

Solomon also wrote, "Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and never succeed" (Prov.12:24, Living Bible). And in verse 11 we read, "Hard work means prosperity; only a fool idles away his time."

Moffatt has it, "The diligent will get the upper hand, but slothful men will end as serfs" (Prov.12:24). And, "The man who works his farm has plenty of food: a man of useless interests has no sense."

Are you willing to work hard, and exercise your mind, and do patient research and unglamorous, persistent plugging away, with bulldog tenacity, to discover and understand the truth of God's Word? A little effort builds spiritual character, integrity, confidence, and knowledge of God.

God's Word declares, "Seek the Lord while you may find him. Call upon him now while he is near. Let men cast off their wicked deeds; let them banish from their minds the very thought of doing wrong!" (Isa.55:6-7, Living Bible).

What you discover through diligent study may not be what you have assumed to be true or have been taught in the past. God says, "This plan of mine is not what you would work out, neither are my thoughts the same as yours! For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than yours, and my thoughts than yours" (Isa.55:8-9).

Seek the truth. Redeem the time. Become a profitable servant!

How important is the TRUTH to you?

Spiritual truth, the truth of God, is priceless. Christ told a parable, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he has found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it" (Matt.13:44-46).

How important is the truth of God to you?

Christ Himself said, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

The world has entered a time of great deception, overwhelming darkness, lies, mischief and villany. Violence and illusion is everywhere. Fiction is made to appear as fact, and fact is villified and made to appear ridiculous and foolish.

The apostle Paul wrote, "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, *because they did not receive the LOVE OF THE TRUTH*, that they may be saved. And for this reason God gave them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie" (II Thess.2:9-11).

God does not throw His precious pearls of truth before swine. But He gives every man a choice – to seek out truth, to highly value it, to love it – or to believe "the lie."

It is good to stretch our brain, exercise our mind, do the research and study, both to obtain the approval of God, and also for our own mental health and well being. Many people, in this deceptive age, have lost the ability of "critical thinking" and analysis, patient examination of evidence, and coming to logical, sensible conclusions.

For this reason, and perhaps sheer laziness, many are "always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (II Tim.3:7). Because of this, many "will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires [lusts], because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears *away from the truth*, and be turned aside to fables" (II Tim.4:3-4).

Searching for Gold

People argue over the correct date of the crucifixion. Why argue? A wise man or woman will patiently study the Scripture and withhold judgment until they have finished their study. Studying the Scriptures is like exploring and searching for gold. It takes work. Once you find it, you have to dig it out – using a pick axe, or sledge hammer, or even dynamite. It is not easy to free the gold ore from the rock. Prospectors go to a lot

of effort seeking their earthly fortune, and often work like a slave, living in the wilds, without luxuries, suffering hardships, in order to find the golden metal.

The truth of God's Word IS provable. The TRUTH about the Passover, week of Unleavened Bread, and the timing and date of the crucifixion, are clear, consistent with all the facts, to those who are willing to put in the patient effort and explore the relevant data. All the evidence points to a Thursday crucifixion.

To put it simply, notice that Sunday, crucifixion week, was "three days" after the crucifixion. Simple addition shows Sunday is three days from Thursday. The first day would be Friday, then Saturday, and then Sunday!

So What Does This Mean?

And old saying declares, "Attitude is everything." Some people might say, "So what? What difference does it all make?" They are too busy, don't want to get involved in careful, painstaking study and research, and be forced to think deeply and actually use their brains. To them, their head is just a hat rack. Or they are too busy sampling the "pleasures" in life!

But to a spiritually minded person, there is nothing more pleasurable than delighting oneself in the Word of God. David exclaimed, "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law" (Psalm 119:18). He declared, "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You" (v.11).

David also said, "Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97). David studied God's Word zealously. He cried out, "My zeal has consumed me, because my enemies have forgotten Your words. Your word is very pure; therefore Your servant loves it" (Psa.119:139-140).

