## God's Calendar IN THE BIBLE!

Would an All Wise God give us special Holy Days, but forget to provide a calendar which explains how to find them?

So, we should expect to find those instructions in God's word, simple enough for all to understand, and preferably along with the Holy Days. And we do, in Leviticus 23, the Holy day chapter, of course! Where else! Leviticus 23:10-11, 'Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: 11And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.' It just takes a more than a superficial look to see that this includes the calendar!

The people had already been informed by God as they left Egypt that, 'This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.' (Exodus 12:2) That first month, called "the Abib" would always provide the firstfruit Barley harvest in the land of Israel, and it still does, today. If at the end of the twelfth month the barley would be ripe enough to harvest at the Feast of Unleavened bread in the coming month, the New Year could begin. If not, a 13<sup>th</sup> month would be added (intercalation) just as it does today, automatically keeping the Holy Days in sync with the seasons. The sighting of the new crescent moon then determines the first day of the first month, and also will provide the start of all the other months. This, as we will see, is the way God's calendar works, as it will also work in God's Kingdom. Isaiah 66:23, 'And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

Long ago though, when Judah was taken into captivity to Babylon, they could no longer follow those instructions as they are based on visual observation in the land of Israel, and their rabbis had to come up with an alternative.

As they were held captive in Babylon, it is hardly surprising that what they came up with, was based on the Babylonian calendar, which was calculated, complex, and even used Babylonian names for the Jewish months. The rabbis were pleased to have a system **to their own liking**, which was kept secret so that no one else could understand it, as that strengthened their control over the laity.

But then Cyrus became King, and gave the Jews permission to return to their land. **The calendar returned to observation,** observation of all the signs of Spring, especially the expected ripeness of the barley crop a couple of weeks after the end of the twelfth month, during Unleavened Bread, which determined whether or not they needed to add an extra month, Adar 2.

That worked fine, and Jesus kept the Holy days with the Jews, when He walked the Streets of Jerusalem. The people were pleased, for even a child could see and recognise **ripe barley** (John 4:35, 'Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for **they are white** already to harvest.) which was needed for the Wave- Sheaf offering, during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, in the First Month of the new year.

Jesus Christ died for our sins on the 14<sup>th</sup> of *that* month, which God had determined was to be the first month, at Passover, sanctioning the validity of that true calendar based upon observation in Israel, up until the Romans drove the Jews out of their land after the fall of the Temple in AD 70.

Excluded from Israel, once again the Rabbinic Babylonian-influenced calculated calendar was re-introduced, and underwent several changes over the next 900 years to try to make it more accurate, but this time it has remained, and continues in error to this day, though the Jews recognise that it is a dog's breakfast of man-made interventions and are practising **observing** the moon to return to the God given accurate system of observation. This change could occur along with the completion of the Temple.

Sadly, though the true and only calendar we find in the Bible is perfectly accurate every year, is readily available, and unlike the Rabbinic calendar obeys God's instructions in Leviticus 23:4, it is not complex or empowering enough for the rabbis and can only be proclaimed in each season, not hundreds of years in advance. So, God's people have been led to accept the unbiblical calendar tradition of the Jews just as Jesus Christ condemned, Mark 7:9, 'And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.' The result is that regularly, as occurred last year (2024), all the Holy Days were wrong, more than a month late because they ignored the commanded Wave-Sheaf requirements!

When will God's people learn that it is our responsibility to check what we are taught against God's word, and be very suspicious of any interventions which divert us from the words of God, as is *plainly* the case with the man made rabbinical calculated calendar?

Today, we can follow God's instructions about the Wave-Sheaf by observing it's development towards harvest from anywhere in the world, just as if we were in the land, and there is no excuse for following the rabbis, for to defer to their pagan Babylonian influenced calendar is to blatantly reject the very words of the Lord which will always determine the *true* start of the year and the true beginning of each month. Leviticus 23:10-11.

Any important pronouncement oracles from God were always written down for us but there are no such calendar pronouncements in the Bible, except Leviticus 23:10-14, which makes the rabbinic calendar is an **unbiblical** pagan tradition, leading God's

people into idolatry, and the ministry have blindly ignored this. Jesus Christ would never have kept that calendar, and neither should we! We are instructed to walk in Jesus Christ's footsteps, not the traditions of the Jews! 1 Peter 2:21. ....'ye should follow his steps.'

Rejecting God's words is plainly rebellion, and rebellion has tragic consequences. Moses lost his triumphal entry into the Promised land, despite all his work for God, over a less serious rebellion. Israel's King Saul lost His Kingdom, similarly.

Rebellion could cost us our place in Christ's Millennial Kingdom, even if we gain personal forgiveness by martyrdom in the Great Tribulation.

Rejecting those Wave-Sheaf verses symbolically rejects our part in the Firstfruit Resurrection. It has already led to prophetic confusion over End-Time events and false beliefs about the timing of the First Resurrection, which is pictured by the very words most of God's ministers have rejected. They do not realise that these are God's instructions by which the TRUE Holy Days are correctly determined, and that the Spiritual *Firstfruits* are raised up in the *Firstfruit* Resurrection, in the month of *THE* ABIB! [the ripe barley].

The rabbinic calendar has become a foreign idol through lack of love and respect for God's words, 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11, .....'because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should **believe a lie:** 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.'

God Himself blinded their eyes to the truth because they not only rejected His words, but made an idol of their leader, which brought about the church's fragmentation, to this day. Zechariah 11:17, Ezekiel 8:5-6.

We are told to look to Jesus Christ as our leader, walk in His footsteps, (1 Peter 2:21) and honour God's words, (Matthew 4:4, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.") not the traditions of the Jews (Mark 7:9!). I believe most of us know that only when we obey God's words, do we have God's Holy Spirit. Acts 5:32, 'And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.' Failure to keep the correct holy days, which are based upon obeying God's Wave-Sheaf commands, abrogates that responsibility.