

# How יהושע Messiah Counts the Omer

## Synopsis:

The Messiah Counts the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 by the **Messianic** Method.

**Shavuot** can fall on Day 5, Day 6, or Day 7 of Month 3.

The Omer count historically commemorates the 50 days which were counted from the day after **Israel** left Avaris / Rameses, **Egypt** on Day 15 / Month 1 until the Ten Commandments were given on Day 7 / Month 3 in 1437 B.C.E.

There has been controversy since the **Age of Instruction** on how to count the **50 days** to **Shavuot / Pentecost**. Those who follow יהושע Messiah would want to observe **Shavuot / Pentecost** the way יהושע Messiah did as יהושע is the Way the Truth and the Life according to **John 14:6**.

**John 14:6** יהושע said to him, *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

If you have seen יהושע Messiah you have seen the Father according to **John 14:9** as He is the image of the invisible Elohim according to **Colossians 1:15**.

**John 14:8-9** <sup>8</sup> Philip said to Him, *"Master, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."* <sup>9</sup> יהושע said to him, *"Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father?'"*

**Colossians 1:15-16** <sup>15</sup> He [יהושע Messiah] is the **image of the invisible Elohim**, the Firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

## יהושע Messiah Never Sinned Which Means He Never Transgressed the Torah

The question then obviously becomes: How did יהושע Messiah observe **Shavuot / Pentecost**? As יהושע is the **image of the invisible Elohim** the answer is obvious: Exactly the way He instructed Moses and **Israel** to keep it. For according to **Hebrews 4:15** and **1 Peter 2:22** יהושע Messiah never sinned.

**Hebrews 4:15** *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, **yet without sin**.*

**Isaiah 53:9** *And they made His grave with the wicked – but with the rich at His death, because **He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth**.*

**1 Peter 2:21-25** <sup>21</sup> For to this you were called, because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: <sup>22</sup> **"Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth"** [Isaiah 53:9]; <sup>23</sup> who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; <sup>24</sup> who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for

righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed.<sup>25</sup> For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Sin by definition is the transgression of the Torah according to **1 John 3:4**.

**1 John 3:4-9** <sup>4</sup> *Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is the transgression of the Torah.* <sup>5</sup> *And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.* <sup>6</sup> *Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.* <sup>7</sup> *Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He [יהושע Messiah] is righteous.* <sup>8</sup> *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Elohim was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.* <sup>9</sup> *Whoever has been born of Elohim does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of Elohim.*

## יהושע Messiah Observed Shavuot by the Messianic Method Exactly the Way He Instructed Moses and Israel to Keep It

So one can be sure that יהושע Messiah observed **Shavuot / Pentecost** exactly the way He instructed Moses and **Israel** to keep it, and that the calendar being kept by the Levitical priesthood in the Second Temple Period was the same calendar that Moses taught.

There were arguments about how to count the Omer at the end of the Second Temple period. The **Sadducees** *incorrectly* counted the Omer from the day after the **Weekly Sabbath** during the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**. The **Pharisees** insisted the Omer should be counted from the day after the first **High Sabbath** of the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**. However, history clearly records that the Levitical priesthood maintained the correct observation of the **Appointed Times** under the spiritual oversight of the **Pharisees**.

Although there is evidence that the Qumran Sect was observing a sectarian calendar at this time, the Levitical priesthood kept the calendar which Moses taught.

The Levitical priesthood, under the influence of the **Pharisees**, kept *three counts* in the countdown to **Shavuot**: they counted seven **Weekly Sabbaths** [Leviticus 23:15], they numbered **seven weeks** [Deuteronomy 16:9], and they numbered **50 days** [Leviticus 23:16].

**Leviticus 23:15** *And you shall count from the day after [ממחרת] the Sabbath [the High Sabbath on Day 15 / Month 1] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering [on Day 16 / Month 1]; Seven Sabbaths [Sheva Shabbatot שבע שבתות] they shall be perfect [temimot tihyeynah תמימת תהיינה].*

**Deuteronomy 16:9** Seven weeks [Sheva Shavuot שבעה שבועות] shall you number to yourself: begin to number the seven weeks [Sheva Shavuot שבעה שבועות] from such time as you begin to put the sickle to the grain [on Day 16 / Month 1].