David declared, "I see the treacherous, and am disgusted, because they do not keep Your word. Consider how I love Your precepts . . . The entirety of Your word is truth" (Ps.119:158-160). "Your law is my delight," he proclaimed (v.174).

"Your word is truth," Christ declared (John 17:17). Paul admonished, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God [literally, "God breathed"], and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction [training, discipline] in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (II Tim.3:16-17).

How precious is God's Word to you? Do you spend much time STUDYING it? Do you consider the Word of God to be the foundation of your life?

How much real value do you place on understanding the truth of God?

What Are "Near Death" Experiences?

"Would you comment on the near death experiences that people claim they have? Is it a way that God gives us hope about what can take place when we die so we have the memory of the beauty of those visions when we or our loved ones are resurrected? I understand about the spirit God gives us and your articles are very explanatory, but I still wonder if it is possible God gives us those beautiful visions upon death before we sleep until the resurrection."

William F. Dankenbring

In Ecclesiastes 12:7 – notice, we read: "Then the dust will return to the earth as it was." But notice – "And the spirit will return to God who gave it." Every man, every woman, every baby, every child has a spirit given to it, or them, by God and when they die that spirit returns to God, to His care, His safe keeping, His control and He keeps it until the resurrection.

Then at the resurrection that spirit is joined with a new glorious immortal body.

Solomon goes on, "For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals for all is vanity. All go to one place: (that's *sheol*, the grave, where the body turns to dust) all are from the dust, and all return to dust' (Eccl.3:19).

But now notice verse 21, Solomon says, "who knows the spirit of the sons of men, which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal, which goes down to the earth?" So we just saw in chapter 12:7, that the spirit of men goes back to God who gave it. Where does the spirit of animals go? We don't know.

After Death – Then What?

However, in near-death experiences, which have been reported, some people say they saw a bright light, or a recently deceased relative spoke to them, or they had a glimpse of beauty, or possibly even heaven, as in a vision, and I see no reason to rule out such possibilities. God's Word says "there is a spirit in man" (Job 32:8), and speaks of "souls under the altar" of God in heaven having "awareness" and sensory perception (Rev.6:9-11). There is a lot we don't know about what happens, or can happen in certain

cases, after a person dies, or those brief moments between life and death, when the soul or spirit may hover between one existence and the next, in a transitory state.

Saul and Samuel

The prophet Samuel spoke to king Saul from the grave, showing there can, in certain instances, be communication between the living and the deceased. These would be very unsual experiences, but things like that can happen – if and when God permits to to occur for His own purposes, as a witness to mankind. We read in I Samuel 28 that a woman "saw a spirit ascending out of the earth" which looked in form like an old man in a mantle (v.13-14).

The account goes on to show it was the spirit of the prophet Samuel. In verse 15 Samuel says to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul told him he is afraid of the Philistine army gathering to make war with him and asked him what would happen.

In verse 18, we read, "Then SAMUEL said, 'So why do you ask me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy? And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD nor exercise His fierce wrath upon Amalek, ther4eore the LORD has done this thing to you this day" (I Sam.28:16-18). For a more in depth discussion of this strange event, read our article, "Saul and the Witch at Endor."

There is no reason to think that near-death experiences cannot occur, sometimes as a strong encouragement, or other times as a severe warning, depending on the will and purpose of God in each case. They can give people a sense of hope and increase one's feeling of peace, faith and contentment. On the other hand, some can be warning.

"Test Everything"

Whether or not an experience of this nature is from God or some other source is also something to consider. As John warns us, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God" (I John 4:1). Paul says, "Prove [test] all things [everything]" (I Thess.5:21).

We are commanded to "TEST" or "examine" the "spirits," the unusual phenomena, put it to the test. How do we do that? By evaluating it carefully, cautiously, circumspectly, using the Word of God as a guide, as a ruler and standard or litmus test.

Isaiah tells us, "And when they say to you, 'Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,' should not a people seek their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?" (Isa.8:19).

The answer, obviously, is "No." All such things as séances and attempts to communicate with the dead are EVIL, an abomination in God's sight! His Torah, His Word, says, "To the LAW [Torah] and to the TESTIMONY [rest of the Scriptures, and the New Testament]! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (v.20).

