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This month shall be the beginning of months for you;
it is to be the first month of the year to you. (Exodus 12:2)



Devorah's Date Tree

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

25+ Years Experience
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Dear Friends,

We want to thank you for partnering with us to restore the Biblical Calendar, and to take this opportunity to respond to some of your questions regarding leap years.

A leap year is when a calendar waits to begin the year, in order to catch up to the point on the solar cycle that it's anchored to.

Let's take a look at how this applies to the Biblical Calendar.

An ordinary Biblical Year is approximately 354 days (29.5 days x12 months = 354 days). However, a tropical year (the amount of time it takes earth to orbit the sun), is approximately 365.2422 days. This means that the Biblical Calendar lags from the solar cycle 11 days (365-354=11) a year. And this lag accumulates each year that no intervention is taken.

This means that if we were to simply begin each Biblical Year after 12 lunar months, the beginning of the year would quickly drift into earlier seasons. This isn't an option for the Biblical Calendar, as the months need to stay in sync with the solar / agricultural cycle, if we

are to bring the offerings of our harvests when we go up to the Temple for the feasts (Ex 23:14-19, Ex 34:23-26, Dt 16:13-17).

This is why we're explicitly told that the Biblical Calendar is a luni-solar calendar. Meaning that the beginning of the months, are determined by a particular phase of the lunar cycle, and the beginning of the years, are determined by a particular phase of the solar cycle (Gen 1:14).

Because we're instructed to always begin the Biblical Year with Chodesh HaAviv (month of the Aviv) (Ex 12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1), this means that the phase of the solar cycle that the Biblical Calendar is anchored to, is the Spring Equinox.

Therefore, the beginning of Chodesh HaAviv (month of the Aviv) [or some believe the beginning of Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread)], can't be prior to the solar phase of the Spring Equinox. Just as the Biblical Month can't begin prior to the lunar phase of Conjunction.

Based on the Biblical description of Chodesh HaAviv (month of the Aviv), it's our understanding that the upcoming Biblical Year (2025) will begin on 30 March 2025 (assuming the crescent moon is sighted). For reference, the prior Biblical Month will begin on 1 March 2025 (assuming the crescent moon is sighted), which as explained above is too early in the solar cycle for it to be Chodesh HaAviv (month of the Aviv).

Below are the 2025 Holiday Dates based on the above understanding. We're hoping to be able to carry out a [Barley Inspection just prior to the New Moon Observation of 30 March 2025](#), and could really use [your prayers and support to help make this happen](#).

[When is Chodesh Haviv](#)

2025

2025 HOLIDAY DATES

according to the Biblical Calendar

1st Month Holidays	Scenario #1 New Moon sighted on 30-March-2025	Scenario #2 New Moon sighted on 31-March-2025
1 st Day Chag HaMatzot (1 Day Unleavened Bread)	Apr 13 <i>sunset</i> - Apr 14 <i>sunset</i> Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Apr 13 at sunset	Apr 14 <i>sunset</i> - Apr 15 <i>sunset</i> Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Apr 14 at sunset
Yom HaNafat HaOmer (Wave Sheaf Offering)	April 20, 2025	April 20, 2025
7 th Day Chag HaMatzot (7 Day Unleavened Bread)	April 19 <i>sunset</i> - Apr 20 <i>sunset</i>	Apr 20 <i>sunset</i> - Apr 21 <i>sunset</i>
Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks)	June 7 <i>sunset</i> - June 8 <i>sunset</i>	June 7 <i>sunset</i> - June 8 <i>sunset</i>
7th Month Holidays	Scenario #1 New Moon sighted on 23-September-2025	Scenario #2 New Moon sighted on 24-September-2025
Yom Teruah (Day of Trumpets)	Sep 23 <i>sunset</i> - Sep 24 <i>sunset</i>	Sep 24 <i>sunset</i> - Sep 25 <i>sunset</i>
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Oct 2 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 3 <i>sunset</i>	Oct 3 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 4 <i>sunset</i>
1 st Day of Chag HaSukkot (First Day Feast Booths)	Oct 7 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 8 <i>sunset</i>	Oct 8 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 9 <i>sunset</i>
Shemini Atzeret (Eighth Day of Assembly)	Oct 14 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 15 <i>sunset</i>	Oct 15 <i>sunset</i> - Oct 16 <i>sunset</i>

We're commanded to begin the Biblical Year with Chodesh HaAviv (Ex 12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1), which is the month when the planted (Gen 3:19, Ex 23:10, Ex 23:16) swathed barley fields (not desiccated), in the Plains of Jericho (Joshua 5:10-12) (what's today referred to as the Jordan Valley), become Aviv (Ex 12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1) in time for everyone can bring an Omer of their harvest to the Priest, when they go up to the Temple for Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread) (Lev 23:10, Ex 23:14-19, Ex 34:23-26, Dt 16:13-17). Based on the above criteria, we believe the upcoming Biblical Year will begin on 30 March 2025 (assuming the crescent moon is sighted that evening). For reference, the prior Biblical Month will begin on 1 March 2025 (assuming the crescent moon is sighted), which is too early in the solar cycle for the planted swathed barley fields to the Jordan Valley to be Aviv in time.

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

Subscribe to our [newsletter](#) and [social media](#) platforms, to receive our first-hand New Moon and Barley Inspection reports as soon as they come out.

Do 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.

We could really use your prayers and support to continue to carry out this important work. [on](#), or by sending a Check to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL.

If you found this article helpful, please partner with us so we can create more in-depth studies. Contributions (Ex 25:2) can be made easily and in any currency via [PayPal](#), [Patreon](#), or by sending a Check to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL. We could really use your prayers and support to continue to carry out this important work.

Together we can restore the Biblical Calendar!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

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Devorah's Date Tree (Judges 4:4-5) is committed to better understanding the Biblical Calendar and providing reliable first-hand New Moon Observation and Barley Inspection reports from the Land of Israel. This important effort is headed by Devorah Gordon, who has been living in Israel, and working on restoring the Biblical Calendar, for over 25 years. We are honored that our reports are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from the Holy Land, and a blessing to countless people around the world. Thank you for partnering with us to restore the Biblical Calendar.