**Leviticus 23:16** *Until the time after [ממחרת] the Seventh Sabbath [ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt השבת השביעת] shall you number fifty days, then shall you offer a new grain offering to יהוה.*

This is the *correct way* to count the omer to **Shavuot / Pentecost** and this is the way that יהושע Messiah counted the omer. For this reason, this method of *interpreting* and *executing* the commands of counting to **Shavuot / Pentecost** will be termed the **Messianic** method in this paper.



## Messiah Observed **Shavuot** Correctly His Whole Life from the Time He Was A Child Since the Levitical Priesthood Counted by the **Messianic** Method

It is certain that when יהושע was a Child He observed the **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** on the calendar the Levitical priesthood was following in **Jerusalem**. The Scriptures record one time when יהושע observed the **Passover** in **Jerusalem** when He was **12 years** old.

**Luke 2:40-52** <sup>40</sup> And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of Elohim was upon Him. <sup>41</sup> His parents went to **Jerusalem** EVERY YEAR at the **Feast of the Passover**. <sup>42</sup> And when He was twelve years old, they went up to **Jerusalem** according to the custom of the feast. <sup>43</sup> When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy יהושע lingered behind in **Jerusalem**. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; <sup>44</sup> but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. <sup>45</sup> So when they did not find Him, they returned to **Jerusalem**, seeking Him. <sup>46</sup> Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. <sup>48</sup> So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." <sup>49</sup> And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. <sup>51</sup> Then He went down with them and came to **Nazareth**, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And יהושע increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with Elohim and men.

## Zechariah the Priest and Elizabeth Observed **Shavuot** As the Levitical Priesthood Did by the **Messianic** Method

There is also evidence that other **Judeans**, such as Zechariah and Elizabeth, were righteous before Elohim. According to **Luke 1:6**, they walked blamelessly in **all** the commandments and ordinances of יהוה. According to **Luke 1:8-23**, Zechariah was a Levitical priest who served at the temple in **Course 8 – Abijah**. So Zechariah obviously observed the **Passover** and **Shavuot** as the Levitical priesthood instructed.

The fact that Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth walked blamelessly in all the commandments and ordinances of יהוה definitely implies that the Levitical priesthood was observing the calendar the way Moses instructed, and that the Levitical priesthood was counting **Weekly Sabbaths** to **Shavuot** by the **Messianic** method at this time.

## The **Sabbath** Resurrection Occurred on the **First Sabbath** in the Count to **Shavuot**

The disciples of יהושע Messiah also counted the Omer from **Day 16 / Month 1** as is evident from their testimony of the resurrection day which occurred on **Day 17 / Month 1** in **34 C.E.** [**17 Nisan = Sabbath, March 27, 34 C.E. (1733562) = Day 17, Month 1**]

The resurrection occurred **before sunrise** on the **First Weekly Sabbath** of the seven **Weekly Sabbaths** in the Omer count in **34 C.E.** This is certain as the **Greek** phrase *mia tōn sabbatōn* [μία των σαββάτων] should be translated as **First of the Sabbaths** in the Messianic Scriptures.



**Luke 24:1** Now *on the First of the Sabbaths* [μία των σαββάτων] *very early in the morning*, they came to the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

**John 20:1** And *on the First of the Sabbaths* [μία των σαββάτων] Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb *while it was still dark* and saw the stone taken away from the tomb.

## The Fact that the Apostles Called Day 17 / Month 1 in 34 C.E. the **First Sabbath** Indicates that the Apostles Counted the Omer by the **Messianic Method**

The apostles testify that the **Sabbath** on which יהושע arose was the **First of the Sabbaths** in the count to **Shavuot**. As יהושע arose on **Day 17 / Month 1** on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot** in 34 C.E., it *precludes the possibility* that **Shavuot** is counted from the day after the **Weekly Sabbath** as the **Sadducees** said. Rather, the apostles counted to **Shavuot** from the day after the **High Sabbath** from **Day 16 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. according to the **Messianic** method.

*If* the apostles had counted the Omer by the **Sadducean** method, they would have begun to count from the *day after* the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 17 / Month 1**, and the **Sadducean First Sabbath** would have occurred on **Day 24 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. As the apostles called **Day 17 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. the **First of the Sabbaths**, **Day 24 / Month 1** is truly reckoned as the **Second Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**, and this *positively indicates* that the apostles of יהושע Messiah counted by the **Messianic** method.

