

4Winds Fellowships

2023AD / 5986-87AM Calendar of the Festivals of the Lord

For the sake of simplicity and everyone being on the same page, we are no longer using our own calculations based on new moon sightings using an astronomy program. Instead we are using the dates provided by the modern Jewish calendar, with three exceptions:

1. The Modern Jewish calendar has Passover on the 15th of Nisan, but the Scripture places it at the beginning of the 14th (Lev. 23:5). This is the date that the early Christians observed Passover. Our date will be one day before the modern Jewish calendar.

2. The modern Jewish calendar does not provide the correct date for "Firstfruits" which is the anniversary of Jesus' resurrection, Lev. 23:10-11 states that this festival occurs on "*the day after the Sabbath*" following Passover, which we interpret as the weekly Sabbath, thus always placing First-fruits on the first day of the week. But the modern Jewish interpretation considers the first day of Unleavened Bread (Nisan 15) to be an additional "Sabbath" referred to in this passage. Thus on the modern Jewish calendar "Firstfruits" is always on the 16th of Nisan regardless of weekday. But the careful student should notice that if this method is followed, then Pentecost will not always be the 50th day as required by Lev. 23:15-16, thus exposing the flaw in this interpretation. We believe that the changes were intentionally made long ago in order to disassociate the feasts from any connection with Jesus Christ.

3. Because of the change of First-fruits, the modern Jewish calendar does not always place Pentecost (Shavout) on a Sunday as Scripture requires, because they changed the start-day for the countdown of the 50-days, defined as 7 full Sabbaths + 1 day = 50 days.

I. Spring Feasts of the Lord (5986AM)

A. **Passover** (1 day), Nisan 14 begins at sunset (4/04). The lamb was to be slaughtered and prepared immediately (between sunset and dark) and the Passover meal must be eaten before dawn (Ex. 12:5-10). The daylight hours following were used for clean-up and preparation for the seven days of 'Unleavened Bread.'

1. **Unleavened Bread** (7 days), Nisan 15-21 begins at sunset (4/05) and continues until sunset (4/11).

2. **Firstfruits** (1 day) Resurrection Day, **always falls on the Sunday** following the first day of Unleavened Bread. This year it begins at sunset (4/08) and ends at sunset (4/09).

II. Summer Feast of the Lord

A. **Pentecost** "50th" (1 day) is seven full weeks after Firstfruits, and always falls on the first day of the week, the 50th Day. This year it begins at sunset (5/27) and ends at sunset (5/28).

III. Fall Feasts of the Lord (5987 AM)

A. **Rosh Hashanah** (1 day) begins at sunset (9/15) through sunset (9/16).

B. **Days of Awe** (10 days) includes Rosh Hashanah through Yom Kippur.

C. **Yom Kippur** (1 day) **FAST DAY** begins at sundown (09/24) through sundown (9/25).

D. **Sukkot** (Tabernacles) begins sunset (09/29) through sunset (10/06).

IV. Winter Celebration

A. **Hanukkah** (8 days) begins at sunset (12/07) until sunset (12/15). Menorah lamps lit each evening after sundown on 12/07 – 12/14.