

No Scriptural “New Moon”

Ken Lent December 2018

The term “New Moon” never did appear in the Hebrew manuscripts of the Old Testament. The term was exclusively “New Month”. The ancient Hebrew month was solar. Three factors combined to result in the term “New Moon” being inserted into our English Bibles as we have them today such as we read in Psalm 81:3 “*Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, in our solemn feast day.*” Those factors are:

- 1) The Babylonian captivity of the House of Judah where Judah adopted the lunar month calendar of Babylon. (Solomon and others may have adulterated the calendar earlier as well)
- 2) The Jewish Rabbinical hijacking of the Scriptures with their Masoretic text interpretation of Talmudic lunar presumptions of Feast Day times.
- 3) The mistaken belief on the part of Christian English Bible translators who assumed that Jewish Rabbis were Israelites, upon which they (the translators) enlisted the aid of Rabbinical advice when making their various Bible translations.

The Genesis and Mosaic calendar was (and is) a solar calendar based on 12 thirty day months, including distinct and logical adjustments to account for 5 extra days due to the Earth’s complete orbit around the Sun (365 days/yr). Israel (both the Houses of Israel and Judah) used this fixed format for centuries until spiritual fornication with heathen religions began to taint the solar calendar concept they once had been given by Yahweh within the Books of the Law as administered through Moses. To simplify the account lets just say that the most obvious deviation from the solar calendar resulted from the Babylonian captivity when the House of Judah was taken to Babylon in 605 BC. It didn’t take long for Judah to become contaminated with Babylonian customs including Babylon’s lunar based religion and its chaotic moon calendar.

From Reader’s Digest Strange Stories and Amazing Facts, 1976 we read:

“Most early calendars were based on the moon, which takes roughly 29 ½ days to circle the Earth. The ancient Babylonian calendar, adopted by the Hebrews, was entirely lunar based ---- but this calendar rapidly got ahead of the seasons, so it was adjusted to keep it roughly in step with the solar year.”

In other words, once the solar calendar became adulterated with the lunar calendar of Babylon, it didn’t really work any longer. Later Rabbis tried to manipulate adjustments

to this new soli-lunar calendar but it can only “roughly” fit into the real year which is a solar year of the Earth’s orbit around the Sun. From here on out none of the Sabbaths or Feast Days of the now “Jewish” lunar/Saturday calendar were able to coincide with the original solar calendar given to Israel in the first five books of Mosaic law. To confuse matters more, Talmudic Rabbis of the post Babylonian era combined the Hebrew word for Moon (yaw-ray-akh – Strong’s H3394) with the word for month (chodesh – Strong’s H2320). These were separate words originally, as well they should be in any normal language. The lunar sphere we see in the sky that orbits the Earth is the Moon, that is, yaw-ray-akh. A month is a period of days, that is, chodesh (renewed every 30 days). They are distinct and different things, as unrelated as attempting to call the planet Mars a “week”.

However, in an attempt to validate and insert a lunar calendar into the Old Testament Scriptures, Rabbinic doctrine was forced to combine these unrelated words into a nonsensical meaning that “month” somehow means “moon” (the sphere up in the sky). Worse, unaware Christian scholars have accepted this slight-of-hand trickery based on the incorrect assumption that Jewish Rabbis are valid Israelite teachers, when they are not. Today’s Jews are the family of Cain/Esau/Khazars which family is the antithesis of the ancient Israelites of the Holy Bible. This is why we see the definition in Strong’s Concordance for chodesh as “month/moon”. Dr. James Strong, as wonderful a job that he did in compiling his concordance, was unaware of who the modern “Jews” are. Chodesh does not mean moon, it means month. Only a Babylonian Talmudic interpretation holds chodesh to mean “moon and month” simultaneously.

It becomes obviously clear that the Rabbinic definition of chodesh to mean both month and moon is seriously flawed when we look up the term “new moon” in Strong’s Concordance. There is not one verse anywhere in Scripture where “new moon” is ever “new yaw-ray-akh”, that is – there is no reference to looking at a “new lunar sphere in the night sky” to determine the start of a month. “New moon” in every Bible verse that it appears is always “new chodesh”, precisely – new month (originally at least). And that month was exclusively the solar month of the Mosaic law. The “new chodesh” had nothing to do with looking up skyward to search for the next appearance of the “yaw-ray-akh”, the moon. The first day of each month was precisely counted from the start of the vernal equinox in Spring, exactly as Scripture reveals. The start of the Hebrew solar year is fixed, the Sabbaths are fixed, and the Feast days are fixed – all taking place on the same calendar date each and every year. These are as stable as are Yahweh’s many fixed and permanent laws of nature. Lunar and soli-lunar times are fickle and chaotic being “out of order” with nature and stability which is why Jewish and Messianic Feast Days never take place on the same date from year to year, and can vary as much as three weeks from a previous year. In reality, nobody can accurately determine these false times, and only a yearly decree from Babylonian Talmudic Rabbis can ever regulate when a Sabbath or Feast should be held.

Jewish sources even admit that a month isn't in reality the orbiting moon we see in the sky (yaw-ray-akh), and that "chodesh" never really meant moon in the first place:

"The Hebrew name for month is CHODESH which means renewal --" (Gateway to Judaism, A.S. Barns & Co., 1972, pg.332

Then it goes on to show that Rabbinic teaching simply decided to apply the meaning of *month* to our Earth satellite – the moon.

"YAREACH, meaning moon is also referred to as "month". (pg.332, same source. Underline added.)

This unauthorized second step is both nonsensical and misleading.

Below are all the Bible verses with the words "new moon" and "new moons":

New moon – 1Sam.20:15, 18, 24; 2Ki.4:23; Ps.81:3; Is.66:23; Ezk.46:1, 6; Amos 8:5

New Moons – 1Chron.23:31; 2Chron.2:4; 8:13; 31:3; Ezra 3:5; Neh.10:33; Is. 1:13,14; Ezek. 45:17; 46:3; Hos.2:11

In none of the above verses do we find "new yaw-ray-akh" ever used for "new moon". They all have "new chodesh" which in the Hebrew text is simply new "month" as renewed every 30 days. Thus all of the above listed verses, including Psalm 81:3 correctly read "NEW MONTH".

Here are some verses where yaw-ray-akh is used for moon. Note that it refers to the moon in the sky:

Isaiah 30:26; Joel 3:15; 2Kings 23:5 (all not listed as there are over 30). This word is never used in combination with "new".

The term "new moon" in the Old Testament writings of the prophets of Yahweh Almighty simply does not exist because the ancient Israelites were not looking to the night sky to determine the appearance of a "new yaw-ray-akh" in an attempt to begin a month.