



Cepher  
Academy



# The Seasons

A study on the Appointed Times  
of Yahuah

# The Seasons

The image is a vertical collage of four seasonal scenes. From top to bottom: 1. A waterfall cascading down a rocky ledge, surrounded by vibrant pink cherry blossoms. 2. A sunset or sunrise over a field of golden wheat, with a dark horizon line. 3. A dense forest of trees with bright orange and red autumn foliage. 4. A snowy landscape with several tall, evergreen trees covered in snow under a blue sky with light clouds.

A study on the Appointed Times  
of Yahuah

# The Seasons

*And Elohiym said: Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and **let them be for signs, and for appointed feasts, and for days, and years:** 15 And let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth: and it was so. 16 And Elohiym made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. 17 And Elohiym set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth, 18 And to rule over the day [יּוֹם] and over the night [לַיְלָה], and to divide the light [אֹר] from the darkness [חֹשֶׁךְ]: and Elohiym saw that it was good. 19 And the evening [עֶרֶב] and the morning [בֹּקֶר] were the fourth day [יּוֹם].*

- Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 1:14-19

# The Seasons

*And on the fourth day he created **the sun and the moon and the stars**, and set them in the expanse of the heaven, to give light upon all the earth, and to rule over the day and the night, and divide the light from the darkness. And Elohiym appointed the sun to be a great sign on the earth for days and for Shabbaths and for months and for feasts and for years and for Shabbaths of years and for jubilees and for all seasons of the years. 10 And it divides the light from the darkness and for prosperity, that all things may prosper which shoot and grow on the earth.*

***These three kinds** he made on the fourth day.*

*- Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 2:9-10*

# The Seasons

The day [יּוֹם]

The night [לַיְלָה]

The light [אוֹר]

The darkness [חֹשֶׁךְ]

The evening [עֶרֶב]

The morning [בֹּקֶר]

The day [יּוֹם]

## The evening [עֶרֶב]

*This may be better stated as from the zenith at noon to darkness – the waning of sunlight.*

## The morning [בֹּקֶר]

*This may be better stated as from the daylight to the zenith – the waxing of sunlight at noon.*

*Both of these constitute the “day”.*

# The Seasons

**What do we see in  
Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 1:14-19**

**We find:**

**Lights in the expanse of the heavens  
The greater light  
The lesser light  
The stars also**

**What do we not see in  
Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 1:14-19**

**We don't find:**

**A rabbi  
Barley  
Flax  
Jerusalem**

# The Seasons

*Now Yahuah had said unto El-Avram: Get you out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house, unto a land that I will show you: 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless you and curse him that curses you: and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed. 4 So Avram departed, as Yahuah had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and **Avram was seventy and five years old** when he departed out of Haran. 5 And Avram took Sarai his woman, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Kena'an; and **into the land of Kena'an** they came.*

- Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 12:1-5



# The Seasons

*And in the sixth week, in the fifth year thereof, Avram sat up throughout the night on the New Moon of the seventh month to observe the stars from the evening to the morning, in order to see what would be the character of the year with regard to the rains, and he was alone as he sat and observed. 17 And a word came into his heart, and he said: **All the signs of the stars, and the signs of the moon and of the sun are all in the hand of Yahuah. Why do I search them out?** 18 If he desires, he causes it to rain, morning and evening; and if he desires, he withholds it, and all things are in his hand.*

- Yovheliym (Jubilees) 12:16-18

# The Seasons

*19 And he prayed that night and said,  
My Elohiym, El Elyon, you alone are my Elohiym, and you and your  
dominion have I chosen. And you have created all things, and all things  
that are the work of your hands. 20 **Deliver me from the hands of evil  
ruachoth** who have dominion over the thoughts of men's hearts, and **let  
them not lead me astray from you, my Elohiym.** And establish me and  
my seed forever that we go not astray from henceforth and forevermore.*

*- Yovheliym (Jubilees) 12:19-20*

# The Seasons

*And Avram journeyed from Haran, and he took Sarai, his woman, and Lot, his brother Haran's son, to the land of Kena`an, and he came into Ashshur, and proceeded to Shekem, and dwelt near a lofty oak. 2 And he saw, and behold, the land was very pleasant from the entering of Chamath to the lofty oak. 3 And Yahuah said to him: To you and to your seed will I give this land.*

- Yovheliym (Jubilees) 13:1-3

*And it came to pass in the first year, in the seventh week, **on the New Moon of the first month**, that he built an altar on this mountain, and called on the name of Yahuah:*

