

Learn the results of this evening's new moon observation!

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And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for appointed times, and for days and years. (Gen 1:14)

New Moon Observation

26 October 2022



Photo: Devorah Gordon

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DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

The most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel

Dear Friends,

We just got back from looking for the New Moon, and at the time of this writing, we are not aware of any positive naked eye sightings, from this evening's observation on 26 October 2022. As this evening was the end of the 29th day of the month, if you don't hear back from us that a positive report came in later, the month will begin at sunset tomorrow evening, 27 October 2022, by default. That being said we are planning on looking for the New Moon again tomorrow evening. The photo at the top of this report was taken from our observation point in Jerusalem this evening (the new moon is not visible in the photo).

What if we don't see the New Moon at the end of the 29th day?

If the New Moon is not sighted at the end of the 29th day, the following evening (the end of the 30th day) is beginning of the month by default. This is because from our perspective here on Earth, it takes the moon 29.530587981 days to revolve around the Earth, and so a lunar month can only be either 29 or 30 days. By the end of the 30th day, the percentage of the moon's illumination, and the time between sunset and moonset is so large, that the New Moon will without a doubt be visible (barring atmospheric obstructions). In fact, they even knew this in Biblical Times, as we see David say to Yehonatan "tomorrow is the new moon" (1 Samuel 20:5). How did David know the following day was the New Moon? Presumably, because the New Moon wasn't sighted at the end of the 29th day, and so he knew the next day would be the beginning of the month by default.

Does the New Moon have to be sighted in Israel?

Yehovah gave us the commandments, to live by them in the Land of Israel (Dt 6:1), therefore the signs which determine the Biblical Calendar (Gen 1:14), must be visible in the Land. If one were to try and establish the Biblical Calendar based on signs outside of the Land of Israel, they would get very skewed results. For example, the year begins when the barley ripens, so if someone lived in a place where there was both a Spring and Winter barley harvest (there are places like that), they would have extremely short years. Or if someone in Australia began the year when the barley became ripe there, they would be celebrating Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread) when it was Fall in Israel, which makes no sense, because there is only one Chag HaMatzot, and it's based on when the barley ripens in Israel, around Spring. Likewise, if one were to begin the month when the New Moon was seen for example in the United States, they could end up celebrating the holy days on the wrong day. This is because the percentage of the moon's illumination grows as it moves West, so while the New Moon wasn't seen Israel this evening, it may be seen in the United States a few hours later, but that would be irrelevant, because there is only one day which is the beginning of the month, and that day is based on the signs being visible in the Land of Israel.

On behalf of all of us who are trying to keep the Biblical Calendar, we wish to thank everyone who looked for the new moon from Israel this evening and sent in their observations in a timely manner, and everyone who is supporting this important effort from afar.

If reliable New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please [support](#) our efforts. We could really use your help to restore the Biblical Calendar.

Chodesh Tov! Make it a great month!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

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Devorah's Date Tree organizes interfaith New Moon Observations and Barley Inspections in the Land of Israel. This important effort is headed by Devorah Gordon,

who has been living in Israel, and looking for the crescent New Moon and participating in Barley Inspections for over 25 years. Our reports reach countless people around the world and are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barely Inspection reports from the Holy Land. If reliable New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please consider [supporting](#) our efforts. We could really use your help to restore the Biblical Calendar.

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