## The Ancients Counted **Seven Sabbaths** from **Resheet Firstfruits** Beginning with the **First Sabbath**

**Johnston M. Cheney** “**Seven Sabbaths** were to be counted from the **Feast of Firstfruits** or **Passover**. Consequently, these came to be known as “**First Sabbath**,” “**Second Sabbath**” etc. down to the **Seventh**. And according to Julian Morgenstern, former President of Hebrew University, this practice continued in Galilee till the time of Messiah in the Common Era. It is still observed by some groups in Palestine today. Thus there was an annual date known as “**First Sabbath**,” just after **Passover**.”

Johnston M. Cheney, *The Life of Christ in Stereo: The Four Gospels Combined as One*, Multnomah Publishers, Oregon, U.S.A., 1984, p. 230 (Western Conservative Baptist Seminary) as quoted by Daniel Gregg, *The Sabbath Resurrection*, pp. 13-14.

## יהושע Messiah was in the Heart of the Earth for 3 Days and 3 Nights

**Mark 16:2** and **Luke 24:1** indicate the women came to the tomb *early in the morning*, but **John 20:1** precisely says *while it was still dark*. John therefore testified that יהושע Messiah had arisen *before sunrise* on the **First Weekly Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**. This is a vital piece of information as in **Matthew 12:40**, יהושע had prophesied that He would be in the heart of the earth for *three days and three nights*.

**Matthew 12:40** For as Jonah was *three days and three nights* in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be *three days and three nights* in the heart of the earth.

*If* the resurrection had occurred *after sunrise* on the **First Weekly Sabbath**, *then* He would have, from a **Judean** perspective, been in the heart of the earth for parts of **4 days**, as *any part of a day* constitutes *a day* in Hebraic thought. יהושע was placed in the tomb *before sunset*, as **Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1** was ending, shortly *before* the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1** began.





**Luke 23:50-54** <sup>50</sup> Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. <sup>51</sup> He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the **Judeans**, who himself was also waiting for the **Kingdom of Elohim**. <sup>52</sup> This man went to **Pilate (27-37)** and asked for the body of יהושע. <sup>53</sup> Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. <sup>54</sup> That day [Day 14 / Month 1] was the **Preparation**, and the **Sabbath** [Day 15 / Month 1] drew near.

יהושע Messiah was in the earth for **part of the day** on **Day 14 / Month 1**, **all of the day** on **Day 15 / Month 1**, and **all of the day** on **Day 16 / Month 1**. If יהושע Messiah would have been in the tomb for **any part of the day** on **Day 17 / Month 1**, He would have, from a **Judean** perspective, been in the earth for **parts of 4 days**. This is why the Spirit of Truth explicitly says that the women came to the tomb **while it was still dark** while it was **very early in the morning** of **Day 17 / Month 1** and found the tomb empty **before sunrise**.

## Matthew and Mark Use a Slightly Different **Greek** Phrases than Luke and John To Describe When the Women Came to the Tomb

While Luke and John use the phrase **mia tōn sabbatōn** [μία των σαββάτων] **First of the Sabbaths** to describe when the women came to the tomb, Mark in **Mark 16:2** uses the phrase **miās sabbatōn** [μίας σαββάτων].

**Mark 16:2** And very early in the morning on the **First of the Sabbaths** [μίας σαββάτων] they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun.

Matthew employs two **Greek** phrases to **specify in no uncertain terms exactly when** the women came to the tomb during the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**.

**Matthew 28:1** On the **latter of the Sabbaths** [Ὁψε δε σαββάτων], at the dawning of the **First of the Sabbaths** [εἰς μίαν σαββάτων], Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.

Matthew first uses the phrase **Opsé dé sabbatōn** [Ὁψε δε σαββάτων], **latter of the Sabbaths**, to refer to the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 17 / Month 1**, as opposed to the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**, as the **Weekly Sabbath** was the **latter** of the two. The women came as the **First Weekly Sabbath** counting to **Shavuot** was **dawning** during **morning twilight** on **Day 17 / Month 1**. Matthew uses **mian sabbatōn** [μίαν σαββάτων], **First of the Sabbaths**, to say that the women came on the **First Weekly Sabbath** counting to **Shavuot** in 34 C.

The genuineness of **Mark 16:9-20** has been in question during the **Age of the Messiah**. However, assuming its authenticity, Mark employs the **Greek** phrase **prōto sabbatou** [πρώτη σαββάτου] to refer to **Chief Sabbath** of the seven **Weekly Sabbaths** in the **50 day** count to **Shavuot** – the **First Sabbath** – when the Messiah appeared to Mary Magdalene on **Day 17 / Month 1** in 34 C.E.