Any vision or "dream" must be analyzed and evaluated on the basis of whether it is in line with the Word of God. If it contradicts the Scriptures in any way then it is a FALSE VISION!

Jeremiah declares, "I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, *I have dreamed*, *I have dreamed*. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? **yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart**" (Jer.23:25-26).

"The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and **he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully.** What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD. 29 Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? 30 Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour" (Jeremiah 23:28-30).

God warns us, in Jeremiah 23:32-34, "Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: **therefore they shall not profit this people at all,** saith the LORD. And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask thee, saying, What is the burden of the LORD? thou shalt then say unto them, What burden? I will even forsake you, saith the LORD. And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, The burden of the LORD, I will even punish that man and his house."

Says Jeremiah "And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for **every** man's word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God" (Jer.23:36).

The Law of God, the Torah, states: "Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 19:31).

"And the person who turns to mediums and familiar spirits, to prostitute himself with them, I will set My face against that person and cut him off from his people" (Lev.20:6). "A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death . . ." (verse 27).

Messing with the occult, and supernatural, is evil and condemned by God. Witches, mediums, wizards, necromancers, psychics, are all condemned by the Word of

God and we should have nothing whatsoever to do with them, or their crystal ball gazing, divination, or witchcraft, spells and potions.

Demons do exist. They attempt to deceive people with emotional-laden "experiences" and deceptions. Therefore we must always be cause, and confirm every experience or claimed experience with the Word of God. If it lines up with God's Word, His Law, then there is no reason to doubt it. But if in any way it contradicts the Word of God, then it is a "lying spirit," and not to be trusted or believed, no matter how subtle or convincing it may appear on the surface.

Those who dabble in such things may find themselves assaulted, and under attack by demon spirits. We should avoid anything to do with them – including Ouija boards, astrology, and all occult phenomena.

The apostle Peter wrote, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. RESIST him, steadfast in the faith" (I Pet.5:8-9).

James wrote, "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7). Say to the evil spirit, as the apostle Jude declares, "The Lord REBUKE you!" (Jude 9).

If faced with such an attack, or mental assault, immediately call on God and Christ to deliver you and save you, and drive the evil spirits far away from you, into the wilderness, and to stay away from you. And fill your mind with the things of God. As Paul declares, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue [power] and if there is anything praiseworthy [good]—meditate on these things" (Phil.4:8).

Paul's Experiences

Paul himself had visions of heaven. He declared, "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven" (II Cor.12:2).

Paul also says, "And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter" (II Cor.12:3).

Dreams, visions, and similar activities are prophesied to occur at an increased pace during the "Last Days." God says to the prophet Joel, "I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days" (Joel 2:28-29).

Bible Questions and Answers

QUESTION: What is the reason the Torah says not to boil a kid in its mother's milk?

ANSWER: The commandment says, "The first of the first-fruits of your land you shall bring into the house of your God. You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk" (Exo.23:19; Exo.34:21).

The4 prohibition appears to be a reference to a heathen, pagan custom, so it was designed to prevent an imitation of the idolatrous, superstitious rite of pagans, who at the end of harvest season would boil a kid in its mother's milk and sprinkle the broth as a magical charm on their gardens and fields, to render them more productive and fertile for the following season.

This practice is still prevalent among the Arabs. They select a young kid, fat and tender, dress it carefully and then stew it in milk, with onions and hot spices, as they wish. They call it Lbu immu—"kid in its mother's milk." It is a gross and unwholesome dish, calculated to stir up animal, ferocious and lascivious passions. On this account, as well as due to its barbarity, God may have forbidden it. It is a cruel thought to kill and eat a kid in its own mother's milk, which sustained it from the days of its parturition. The custom is associated with immoderate feasting, and originally was accompanied with idolatrous sacrifices. It is a dish cooked in blood. And God commanded in Genesis, "But flesh with its soul its blood you shall not eat" (Gen.9:4).