- Yovheliym (Jubilees) 13:1-3

# The Seasons

*And he removed from thence and went towards the Negev, and he came to Chevron and Chevron was built at that time, and **he dwelt there two years**, and he went thence into the land of the Negev, to Ba`aloth, and there was a famine in the land. 11 And Avram went into Mitsrayim in the third year of the week, and he dwelt in Mitsrayim five years before his woman was torn away from him.*

- Yovheliym (Jubilees) 13:1-3

Chevron (Hebron) is the destination point for Avram and his arrival in the land of Kena'an, where he arrived some days later from Shekem. If fourteen days, then he would have arrived at Chevron on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the first month. This began the 430 year count.

# The Seasons

*40 Now the sojourning of the children of Yashar'el, who dwelt in the land of Mitsrayim, and in the land of Kena'an, they **and their fathers**, was four hundred and thirty years. 41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the self-same day it came to pass, that all the hosts of Yahuah went out from the land of Mitsrayim.*

- Shemoth (Exodus) 12:40-41

**The fathers of the children of Yashar'el were of course Avraham, Yitschaq, and Ya'aqov.**

# The Seasons

*And Yahuah spoke unto El-Mosheh and El-Aharon in the land of Mitsrayim, saying: 2 This month shall be unto you **the beginning of months: it shall be the first month** of the year to you.*

- Shemoth (Exodus) 12:1-2

*Guard the month of Aviyv and keep the Pecach unto Yahuah Elohayka: for in the month of Aviyv Yahuah Elohayka brought you forth out of Mitsrayim by night.*

- Devariym (Deuteronomy) 16:1

# The Seasons

*4 These are the feasts of Yahuah, even holy assemblies, which ye shall proclaim in their appointed times. 5 In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahuah's Pecach. 6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Matstsah unto Yahuah: seven days ye must eat matstsah. 7 In the first day ye shall have a holy assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein. 8 But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah seven days: in the seventh day is a holy assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein.*

*- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:10-11*

# The Seasons

*Speak unto the children of Yashar'el and say unto them:  
When ye are come into the land which I give unto you, and  
shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of  
the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest: 11 And he shall  
wave the sheaf before Yahuah, to be accepted for you: on the  
morrow after the Shabbath the priest shall wave it.*

*- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:10-11*



# The Seasons

*14 **Three times** you shall keep a feast unto me in the year. 15 You shall guard the **Feast of Matstsah**: (you shall eat matstsah seven days, as I commanded you, in the time appointed of the month Aviyv; for in it you came out from Mitsrayim: and none shall appear before me empty:) 16 And the **Feast of Qatsiyr**, the first fruits of your labors, which you have sown in the field: and the **Feast of Aciyph**, which is in the end of the year, when you have gathered in your labors out of the field. 17 Three times in the year all your males shall appear before Adonai Yahuah. 18 No chamets shall be upon my offering of blood; and no fat of my feast shall remain till morning. 19 The first [יְרֵאשִׁית] of the first fruits [בְּכֹר] of your land you shall bring into the house of Yahuah Elohayka.*

- Shemoth (Exodus) 23:14-19

# The Seasons

We see three significant days in the first month of the year, which was called Aviyv – not Niycan.

Pecach (Passover)

Matstsah (Unleavened Bread)