**Mark 16:9** Now when יהושע was risen **early on the First Sabbath** [πρώτη σαββάτου], He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven devils.

The unified testimony of the apostolic writings pinpoints that the women came to the empty tomb **while it was still dark** shortly **before sunrise** during **morning twilight** on **Day 17 / Month 1** on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**.

In **John 20:19**, the **Greek** words **hēmera** [ἡμέρα] and **mia sabbatōn** [μία σαββάτων] refer to **resurrection day** on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**. The disciples saw the risen Messiah late **in the afternoon** shortly



*before sunset* on the **First Sabbath**, as the **Seventh Day Sabbath** was coming to an end. The resurrection had occurred shortly *before sunrise* about **12 Hebrew Hours** earlier on that day.

**John 20:19** *Then in the afternoon that day [ἡμέρα], the First of the Sabbaths [πρῶτο σαββάτων], the doors having been locked where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Judeans, came יהושע and stood in the midst and said to them, “Shalom to you.”*

## Moses Counted the 50 Days from **Resheet Firstfruits** on Day 16 / Month 1

Moses counted the omer from **Day 16 / Month 1** as recorded in **Antiquities 3 / 250** and **Rosh Hashanah 6B**, and he met יהוה Elohim at the top of Mount Sinai on **Shavuot** on **Day 7 / Month 3** in **1437 B.C.E.** in the year of the Exodus. This is certain as **1 Kings 6:1** says the Exodus occurred **480 years** before **Solomon (962-923)** began building the First Temple.

**1 Kings 6:1** *And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel had come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's (962-923) reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of יהוה.*

In **Jeremiah 25:1**, Jeremiah links sacred history with profane history when he said he received a word from יהוה in **Year 4** of **Jehoiakim (616-605)** of **Judah** which was **Year 1** of **Nebuchadnezzar II (612-569)** of **Babylon**.

Ancient **Babylonian** astronomical records pinpoint when the kings of **Judah** and **Babylon** reigned. According to **1 Kings 6:1** and **2 Chronicles 3:2**, **Solomon (962-923)** began building the First Temple on **Day 2 / Month 2** in **Year 4** of his reign [autumn **959 B.C.E.** – autumn **958 B.C.E.**] in the **480<sup>th</sup> Civil Year** from the Exodus [autumn **1438 B.C.E.** – autumn **1437 B.C.E.**]. Therefore, the Exodus occurred in the spring of **1437 B.C.E.**

In **1437 B.C.E.**, it is apparent that **Shavuot / Pentecost** occurred on **Yom Shli-shi** on the **third day of the week** and that the Omer was counted from **Day 16 / Month 1**. In **Exodus 19:11, 19:15** and **19:16** the word of Elohim confirms *four times* within *six verses* that יהוה appeared to Moses on **Yom Shli-shi** on the **third day of the week** on **Day 7 / Month 3**. These verses constitute *Scriptural and astronomically calibrated calendrical proof* that Moses counted the **50 days** to **Shavuot** from **Day 16 / Month 1** in the year of the Exodus in **1437 B.C.E.**

## Josephus Said the 50 Day Count Began on **Resheet Firstfruits** on Day 16 / Month 1

In order to observe **Shavuot** one must first be able to determine *when* **Month 1** begins. A **Hebrew Spiritual Year** begins at the moment of sunset in **Jerusalem**, on the evening of the first potentially visible crescent moon beginning **Day 1 / Month 1**. A Spiritual Year can begin before or after the **spring equinox**. The *rule of the equinox* always places **Day 15 / Month 1** on or after the **Hebrew Day** of the **spring equinox**.

A **Hebrew Month** begins at the moment of sunset on the evening the moon's crescent first becomes potentially visible to the naked eye in **Jerusalem**, assuming ideal sighting conditions without smog, haze or clouds. Once these skills have been mastered, one must next determine *which day to count from* in **Month 1**.

**Leviticus 23:15-16** instructs us to begin counting from *the day after* the first **High Sabbath** of **Unleavened Bread**. The **Sabbath** referred to here is the one that occurs on **Day 15 / Month 1**. History makes it very clear that this is the way the **Pharisees** counted it. Josephus, who was a Levitical priest and familiar with the Second Temple, said in **Antiquities 3 / 250** that the **Resheet Firstfruits** of barley were offered on **Day 16 / Month 1**.



