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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

22 March 2023

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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 22 March 2023.

If no positive reports come in from this evening's observation, we will go out again tomorrow evening to look for the New Moon and let you know whether we saw it. [Subscribe](#) to our e-mail list and social media platforms, so you don't miss that report.

The photo at the top of this report from was taken from our observation point in Jerusalem this evening, however as we didn't see the moon, you will not find the moon in not in the photo.

On behalf of all of us who keep the Biblical Calendar, we wish to thank everyone who looked for the new moon from Israel this evening, and all of you who are supporting this important effort from afar.

How do we know a month can't be more than 30 days?

From our perspective here on Earth, it takes the Moon 29.5 days to revolve around the Earth. That means the New Moon will either be visible at the end of the 29th day, or 30th day of the month (barring atmospheric obstructions). It seems that even in Biblical Times they knew that a month can't be more than 30 days, as David said to Yehonatan, "tomorrow is the new moon" (1 Samuel 20:5). How did David know the following day was the New Moon? Presumably, 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.

How do we know the New Moon must be sighted from Israel?

The Biblical Calendar is based on the development of the barley crop, and the New Moon being sighted, in Israel (Dt 6:1). In fact, the Biblical Calendar doesn't work properly if one tries to establish it based on signs outside of the Land (Gen 1:14). For example, if someone in Australia were to begin the year based on the local barley crop, they would end up starting the year six months after they are supposed to. Likewise, if the stars were too low for the New Moon to be sighted in Israel, but someone decided to start the month based on the moon being sighted in another country, that would lead them to keep the holidays on the wrong day. Even if it's believed that the New Moon wasn't sighted from Israel due to atmospheric obstructions (aka "Acts of God"), we can't assume that the atmospheric obstructions were a mistake. Rather it's believed that we are supposed to look for the New Moon from Israel, and trust that if we are meant to see the New Moon, it will be revealed to us.

As to when to begin this upcoming year, I personally am giving a lot of thought to Lev 23:9-14 (as well as Ex 23:14-19 and Dt 16:16-17), and considering whether everyone is expected to bring an omer of their barley harvest on Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering), and whether we may need harvestable barley fields throughout the Land.

An overview of the Barley Inspection we carried out on March 16 & 19, 2023 is available [here](#).

2023

1st MONTH ^{potential} HOLIDAY DATES

according to the Biblical Calendar

New Moon Observation March 22, 2023	Scenario #1 <i>New Moon is sighted on 22-March-2023</i>	Scenario #2 <i>New Moon is sighted on 23-March-2023</i>
1 st Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset April 5 - sunset April 6</i>	<i>sunset April 6 - sunset April 7</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	April 9, 2023	April 9, 2023
7 th Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset April 11 - sunset April 12</i>	<i>sunset April 12 - sunset April 13</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset May 27 - sunset May 28</i>	<i>sunset May 27 - sunset May 28</i>

New Moon Observation April 20, 2023	Scenario #3 <i>New Moon is sighted on 20-April-2023</i>	Scenario #4 <i>New Moon is sighted on 21-April-2023</i>
1 st Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset May 4 - sunset May 5</i>	<i>sunset May 5 - sunset May 6</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	May 7, 2023	May 7, 2023
7 th Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset May 10 - sunset May 11</i>	<i>sunset May 11 - sunset May 12</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset June 24 - sunset June 25</i>	<i>sunset June 24 - sunset June 25</i>

Above are the potential holiday dates for the 1st month of the upcoming Biblical Year. Our faithful team is planning on inspecting the barley fields just prior to the New Moon observation on March 22, 2023, in order to determine whether this will be a leap year. If first-hand reliable New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from the Land of Israel are important to you, be sure to subscribe our email list and our social media platforms, so you don't miss our reports. ⇨ linktr.ee/devorahsdatetree

The dates above for Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks), are based on the understanding that Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering) is the Sunday during Chag HaMatzot (Feat of Unleavened Bread) [see Joshua 5:10-12].

Please support our efforts to restore the Biblical Calendar
PAYPAL at <https://bit.ly/3QSSXZ2> or send a CHECK to POB 7816, Jerusalem 9107801, ISRAEL

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If you have a question regarding the Biblical Calendar, feel free to [send it to us](#) and we'll do our best to try and answer it in a future newsletter. All of our answers are based on relevant

Biblical verses, what we've seen in the Land over the past few decades, and much study and prayer.

If you have been enjoying our New Moon Reports, Barley Inspection Reports, and the studies we provide on the Biblical Calendar, please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar. We could really use your support to carry out this important work. Contributions can be made via [PayPal](#), [Patreon](#), or by sending a Check to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL.

Together we can restore the Biblical Calendar!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

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DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

Devorah's Date Tree organizes 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. Today our reports reach countless people around the world and are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from the Holy Land. If reliable first-hand New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please support our efforts to restore the Biblical Calendar. Contributions can be made via [PayPal](#), [Patreon](#), or by sending a [check](#) to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 7816, Jerusalem 9107801, ISRAEL.

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