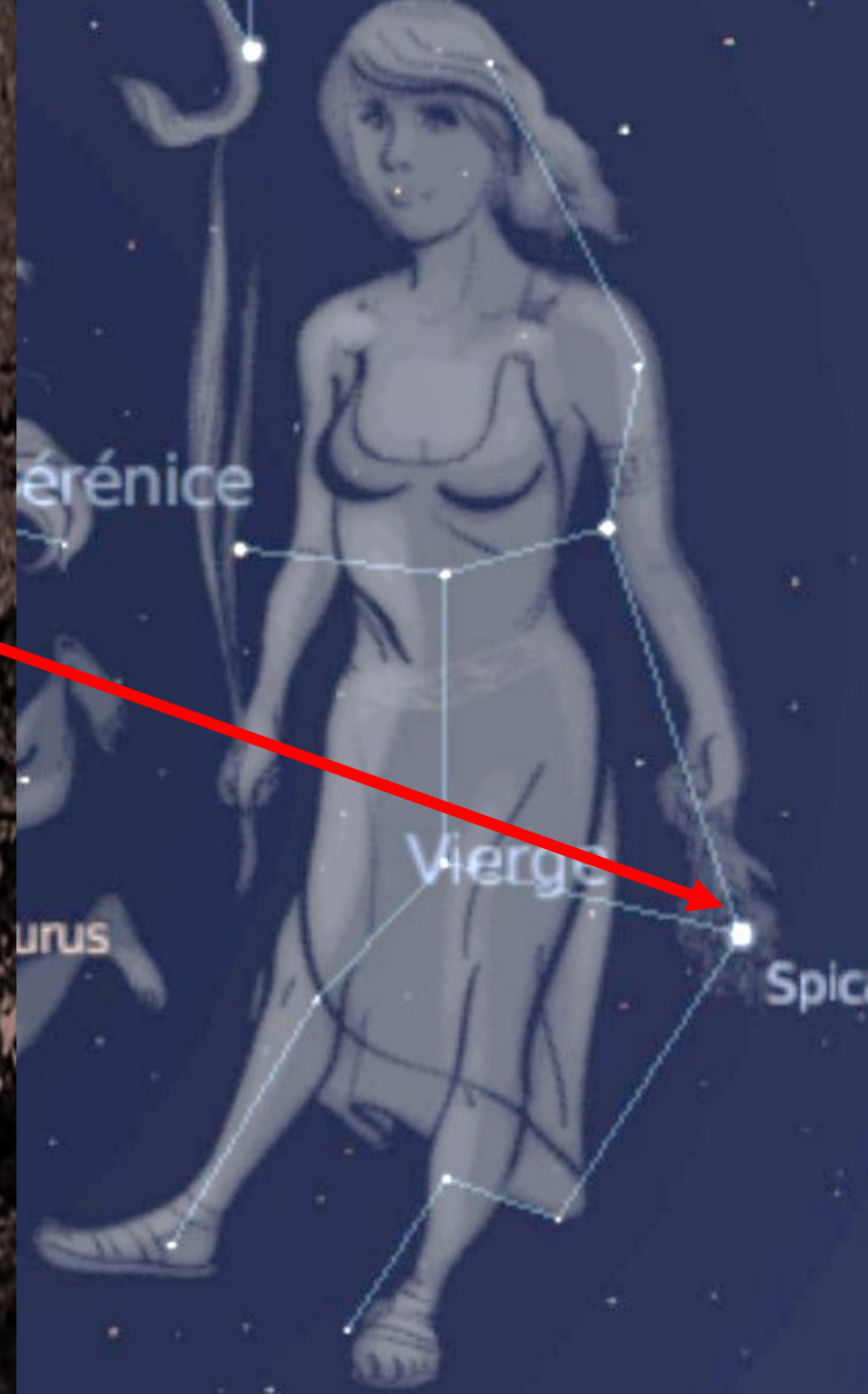
Qatsiyr (First Fruits)

But there was another first fruits used to find the first month of the year.

# The Seasons

Enter the stars for the use of determining the appointed feasts, and in particular the constellation virgo and the star of her offering hand called the Alpha Virginis also known as Spica.

Spica, Alpha Virginis, is the brightest star in the southern constellation Virgo and the 16th brightest star in the sky. The name Spica (pronounced *spaikə*) comes from the Latin phrase *spīca virginis*, meaning “**Virgo’s ear of grain.**” The Latin word *spicum* refers to **the ear of wheat Virgo holds in her left hand.**

