



The Melchizedek Midrash: “**Melchizedrash**”

The Calendar, Part 1: Finding the Biblical Calendar

TESHUVAH MINISTRIES STUDY GUIDE

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TOPIC: The Calendar

TESHUVAH MINISTRIES POSITION ON THE CALENDAR: The Biblical year begins at the first confirmed sighting of the New Moon after the barley around Jerusalem first reaches the stage referred to in the Scriptures as “aviv.” At that point we start counting 14 days to Pesach. With this Biblical calendar we can find all the rest of the Feasts so we can be in-step with Yahweh throughout the year.

SIMPLE DEFINITION: The word “calendar” is not found in the Bible. When we say “calendar” we mean: A system or method by which to determine or count days, weeks, months and years. Also, a datebook or timetable for special “set apart” days.

CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING A CALENDAR: When trying to figure out which calendar one should be following it might be helpful to first figure out one’s criteria for that calendar. As in:

- What do you need the calendar to do for you?
- What are you going to be doing with the calendar?

Example of Criteria: Say you are going to buy a new car and you want to get the right one. You might first need to figure out what your criteria are? What are you going to be doing with that vehicle? What do you need it to do for you? Do you need to get 40 MPG, or do you need to haul a 5th wheel trailer? If you are a single college student than the right vehicle for you might be a scooter while a family of eight might need a full-size van.

Teshuvah Ministries Criteria for choosing a Calendar: We want to celebrate the Mo’edim at their appointed times according to the instructions given in The Bible. (Some ministries place a higher value on unity, tradition, convenience or innovation than they do on following scripture. Their criteria have led them to different calendars.) We want to be in unity with the Creator and on his rhythm above all else.

THE NEED FOR BEING ON THE CORRECT CALENDAR: In order to determine (scripturally) when the Moedim are, we must first determine when the year begins, then we can count 14 days to the first Feasts, which are Pesach (Passover) and Chag HaMatzot (Unleavened Bread.) From there we can count the days and months as we go through the year to find the appointed times for the rest of the Mo'edim. The verses below give us those exact instructions.

METHOD OF STUDY: While there are many resources out there that teach or comment on the calendar, we want to start by looking only at the Scriptures. And within the Scriptures, we are going to start by looking only at those passages that are specifically in the context of determining the beginning of the year or when to celebrate Pesach and Unleavened Bread. For now we are not going to look at anecdotal, ancillary or circumstantial references to the calendar.

SCRIPTURES TO STUDY:

Genesis 1:14-19

The passing or progression of the year can be determined by observing the sun AND moon AND the stars. Because of this fact, we see that not everything is determined by the sun. There is a unit of time that is not directly related to or determined by a heavenly body: the cycle of the 7-day week. Therefore, YHVH does have a unit of time that is not guided by any celestial movement. One of the core proofs of the equinox theory is this verse. That the Creator made the sun to determine the year, but the verse says that you can use the sun AND moon AND stars to determine years. This verse does not directly prove that we should all have sundials in our yard or base our year on the equinox (which isn't observable and is a pagan go-to).

Exodus 12:2; Exodus 13:3-5; Exodus 34:18; Deut. 16:1

The name of the first month of YHVH's year is Aviv/Abib. YHVH did not give names to any other months.

Exodus 23:15

The aviv is a Melchizedek issue, because it is found as a direct command in the Covenant / Royal Law prior the breach of the first Contract. Therefore, Melchizedek priests will be honoring the "month of Aviv."

WORDS TO STUDY UP ON THAT ARE USED IN THE CONTEXT OF BIBLICAL CALENDAR:

- "signs"
- "seasons"
- "days"
- "years"
- "observe" and "keep" (they are the same word in the original Hebrew)
- "aviv"

Aviv is a very specific, identifiable stage. Aviv refers to a very specific stage that is between "dark" and "carmel" and which can be eaten when parched in the fire because it is almost mature.

"Dark" = young enough not to be destroyed by hail (Ex. 9:31,32)

"Aviv" = can be destroyed by hail and can't be eaten raw, but can be eaten when parched by fire. (Lev. 2:14)

"Carmel" = is fully ripe grain (Lev. 2:14, in the Hebrew)