A Karaite Jew declared, "It was a custom of the ancient heathens, when they had gathered in all their fruits, to take a kid and boil it in the milk of its dam; and then, in a magical way, to go about and besprinkle with it all their trees and fields, gardens and orchards; thinking by these means to make them fruitful, that they may bring forth more abundantly in the following year."

Some have used this passage in an attempt to claim meat and milk products may not be eaten

together, which is a conclusion of Orthodox Jewish rabbis in the Talmud, although there is no proof offered. In fact, we know that Abraham did offer meat and butter and dairy products to his heavenly guests. "And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf, tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the trees, and they did eat" ((Gen.18:7-8).

This is an example of where Jewish rabbis have gone too far in their conclusions. They bind heavy burdens upon men's backs. As Peter said, "Now therefore why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?" (Acts 15:10). Christ declared of things like this, "For they bind heavy burdens, hard [grievous] to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers" (Matt.23:4).

He further stated, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' For laying aside th4e commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men" (Mark 7:6-8). "He said to them, 'All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition" (v.9).

Adam Clarke declares, "After all the learned labor critics have bestowed on this passage, and by which the obscurity in some places is become more intense, the simple object of the precept seems to be this: 'Thou shalt do nothing that may have any tendency to blunt thy moral feelings, or teach thee hardness of heart.' Even human nature shudders at the thought of causing the mother to seethe the flesh of her young one! We need go no farther for the delicate, tender, humane, and impressive meaning of this verse."

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Letters from Our Readers

""I am writing just to be able to talk, I am 60 years old, and a tired soul of this world. Yes, I am physically and geographically a citizen of the United States of America, as I was born in Washington, D.C.. My late Father David Otis Compton was a World War II Veteran, and had two ships bombed from underneath him in the war, it was indeed a miracle he lived to father me. He was born on November 26, 1917, and my late Mother Regina Carol Zepenska on September 19, 1912. I have forwarded to you some news that I receive, so that we can share and keep each other informed, as a way of protection to stay on the watchtower.

"THIS IS NOT MY WORLD!!! I have come to the conclusion in every microscopic fiber of my being and soul, I am not patriotic to any country, including this one. My patriotism will be for Yeshuah, when our Messiah returns. I now officially and to eternity consider myself, a Citizen of the Heavens, and shall stay that way, without leaving. I AM SICK OF THIS FILTH AND CORRUPTION AND LIES WITHOUT AN END!!! When Yeshuah returns there shall be a thousand years of peace. I WANT TO BE OF MY OWN FREE WILL WITH YESHUAH, AFTER THE THOUSAND YEARS AND THROUGHOUT ETERNITY, WHEN HE SHALL RETURN THE THIRD TIME!!! WHEN Satan is released I WANT TO GO WITH YESHUAH!!! I wonder what life will be like then? Could you shed some light on life after the thousand years? I AM LOOKING FORWARD **AFTER** THE **THOUSAND YEARS AND** STILL **BEING** YESHUAH, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE "TIME", WHEN Satan IS COMPLETELY DEAD.

Again, I hold nothing for this world. I am not within my soul a USA Citizen or any other country, I am a Yeshuah Kingdom Citizen. THIS IS SOMETHING TO BE PATRIOTIC FOR, NO HOSPITALS, NO INSURANCE, NO CORRUPTION, AND NO EVIL. THIS IS SOMETHING, I CAN FROM THE FREE WILL HE HAS GIVEN ME SUPPORT. I keep

wondering everyday, what things will Yeshuah have me do, when He returns.

I will be glad to leave this camp, and when this place blows up it will be a blessing, because it does not deserve to stay the way it is, a life fit for nothing. Please stay well and say a prayer for me and my family. Love Ya!!!

--Georgia

"On the cover of the January 9, 1988 issue, The Economist had an interesting headline: 'Get Ready for a World Currency' with a picture of 'The Phoenix.' The article ended with the statement, 'Pencil in the Phoenix for around 2018, and welcome it when it comes.'