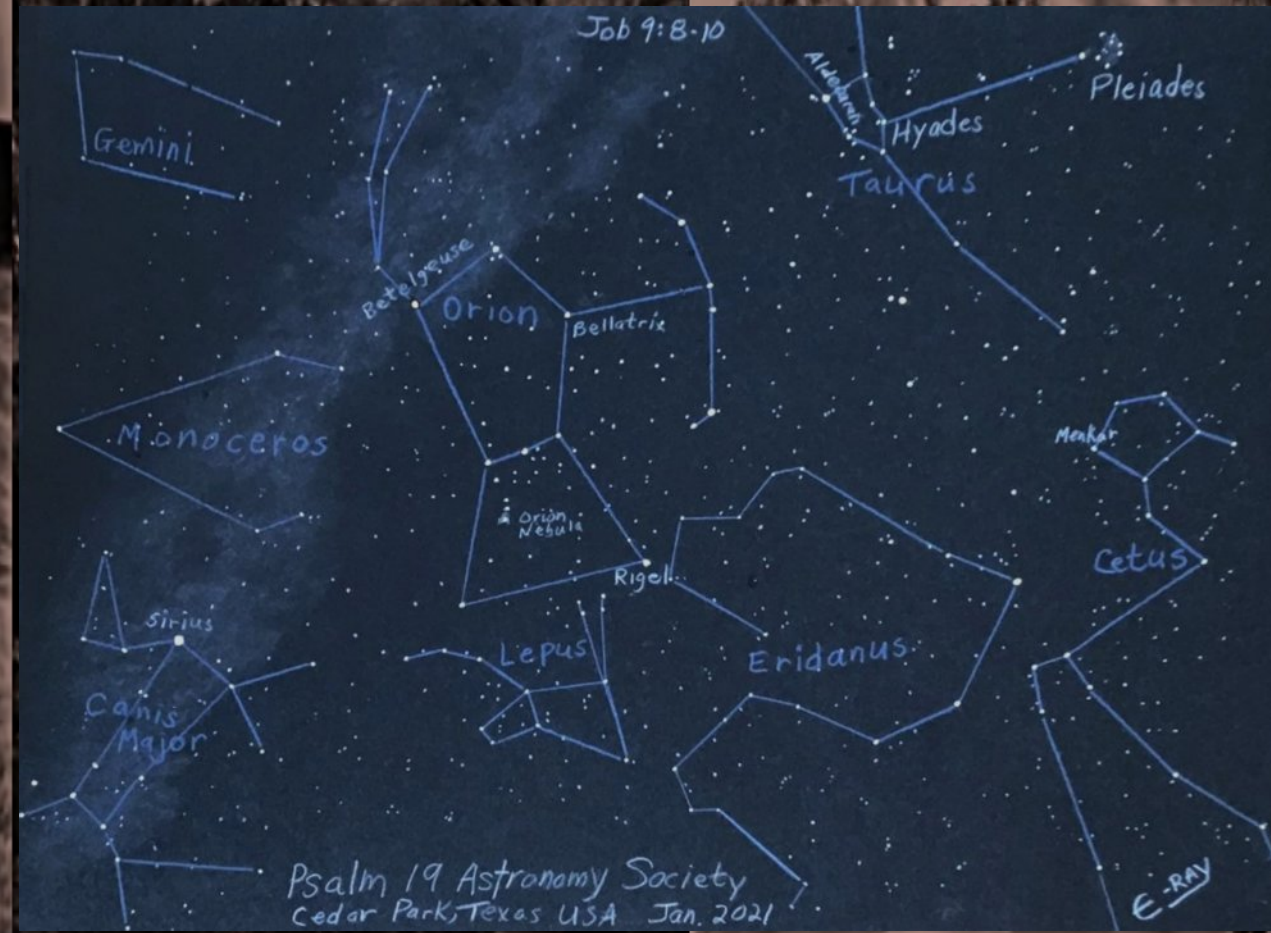


# The Seasons

## The summer sky

The constellations differ from summer to winter (illustration from the Northern Hemisphere)

## The winter sky





# The Seasons

The best time of year to observe Spica is from spring to late summer. The star emerges on the horizon in the east-southeast at sunset in early spring and can be seen throughout the night. Spica can be found at its highest point to the south in the early evening about two months later. By late August, it can only be seen for a short period after sunset in the west-southwestern sky.



# The Seasons

Alpha Virginis (Spica) is believed to be one of the bright stars that made it possible for Hipparchus (160 – 120 BC) to discover the precession of the equinoxes, after comparing his data to that of the Alexandrian Timochares, who had observed Spica and Regulus around 300 BC. We see the link between the wheat in the hand of Virgo and the vernal equinox, both signaling the first



# The Seasons

*And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear,  
and the flax was bolled. 32 But the wheat and the rye were not smitten:  
for they were not grown up.*

- Shemoth (Exodus) 9:31-32

The first month of the year is then consistent with that time when the flax and barley are smitten, and Spica arrives on the horizon – at the time of the vernal equinox.



