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New Moon Observation

20 March 2026

Photo Credit:
Ephraim Amnon

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Devorah's Date Tree



Honest Reporting and In-depth Studies
30+ Years Experience

Restoring the Biblical Calendar and Keeping the Holy Days in their Appointed Times

Dear Friends,

The 1st Biblical Month has begun!

The crescent moon was sighted on 20 March 2026 from:

* 6:03pm by Yoel Halevi from Zevulun Valley

* 6:14pm by Ephraim Amnon from Kfar Chasidim

The beginning of the month is called “chodesh” (1 Samuel 20:5; Psalm 81:4[3]; Ezekiel 46:1), from the root ch.d.sh. meaning new, as the month begins with the crescent moon (Gen 1:14), i.e. when the moon becomes anew following the lunar phase of conjunction.

And we know the Biblical Calendar is to be set according to the signs (Gen 1:14) in The Land (Dt 6:1, Dt 11:8-9, Dt 30:5), as the moadim (appointed times) are set holy days (Lev 23:4), to be observed as a nation, in the place the Creator placed His name (Ex 23:17, Ex 34:23, Dt 16:15-16, 1 Kings 11:36, Zech 14:16), not everyone celebrating on different days.

As days in the Biblical Calendar begin at sunset, i.e. the end of the agricultural day (Gen 1:5,8,13,19,23,31), the Biblical Month begins when the crescent moon is spotted from Israel. The beginning of the Biblical Month is a celebratory day (Hosea 2:11), and was traditionally commemorated by blowing the shofar (Num 10:10; Psalm 81:4[3]), enjoying a festive meal (1 Samuel 20:5, 24), and worshipping at the Beit HaMikdash

(Temple) (Isaiah 66:23; Ezekiel 46:1-3) with a special sacrifice (Num 28:11-15; 2Chronicles 2:3; Ezra 3:4-5, Ezekiel 45:17, Ezekiel 46:6).

On behalf of all of us who keep the Biblical Calendar, we want to thank everyone who looked for the crescent moon from Israel this evening, and shared their observations in a timely manner, so they could be included in this report.

And for those that asked, the weekly sabbath isn't determined by the lunar cycle, rather by the daily cycle, as we're commanded to observe the sabbath every seventh day (Gen 2:2-3, Ex 16:26; Ex 20:8-11; Ex 23:12; Ex 31:12-17; Ex 34:21; Ex 35:2; Lev 23:3; Ez 46:1). And we know Saturday is the seventh day, because we have an unbroken tradition of observing Shabbat on that day. As days in the Biblical Calendar begin at sunset (i.e. the end of the agricultural day) (Gen 1:5,8,13,19,23,31), Shabbat begins every Friday at sunset and ends on Saturday at sunset. [Remember, the adjustments the Rabbinites made to the Biblical Calendar are detailed in their writings, and they didn't change the day of Shabbat.]

2026 HOLIDAY DATES

According to the Biblical Calendar

1 st Month Holidays		Scenario #2 New Moon sighted on 20-March-2026
1 st Day Chag HaMatzot (1 Day Unleavened Bread)	<i>Moon too early in it's cycle.</i>	Apr 3 sunset - Apr 4 sunset
Yom HaNafat HaOmer (Wave Sheaf Day)		April 5, 2025
7 th Day Chag HaMatzot (7 Day Unleavened Bread)		Apr 9 sunset - Apr 10 sunset
Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks)		May 23 sunset - May 24 sunset

7 th Month Holidays	Scenario #1 New Moon sighted on 12-September-2026	Scenario #2 New Moon sighted on 13-September-2026
Yom Teruah (Day of Trumpets)	Sep 12 sunset - Sep 13 sunset	Sep 13 sunset - Sep 14 sunset
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	Sep 21 sunset - Sep 22 sunset	Sep 22 sunset - Sep 23 sunset
1 st Day of Chag HaSukkot (First Day Feast Booths)	Sep 26 sunset - Sep 27 sunset	Sep 27 sunset - Sep 28 sunset
Shemini Atzeret (Eighth Day of Assembly)	Oct 3 sunset - Oct 4 sunset	Oct 4 sunset - Oct 5 sunset

The Biblical Calendar is a luni-solar calendar (Gen 1:14). The Month begins with the crescent moon (i.e. when the moon becomes anew following the lunar phase of conjunction), which is why the beginning of the month is called "chodesh" (1 Samuel 20:5; Psalm 81:4[3]; Ezekiel 46:1), from the root ch.d.sh. meaning new. And the Year begins with the crescent moon after the Spring Equinox, which is why the first month of the year is called Chodesh HaAviv (month of the Aviv) (Ex 12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1), as that's when the barley crop is ready to be harvested.

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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 important Biblical Calendar information, as soon as we publish it.

[Send us](#) your questions on the Biblical Calendar, and we'll do our best to try and answer them 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 provide in-depth studies on the Biblical Calendar, reliable New Moon Observations, and honest Barley Inspections. Contributions (Ex 25:2) can be made easily and in any currency via [Paypal](#) (no need for an account), [Patreon](#), or sending a Wire Transfer (contact us for details in your currency).

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 restoring the Biblical Calendar, by providing in-depth Bible Studies, reliable New Moon Observations, and honest Barley Inspections. 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 the information we share, is considered the most reliable source for keeping the Biblical Calendar, and a blessing to countless people around the world. Thank you for partnering with us to restore the Biblical Calendar.