"I first read about it in a book from 1989, Guardians of the Grail by J. R. Church (a man whom I respect a lot). Last year while doing a little research, I read a book called The Power Elite: Their History and Future, by Dr. Dennis L. Cuddy, who is one of my favorite political scientists. I don't agree with Dr. Cuddy in a lot of his biblical doctrines, but I do agree with him in many political and historic views. He has a broad understanding about how the Western capitalism (thesis) and the eastern Communism (antitheses) is fording a new global socialism (synthesis).

"Talking about the Phoenix and in line with our next elections, Dr. Cuddy said: 'Just as a Nixon rather than a Kennedy could establish relations with communist China about forty years ago, this time only a Bush could get Republicans to accept the loss of American sovereignty that will come from adopting a single world currency. ' Then he points out the alternation of power between Democrats and Republicans; President George H. W. Bush in 1988, then President Clinton in 1992, then President George W. Bush in 2000, then President Obama in 2008. He also said that Jeb Bush could pick a Hispanic Senator or member of Congress (Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz?) from a highly populated state like California or New York, specifically a Hispanic female to attract women voters in general. Romney lost the Hispanic vote by about fifty percent in 2012. Jeb Bush could do way better because of his 'moderate' views on immigration and he is married to a Mexican-born philanthropist; he also has been heading up an educational enterprise, the Foundation for Excellence in Education, that will be difficult for Democrats to criticize. Dr. Cuddy said: 'He (Jeb Bush) will reluctantly accept the new world currency in 2018, blaming the necessity for doing this on Obama's failed economic policies of the previous eight years. . . . I would love to know what you think about the so-called 'Phoenix' and about your next elections.

"May YAHVEH Bless you, I'm always praying for you and your family.

"P.S. Don't forget about me when you release your new book *America and Great Britain in Heraldry and Prophecy.*"

-- Tennessee

"As you know, those who don't remember their history are doom and condemn to repeat the same mistakes all over again just like their ancient ancestors who make some bad choices.

"The houses of ancient Israel and Judah must have thumb their noses at all of God's Laws and thought they were invincible from the Lord God of Israel by breaking all of God's Laws.

"It's totally amazing how fast this last generation has degenerated and succumb to the point of no return to a once mighty Christian nation.

"The name JESUS has been cast out and relegated to the dust bins of America government and military. Even the military chaplains are condemn and forbidden to be using the name Jesus, if the U S military leaders only knew, it is Jesus who gives the victory in times war and battles. The U S military is making horrendous and dreadful mistakes. The U S military must have realize and known that America was founded on Christian principals.

"As we know, the Pilgrims left Europe because of brain dead, brainless and godless government and church leaders and almost 400 years later we find ourselves in the same situation and no place to hide.

"The Israeli government is clueless as for as what to do about the state Iran. As far as I know

the Israeli and the U S military need not apply for the job, because the German military has already surrounded the state of Iran because Europe is also concern about Iran's nuclear program."

-- Israel

"Greetings from you know where: Daniel 11:20 mentions about 'A raiser of taxes.' A new controversial global tax has been instituted, for information sharing has been introduce by the 'organization for economic corporation and development' (OECD).

"Inspired by a U S tax scheme that was adopted as the 'foreign account tax compliance act' (FATCA). The (OECD) tax scheme was funded by U S taxpayers as sort of a 'Global Taxman.'

"If and when it goes into effect, governments worldwide will have instant access to all of peoples most sensitive financial records, such as, bank accounts, assets, income, insurance, interest paid, capital gains, property ownership, investments, sale of real estate and more items of interest to the global taxman, financial privacy will be a thing of the past.

"Compliance cost is expected to be massive for national governments, taxpayers and consumers. The repercussions for Americans citizens inside and outside of the U S A will be affected by these new devastating and draconian laws. As well as for people around the world will be crushing. Critics are warning of economic devastation when it happens the global tax will only benefit the global political insiders at the expense of the taxpayer.

"Machinations are starting to force U S financial institutions to report on people financial data records. Analysis expect major problems for US banking when foreigners begin to take their capital and flee the U S A. As the critics say; the nightmare is just beginning to happen."