# The Seasons

*Blow the shofar on the dark New Moon today on our solemn feast.*

*- Tehilliyim (Psalm) 81:3*

## First Month

Dark moon –  
1<sup>st</sup> of month

Full moon –  
15<sup>th</sup> of month

Vernal Equinox

**Matstsah:** 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. **Qatsiy**

**Hence, the sun, the moon, and the stars, fix the appointed times!!**



# The Seasons

**Matstsah**

**Qatsiyar**

M T W Th F **S** Su  
T W Th F **S** Su M  
W Th F **S** Su M T  
Th F **S** Su M T W  
F **S** Su M T W Th  
**S** Su M T W Th F  
Su M T W Th F **S**

**First Sabbath**

*Upon the first Shabbath let every one of you lay by him in store, as Elohiym has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

- Qorintiym Ri'shon(1 Corinth.) 16:2

*And it came to pass on the second Shabbath after the first, that he went through the fields; and his Talmidiym plucked the heads of grain, and did eat, rubbing them in their hands.*

- Luqas (Luke) 6:1

# The Seasons

## Shevu'oth

*15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Shabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Shabbaths shall be complete: 16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh Shabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a renewed oblation unto Yahuah. 17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the first fruits unto Yahuah.*

*- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:15-17*

# The Seasons

## Matstsah

First Sabbath

Qatsiyar

M T W Th F **S** Su

M T W Th F **S** Su (Ri'shon)

M T W Th F **S** Su (Sheniy)

M T W Th F **S** Su (Shelishiy)

M T W Th F **S** Su (Reviy'iy)

M T W Th F **S** Su (Chamishiy)

M T W Th F **S** Su (Shishiy)

M T W Th F S Su (Shabiy)

Based on a fixed seventh day sabbath:

*Upon the first Shabbath let every one of you lay by him in store, as Elohiym has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

- Qorintiym Ri'shon(1 Corinth.) 16:2

*And it came to pass on the second Shabbath after the first, that he went through the fields; and his Talmidiym plucked the heads of grain, and did eat, rubbing them in their hands.*

- Luqas (Luke) 6:1

## Shevu'oth

# The Seasons

## Seventh Month

*23 And Yahuah spoke unto Mosheh, saying: 24 Speak unto the children of Yashar'el, saying: In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a Shabbath, a memorial of blowing of shofars, a holy assembly. 25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah.*

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:23-25

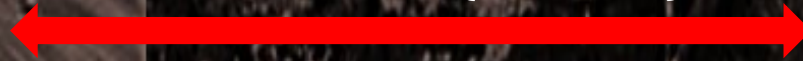
First Day  
Yom Teruah

Tenth Day  
Yom Kippur

15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>

Feast of Tabernacles (Cukkoth)

Shemini 'Azeret



# The Seasons

## Yom Teruah – Feasts of Trumpets

*23 And Yahuah spoke unto Mosheh, saying: 24 Speak unto the children of Yashar'el, saying: In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a Shabbath, a memorial of blowing of shofars, a holy assembly. 25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah.*

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:23-25

## Yom Kippur – Feast of Atonement

*And Yahuah spoke unto Mosheh, saying: 27 Also on the tenth day of this seventh month is Yom Kippuriym: it shall be a holy assembly unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah. 28 And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is Yom Kippuriym, to make an atonement for you before Yahuah Elohaykem. 29 For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. 30 And whatsoever soul it be that does any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. 31 Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 32 It shall be unto you a Shabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening unto evening, shall ye celebrate your Shabbath.*

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:26-32

# The Seasons

## Cukkoth – Feasts of Tabernacles

*And Yahuah spoke unto Mosheh, saying: 34 Speak unto the children of Yashar'el, saying: The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Cukkoth<sup>83</sup> for seven days unto Yahuah. 35 On the first day shall be a holy assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein. 36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah: on the eighth day shall be a holy assembly unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein. 37 These are the feasts of Yahuah, which ye shall proclaim to be holy assemblies, to offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah, an ascending smoke offering, and an oblation, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, everything upon his day: 38 Beside the Shabbaths of Yahuah, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which ye give unto Yahuah.*

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:33-38

# The Seasons

## Shemini Azaret

### The Last Great Day

*36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah: **on the eighth day shall be a holy assembly** [מִקְרָא־קֹדֶשׁ – miqrah qodesh] unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahuah: it is a solemn assembly [עֲצֵרֶת – atsereth H6116]; and ye shall do no servile work therein.*

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:36

*39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto Yahuah seven days: on the first day shall be a Shabbath, **and on the eighth day shall be a Shabbath.***

- Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:39



# The Seasons

## Shemini Azaret

### The Last Great Day

*8 Also at the same time Shalomah kept the feast seven days, and all Yashar'el with him, a very great assembly, from the entering in of Chamath unto the river of Mitsrayim. 9 And in the eighth day [שְׁמִינִי] they made a solemn assembly [עֲצָרָת]: for they kept the dedication [חֲנֻכָּת] -chanukkah] of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. 10 And on the three and twentieth day of the seventh month he sent the people away into their tents, glad and merry in heart for the goodness that Yahuah had showed unto Daviyd, and to Shalomah, and to Yashar'el his people.*

- Divrei Hayamiym Sheny (2 Chronicles) 7:8-10

# The Seasons

## Shemini Azaret

### The Last Great Day

Did Mashiach practice this feast?