**Josephus, Antiquities 3 / 248-254** <sup>248</sup> In the month Xanthicus, which is by us called *Nisan* [Month 1], and is the beginning of our year, on the fourteenth day of the lunar month, when the sun is in Aries (for this month it was that we were delivered from bondage under the **Egyptians**), and law ordained that we should every year slay that sacrifice which I before told you we slew when we came out of **Egypt**, and which was called **Passover**; and so we do celebrate this **Passover** in companies, leaving nothing of what we sacrifice till the day following. <sup>249</sup> The **Feast of Unleavened Bread** succeeds that of the **Passover**, and falls on the fifteenth day of the month, and continues seven days, wherein they feed on unleavened bread; on every one of which days two bulls are killed, and one ram, and seven lambs. Now these lambs are entirely burnt, besides the kid of the goats which is added to all the rest, for sins; for it is intended as a feast for the priest on every one of those days. <sup>250</sup> But on the second day of **Unleavened Bread**, which is the **sixteenth day of the month** [Day 16 / Month 1], they first partake of the fruits of the earth, for before that day they do not touch them. And while they suppose it proper to honor Elohim, from whom they obtain this plentiful provision, in the first place, **they offer the Firstfruits of their barley**, and that in the manner following: <sup>251</sup> They take a handful of ears, and dry them, then beat them small, and purge the barley from the bran; they then bring one tenth deal to the altar, to Elohim; and, casting one handful of it upon the fire, they leave the rest for the use of the priest; and after this it is that they may publicly or privately reap their harvest. They also at this participation of the **Firstfruits** of the earth, sacrifice a lamb, as a burnt offering to Elohim. <sup>252</sup> When a **week of weeks** has passed over after this sacrifice (which weeks contain **forty and nine days**), on the **fiftieth day**, which is **Pentecost**, but is called by the Hebrews *Asartha*, which signifies **Pentecost**, they bring to Elohim a loaf, made of wheat flour, of two tenth deals, with leaven; and for sacrifices they bring two lambs; <sup>253</sup> and when they have only presented them to Elohim, they are made ready for supper for the priests; neither is it permitted to leave anything of them till the day following. They also slay three bullocks for a burnt offering and two rams; and fourteen lambs, with two kids of the goats, for sins; <sup>254</sup> nor is there any one of the **Festivals** but in it they offer burnt offerings; they also allow themselves to rest on every one of them. Accordingly, the Torah prescribes in them all what kinds they are to sacrifice, and how they are to rest entirely, and must slay sacrifices, in order to feast upon them.

William Whiston, *The Works of Josephus*, p. 96.

In this passage, Josephus clearly distinguishes between the **Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1**, and the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** which was kept for seven days beginning on **Day 15 / Month 1**.

## The Talmud Says that **Shavuot** Can Fall on Day 5, Day 6 or Day 7 of Month 3

The Talmud says that **Shavuot** is observed on **Day 5, Day 6 or Day 7 of Month 3**, and this statement stipulates that **Resheet / Firstfruits** were offered on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and that **Israel** followed the *first visible crescent*.

**Rosh Hashanah 6B Pentecost** is sometimes on the **fifth** of the [third] month, sometimes on the **sixth**, and sometimes on the **seventh**.

This candid admission clearly indicates several things about how the Levitical priesthood counted the omer:

- 1) The Levitical priesthood followed the *first visible crescent moon*.
- 2) The Levitical priesthood knew that **Month 1** and **Month 2** or *any month* could have **29 or 30 days**.
- 3) The Levitical priesthood counted from the day after the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**.
- 4) The Levitical priesthood **did not** follow the Hillel II calendar of Rabbinic Judaism from **359 C.E.**



These quotes from **Antiquities 3 / 250** and **Rosh Hashanah 6B** constitute *historical proof* that the Levitical Priesthood counted the **50 days** to **Shavuot** from the day of **Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1** on *the day after* the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**.

The Levitical priesthood of **Israel** never followed the Enoch calendar, Jubilees calendar, Qumran calendar, Karaite calendar, Hillel II calendar or Lunar Sabbath calendar. The Levitical priesthood *never* started the month from the astronomical conjunction and they *did not* follow a calendar that *always* placed Month 1 *after* the **spring equinox** like the heathen **Assyrians**, **Babylonians**, or **Persians**. יהושע Messiah *never* observed any of those calendars and *neither should anyone who wants to walk in the narrow way which He walked*.