-- Israel

"Greetings once again from the internet, the title is; 'where is the German gold' by Paul Rosenberg, the website is, free-man's perspective, February 4,2014.

"In the year 2012,the German central bank said to the Federal Reserve we want to see all of our gold all 1,536 tons of it as soon as possible that was stored in your bank for safety during the

cold war. The Federal Reserve said, you aren't allowed to see your gold and the Germans aren't very happy about what the Feds are doing to them. The Germans suspect that the Feds are up to no good, there is a rumor that the feds are using the gold from other nations as collateral for loans and using the same bullion of gold many times over for different loans, this trick is called REHYPOTHECATION; or maybe the Feds just sold all of the gold years ago.

"I had once upon time perhaps ten years ago, I had sent to you an extra copy of a newsletter by Noah Hutchings, Prophetic observer the title was called 'where the yellow went'; the sub title was "the greatest gold robbery in

history" dated January 2007, vol 14, no 1 The article suggested that Fort Knox had no Gold in its vaults.

"This is my input; it's very possible that part of that German gold had belong to the Holocaust victims at one time. In any event the Germans aren't very happy and I expect them to take action in the very near future and those actions aren't going to be nice.

"Prophecy Marches on to bigger and better things: It's in the book of William 1:1."

-- Israel

My Twilight Years ~ Clint Eastwood

"As I enjoy my twilight years, I am often struck by the inevitability that the party must end. There will be a clear, cold morning when there isn't any 'more.' No more hugs, no more special moments to celebrate together, no more phone calls just to chat.

"It seems to me that one of the important things to do before that morning comes, is to let every one of your family and friends know that you care for them by finding simple ways to let them know your heartfelt beliefs and the guiding principles of your life so they can always say, 'He was my friend, and I know where he stood.'

"So, just in case I'm gone tomorrow, please know this:

"I voted against that incompetent, lying, flipflopping, insincere, double-talking, radical socialist, terrorist excusing, bleeding heart, narcissistic, scientific and economic moron currently in the White House! "Participating in a gun buy-back program because you think that criminals have too many guns is like having yourself castrated because you think your neighbors have too many kids.

"Regards, Clint."

* *

"Time is getting short because Yeshua said it would be like in the days of Noah.

"It says Noah was saved because his generation was pure and the rest of the world was polluted. I think it means the human race was mixed with fallen angels so that would mean the DNA was modified so that most were not angel or human.

"Also when Israel went into the Promised Land they were commanded to kill the giants and the sodomites because of the polluted DNA.

"Now it is rumored that people will have to have RFID chips to get medical attention; babies born with the genes from 3 parents, animal and human crosses and humans can be enhanced by mechanical means.

"So if it is possible to modify the human DNA by gene splicing that will make future generations not a creation of Yahweh.

"It says that those who receive the mark of the beast will lose salvation. Could this apply because of the genetic modification of the human DNA as Yahweh created it and they will be considered no longer human and disposed of like Goliath was?"

-- Ohio

"I lift you and your ministry daily to God in prayer for Him to continue to use you to preach and to teach the True Word of God, and to bless others as you have me and to open my eyes up to the Truth: the real way to salvation.

"Through the past years, approximately three years, of reading the literature you have sent and also the 'Prophecy Flash,' has helped me to grow spiritually and open my eyes to things that I was doing that I thought was right, but actually not, and really jeopardized me spiritually in the eyes of God. It has also brought me a peace of mind, heart, spirit, that I've never had before. For once in life I have joy, hope, and peace in God and truly walk in the Lord. I'm grateful for that. It has also been real enlightening to read and study