*37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Yahusha stood and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believes on me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 (But this spoke he of the Ruach, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Ruach Ha'Qodesh was not yet given; because that Yahusha was not yet glorified.)*

- Yochanon (John) 7:37-39

# The Seasons

## The Months

[חֹדֶשׁ chôdesh]

When was the month first recognized?

*11 In the six hundredth year of Noach's life, in the second month [חֹדֶשׁ], the seventeenth day of the month [חֹדֶשׁ], the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. 12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights. 13 In the selfsame day entered Noach, and Shem, and Cham, and Yapheth, the sons of Noach, and Noach's woman, and the three women of his sons with them, into the ark;*

- Bere'shiyth (Genesis) 7:11-13

[חֹדֶשׁ] **chodesh** (H2320) the new moon; by implication, a month:—month(-ly), new moon. From H2318 [חָדַשׁ] **châdash**, a primitive root meaning to be new or renewed; causatively, to rebuild: to renew, or to repair.

# The Seasons

## The Months

[חֹדֶשׁ chôdesh]

What are the names of the months?

*The months on the Holy Calendar have names that are not commonly known, even though they are the true calendar.*

1. Aviyv [אַבִּיב] Green grain. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Niycan (Nisan) [נִיסָן] which means redemption.) Vayiqra (Leviticus) 23:5; Devariym (Deuteronomy) 16:1
2. Ziv [זֵיב] ( Bright flowers. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Iyyar [אייר] which means introspection or self-healing. Melekiym Ri'shon (1 Kings) 6:1
3. Sheliyshiy [שְׁלִישִׁי] Third. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Ciyvan [סִינָן] (Sivan) which means the giving of the Torah. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:5; Ecter (Esther) 8:9

# The Seasons

## The Months

[חֹדֶשׁ chôdesh]

What are the names of the months?

*The months on the Holy Calendar have names that are not commonly known, even though they are the true calendar.*

4. Reviy`iy [רְבִיעִי] Fourth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Tammuz [תַּמּוּז] which means the sin of worshipping false elohiym. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:7.
5. Chamiyshiy [חַמִּישִׁי] Fifth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Av [אָב] which means father. Melekiym Sheniy (2 Kings) 25:8.
6. Shiyshiy [שִׁשִּׁי] Sixth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Elul [אֱלוּל] which means repentance. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:9.

# The Seasons

## The Months

[חֹדֶשׁ chôdesh]

What are the names of the months?

*The months on the Holy Calendar have names that are not commonly known, even though they are the true calendar.*

7. Eythaniym [אֵיתָנוּיִם] Ever-flowing streams. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Tishrei [תִּשְׂרִי]. Melekiym Ri'shon (1 Kings) 8:2.
8. Bul [בּוּל] Produce/ rain. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Cheshvan [חֶשְׁוָן] which means the flood of Noach – *in error*. Melekiym Ri'shon (1 Kings) 6:38.
9. Teshiy`iy [תִּשְׂיָי] Ninth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Kiclev [כִּסְלֵו] which means restful sleep. Zakaryahu (Zechariah) 7:1.

# The Seasons

## The Months

[חֹדֶשׁ chôdesh]

What are the names of the months?

10. Asiriy [עֲשִׂירִי] Tenth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Tevet [טֵבֵת] which means divine grace. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:13.
11. Asar Ashtay [עֲשָׂתֵי עֶשֶׂר] Eleventh. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Shevat [שֵׁבֶט] which means tree of life. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:14.
12. Asar Shenayim [שְׁנַיִם עֶשֶׂר] Twelfth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Adar [אָדָר] which means strength. Divrei Hayamiym Ri'shon (1 Chronicles) 27:15.
13. Asar Shalosh [שְׁלוֹשׁ עֶשֶׂר] Thirteenth. Known in the modern Jewish calendar as Adar Sheni [אָדָר שֵׁנִי] which means renewed strength.