View Newsletter in Your Browser

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 crescent moon was reportedly observed this evening (12 September 2026), from Jerusalem (Gilo) at 7:15pm, by Tirzah and Josa Rapuano (whom I don't know). They reportedly saw the crescent with the naked eye through a cloud, and then both subsequently confirmed the sighting with binoculars under the cloud (no photo available).

This evening was a very difficult observation, because while the moon's illumination was high, the lag time was short. That being said, there have been previous positive observations under the same stats as this evening. And positive observations from Rabbinic observers, may come in after their holiday.

I think it's also worth mentioning that while the Biblical Month begins with the crescent moon, i.e. when the moon is far enough away from the sun that it can be visible to the naked eye, there's debate as to whether the crescent needs to actually be sighted, or whether the beginning of the month is intended to be determined solely on the lunar cycle (aka Potential Visibility).

The argument that the crescent doesn't need to be sighted, is that the moon could be far enough along in its cycle, however not visible due to atmospheric obstruction (i.e. haze, clouds, or smoke), or due to the acuity of the observers' vision (as the crescent can be

extremely faint on a bright horizon some months). And there's also the question of whether it's reasonable to presume that the people didn't know when Rosh Chodesh or Yom Teruah would be in advance (1 Samuel 20:5,18), only to find out much later whether there were reliable positive observations.

I am beginning the 7th Biblical Month this evening, 12 September 2026 (which is the end of the 29th day of the previous month), and plan on letting you know if we receive further positive observations.

On behalf of all of us who keep the Biblical Calendar, we want to thank everyone who looked for the crescent New Moon from Israel this evening.

2026 HOLIDAY DATES

According to the Biblical Calendar

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

7th 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*
1st 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]; Eziekiel 46:1), from the root ch.d.sh. meaning new. And the Year begins with the crescent moon after the Spring Equilux, 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.

Subscribe to learn more about the Biblical Calendar➪ linktr.ee/DevorahsDateTree

DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

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

Subscribe to our Patreon page to receive our newsletters via email, and our social media platforms, to receive them in your feed.

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. Contributions (Ex 25:2) can be made easily and in any currency via Paypal (no need for an account), Patreon, mailing a Check to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL, or sending a Wire Transfer (contact us for details in your currency).

Together we can restore the Biblical Calendar!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

Copyright © 2017-2026 Devorah Gordon, All rights reserved.

SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH FRIENDS

https://mailchi.mp/devorahsdatetree/7th-biblical-month-2026-crescent-moon-report?e=[UNIQID]

Share Tweet Forward

Devorah's Date Tree (Judges 4:4-5) is committed to restoring the Biblical Calendar, by providing honest reporting and in-depth studies. This important effort is headed by Devorah Gordon, who has been living in Israel and working on restoring the Biblical Calendar, for over 30 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.