the End of Days. So much that in this prophecy is starting to happen all round us. It's evident because all we have to do is listen to/watch the news, or read the newspapers to see all that is happening all around us. I used to not even think about it, but now I do and see that the End of Days is here, from corrupt governments, godless governments, the many earthquakes in various parts of the world, the typhoons, hurricanes, cyclones happening. The famine, the various diseases occurring that are new, no type of worldly peace due to the vast military conflicts around the world. More and more countries turning against Israel, how the very foundation of our country is on the brink of collapsing because this nation has turned against God by the ungodliness o same sex marriage, legal prostitution (Nevada), the millions of babies aborted, removing God from schools, and every day activities, the violence, the corrupt officials, and how more and more people push God out of everything. Making all these Executive Orders, how certain people idolize Obama, the unemployment, the out-of-wedlock babies, adultery, drugs, and how the government is pushing God out of even funerals (veterans) and all the scandals. Its evident that the prophecies are now starting to come true. It reminded me of all that you've said in a lot of y our articles, 'Now is the time for repentance, to turn to God, and turn from the world's wicked ways,' and when you ask, 'Are you prepared?' A great and wonderful statement/question. As the commandment of Jesus in Revelation, 'Repent, or else I will come unto thee quickly and will fight against thee with the sword of My mouth' (Rev.2:16).

"Its time that people better realize the end is near and to turn back to God and get prepared because this is a commandment and time is not always guaranteed. So that we can all say and hold on to what Galatians 2:20 reveals, I'm crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in and by faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me'.' AMEN. I pray that all would be able to say this and live it."

-- North Carolina

"I believe we stand on the very verge of the return of Jesus Himself! I think that the next step will be the collapse of the economy (which is being artificially supported), and it will create the crisis necessary for Obama to take total control of the government. There may be a devaluation of the dollar – similar to prewar Europe – a re-valuation and a much reduced value, and hyperinflation. . . . I am, as you are, expectant for something <u>BIG</u> to occur this year!"

-- Texas

"The prophecy flash has really opened the eyes of the church of God HERE IN MALAWI AND WE KNOW WHERE WE ARE going and may the almighty Yahwe bless you Pastor W.F. Dankenbring for the vision which the lord has laid upon your life.

"The first time ,I started receiving the prophecy flash, my life has been revived. We are experiencing the paced tremendous growth of the congregation because a lot of people are alert with the time they are living. . . .

"I appreciate the newsletter which you are sending to me and encourage you to be sending more because a lot of people are interested and what we do mostly is to photocopy and distribute to many and I will be glad if you continue standing ready with assisting us to spread the good news with materials."

— Malawi

"I am incarcerated and it is during this time that God has opened my eyes to see how quickly His prophecies are coming to light concerning the last days. I was too wrapped up in my own life on the streets to be concerned with any of these things. But being locked away from the 'hustle and bustle' of the world gives a person plenty of time to concentrate on other things.

"I have known plenty of proponents of eschatology in my life. But only in the last five years of my life have I seriously watched and coupled world events with the biblical prophecy. The speed at which these events are happening is a frightening wake-up call to everyone. Your magazine and literature (print-outs) have been a boon in my ability to share this information with others.

"As I and other 'like-minded' individuals here continue to encourage others around us to 'wake-up' and realize what is happening, I hope to always be able to back up my knowledge with information gathered from your ministry."

-- South Carolina

"Thank you for the [Bible] courses. They are so very helpful in learning Biblical Truth. Your ministry has been a blessing to me and everything is so plain; it is really fun also the way they are set up. I wish I could do them faster but you have helped to teach me to slow down, you never know what you might miss. So I thank you for the great lessons."

-- Arkansas

"Hello, my dear friends. I love your ministry exposing lies with the Savage Truth. I have believed even before Obama became President that he the Antichrist. In spite of his ridiculous remarks about this crisis over Ukraine and his overall cowardly acts. This man is bidding his time to strike, with nuclear force, I might add."

-- Texas

"I have had the enjoyment of reading one of your books, well, study, I should say, because you can't just read it, you have to read some, set it down, go to the Bible, check the reference, see what it says, then continue. Well, after reading one of your books, I totally look at the Bible different, I read it differently, I look for things I didn't see before. I was totally blind and your book has given me a lot of new insight on what the Bible is actually saying, or meaning, I should say. Wow, powerful stuff."