For these reasons, the **50 day** count should begin on **Day 16 / Month 1** on *the day after* the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. And as a result, **Shavuot** will always occur on either **Day 5**, **Day 6** or **Day 7** of **Month 3** according to the record found in the Scriptures as well as the record of history.

## Some Versions of the Tanak Say to Count “7 Weeks” and Others Say “7 Sabbaths”

There are usually *eight* Sabbaths: seven **Weekly Sabbaths** and one **High Sabbath** on **Day 21 / Month 1** in the **49 day** Omer count. The only exception is when the **High Sabbath** on **Day 21 / Month 1** lands on the **Weekly Sabbath** as in **2015 C.E.** In years like this there are **Seven Sabbaths** in the **49 day** Omer count. However, this is a rare occurrence and in most years there are *eight* Sabbaths in the **49 day** Omer count.

For this reason, translators have been confused about the commandment in **Leviticus 23:15-16** causing some to *mistranslate* **Shabbatot** as “weeks” and **Sha-bat** as “week” in these verses.

**Leviticus 23:15-16A** <sup>15</sup> *And you shall count from the day after the Sabbath [Day 15 / Month 1] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven weeks [Shabbatot] shall be completed.* <sup>16A</sup> *Even until the day after the seventh week [Sha-bat] shall you number fifty days.*

Although *mistranslating* the text this way solves the *apparent problem* of counting **Seven Sabbaths** when there are usually *eight*, it is *incorrectly translated*. While some Tanak translations *incorrectly* translate **Sheva Shabbatot** שבועות שבתות as *seven weeks* in **23:15B**, and **ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt** השבת השביעית as *seventh week* in **23:16A**, other Tanak translations *correctly* render **23:15B** as **Seven Sabbaths**, but *incorrectly* render **23:16A** as *the next day after the Seventh Sabbath* – when in fact *the time after the Seventh Sabbath* is *correct*.

## The Sadducees Insisted that Shavuot was 1 Day After the Seventh Weekly Sabbath

The **Sadducees** insisted that **Shavuot** came on *the day after* the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**, and that **Shavuot** was always on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week** following the *incorrect translation* below.

**Leviticus 23:15-16A** <sup>15</sup> *And you shall count from the day after the Sabbath [weekly Sha-bat שבת] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **Seven Sabbaths** [Sheva Shabbatot שבועות שבתות] shall be completed.* <sup>16A</sup> *Even until the day after the **Seventh Sabbath** [ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt השבת השביעית] shall you number fifty days.*

## The Sadducees Were Mistaken as They Did Not Know the Scriptures

The **Sadducees** believed the **High Sabbath** referred to in **Leviticus 23:15A** was the **Weekly Sabbath** based on the *mistaken* notion that **High Sabbaths**, which are annual **Sabbaths** based on the lunar cycle, are never called **Sabbaths** [Sha-bat שבת] in the Torah. יהושע said the **Sadducees** were in error for *not knowing the Scriptures*.





**Matthew 22:29** יהושע answered and said to them [the **Sadducees**], “You are mistaken, **not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of Elohim.**”

**Mark 12:24** יהושע answered and said to them, “Is this not the reason you are mistaken, **because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of Elohim?**”

This **Sadducees** Scriptural ignorance led them to be **mistaken** on the issue of the resurrection and many other doctrines including the issue of **Shavuot**, as annual **Sabbaths** are indeed called **Sabbaths** in the Torah.

## Annual **Sabbaths** are in Fact Called **Sabbaths** in the Torah

Annual **Sabbaths** or **High Sabbaths** are indeed called **Sabbaths** in the Torah which employs different terms including: **Sha-bat** שבת, **Sha-baton** שבתון, **Sha-batkem** שבתכם, and **Sha-batot** שבתת. All of these words contain the three letter root שבת which means “**to cease**” or “**to rest.**” None of these terms specifically denote the **Seventh Day** but rather that a **resting** or a **ceasing** occurs.

**Leviticus 23:3** Six days shall work be done: **but the seventh day is the Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] **of rest, a set apart convocation** [**miqra qodesh** קדש מקרא]. **You shall do no work on it: it is the Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] **of יהוה in all your dwellings.**

In **Leviticus 23:3**, the **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] referred to is the **Seventh Day Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] as it is described as following the first six days of the week. In **Leviticus 23:32**, **Yom Kippur** is called a **Sabbath of Sabbaths** [**Sha-bat Sha-baton** שבת שבתון].