-- Michigan

"Your works are creating a great harvest in these parts. I heard on NPR that there is a worldwide movement going on called the 'Hebrew roots' movement whereas everyone is beginning to realize the things you are teaching about – Christmas, Easter and the Sabbath!!! PRAISE GOD!!!

"Let me tell you I thank Him for your works, brother William!! For the first time the other day, I prayed and asked Him to take me out of this life before I ever dishonor His name. I can't wait to get baptized when I get out! Pray for me, will you? Ask God to give me the strength to do His will in all things.

"Also I have a verse to add to your 'Day-for-a-Year' interpretation of the Word. It is Isaiah 34:8 – 'For it is the *day* of the Lord's vengeance, the *year* of recompense for the cause of Zion' (NKJV)."

-- Texas

"I have received my Bible Correspondence Course that you sent to me. I received the first four lessons and test 1. Brother, I want to truly thank you so very much for this Bible course that teaches the Truth about God and His Word. In the past I took a Bible course from Rock of Ages Ministries and the Lord revealed to me the false teachings and doctrines that they taught. I also took Herbert W. Armstrong's College Bible Course and I completed it. I learned a lot from Armstrong, even though there was error here and there....

"Now in the past year or so God has used you to help lead and guide me into more and more of His truth, and I thank Him first and you second for that. The way you teach, Mr. Dankenbring, makes it easy to follow and to understand, and that means a lot because when a person talks over someone's head, they can't understand, and so they continue to be confused, and we know who is all about confusion."

-- North Carolina

"I hope you are well and I pray daily that God will protect you and give you the strength to do His work and guide the flock in these difficult times. It seems as if things are really speeding up. I truly believe that we are almost going into the last seven years.

"As you might have read, Obama was in the Netherlands for the nuclear summit. That summit has cost the Dutch tax payer 60 million euros. And no agreements have been made.

"Most of the highways were shut down and many people, like my son, could not get to their work for two days. He was surrounded with such awe, that it was pathetic to see how people are so ignorant to see what he really is and what is going on. On Belgian television the newsreader said 'it is as if Jesus Christ has arrived.'

"I still cannot understand why they held this summit in the smallest and over populated country in the EU. There must be a reason behind that. Time will tell.

"In the meantime Gods people are patiently waiting and watching for the return of our dear Lord and Savior to establish His Kingdom.

-- Holland

Holy Day Calendar for 2014

Listed below are the Holy Day dates for 2014.

Holy Day	Hebrew dates	Roman dates
New Moon	Nisan 1	April 1, Monday
Passover	Nisan 14	April 14, Monday
1 st Day of UB	Nisan 15	April 15, Tuesday
Begin Omer Count	Nisan 16	April 16, Wednesday
7 th Day of UB	Nisan 21	April 21, Monday
Pentecost	Sivan 6	June 4, Wednesday
(50 th Day Omer Count)		•

The New Moon for Tishri is border line. This is due to the astronomical positions of the earth and moon, at that time, causing visibility to be "possible" but not definite on the first day given, but visibility is sure for the second day given. As the dates of the Holy Days depend on the day the months each begin, we have listed the two possibilities for Yom Teruah, the Feast of Trumpets, and the succeeding Holy Days which all depend on the actual date of the New Moon. We will have to wait for the actual sightings in Israel to determine the date Tishri will begin this year.

Therefore the Holy Days are potentially as follows:

Festival		Possible Dates #1	Possible Dates #2
New Moon	Tishri 1	Sep.26, Friday	Sept.27, Sabbath
Trumpets	Tishri 1	Sept.26, Friday	Sept.27, Sabbath
Yom Kippur	Tishri 10	Oct.5, Sunday	Oct.6, Monday
1 st Day Sukkot	Tishri 15	Oct.10, Friday	Oct.11, Sabbath
Shemini Atzeret	Tishri 22	Oct.17, Friday	Oct.18, Sabbath

For a deeper understanding and more information on God's true sacred Calendar, write for our free articles:

- A New Look at God's True Calendar
- What's All This about "Postponements"?
- When Does the Year Begin?
- Passover Before Spring?