**Leviticus 23:26-32** <sup>26</sup> And יהוה spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>27</sup> “Also the **tenth day of this seventh month** shall be the **Day of Atonement** [**Yom Kippurim** יום הכפרים]. It shall be a **set apart convocation** [**miqra qodesh** קדש מקרא] for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to יהוה. <sup>28</sup> And you shall do no work on that same day, for it is the **Day of Atonement** [**Yom Kippurim** יום כפרים], to make atonement for you before יהוה your Elohim. <sup>29</sup> For any person who is not afflicted in soul on that same day shall be cut off from his people. <sup>30</sup> And any person who does any work on that day, that person I will destroy from among his people. <sup>31</sup> You shall do no manner of work; it shall be a statute in the **Age** [**of Instruction**] throughout your generations in all your dwellings. <sup>32</sup> It shall be to you a **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] **of Sabbaths** [**Sha-baton** שבתון], and you shall afflict your souls; on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall celebrate your **Sabbath** [**Sha-batkem** שבתכם].”

In **Leviticus 23:32**, the **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] is **Yom Kippur** which יהוה says occurs on **Day 10 / Month 7**. The **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] on **Yom Kippur** is called a [**Sha-bat Sha-baton** שבת שבתון] **Sabbath of Sabbaths**. In this way, יהוה shows that a **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת] can occur on the **lunar cycle** as well as the **Seven Day Cycle**. However, **Leviticus 23:15B** says the **Seventh Day Sabbath** is [**temimot** תמימת] **perfect** as it **perfectly** counts the **Seven Day Cycle** which began on **Day One** of creation and initiated the world we now live in.

In **Leviticus 23:24**, the term **Sabbath** [**Sha-baton** שבתון] is used to refer to a **Sabbath** on the **Day of Trumpets** or **Yom Teruah** on **Day 1 / Month 7** on **New Moon 7** which is an annual **Sabbath** on the **lunar cycle**.

**Leviticus 23:24** Speak to the children of **Israel**, saying, “In the **seventh month in the first day of the month**, you shall have a **Sabbath** [**Sha-baton** שבתון], a memorial of blowing of **Trumpets** [**Teruah** תרועה], a **set apart convocation** [**miqra qodesh** קדש מקרא].”



The term **Sabbath** [**Sha-baton** שבתון] is used to describe the **Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 7** on the **lunar cycle** and the first day of **Sukkot**, as well as the **Sabbath** on **Day 22 / Month 7** which is **Shemini Atzeret**.

**Leviticus 23:33-39** <sup>33</sup> And יהוה spoke to Moses saying, <sup>34</sup> “Speak to the children of **Israel** saying, ‘The **fifteenth day of this seventh month** shall be the **Festival** [**chag** חג] **of Sukkot** for seven days to יהוה. <sup>35</sup> On the first day shall be a **set apart convocation** [**miqra qodesh** מקרא קדש]: you shall do no servile work therein. <sup>36</sup> Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to יהוה: On the eighth day shall be a **set apart convocation** [**miqra qodesh** מקרא קדש] to you; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to יהוה: **it is a solemn assembly** [**atzeret** עצרת]; and you shall do no servile work therein. <sup>37</sup> These are the **Appointed Times** [**mowadi** מועדי] of יהוה, which you shall proclaim to be **set apart convocations** [**miqra qodesh** מקרא קדש], to offer an offering made by fire to יהוה, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, sacrifice and drink offerings, every thing upon its day: <sup>38</sup> Beside the **Sabbaths** [**Sha-batot** שבתות] of יהוה, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which you give to יהוה. <sup>39</sup> Also in the **fifteenth day of the seventh month**, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep a **Festival** [**chag** חג] to יהוה seven days: on the first day shall be a **Sabbath** [**Sha-baton** שבתון], and on the eighth day shall be a **Sabbath** [**Sha-baton** שבתון].”

## The First Day of **Unleavened Bread** is Called a **Sabbath** in Scripture

The **mistaken idea** of the **Sadducees** was that **Day 15 / Month 1** is **not called a Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת]. However, **two witnesses** in the Torah, **Leviticus 23:11** and **23:15A**, **may be interpreted** as referring to the first **High Sabbath of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1** where it **is called a Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת].

**Leviticus 23:11** And he shall wave the sheaf before יהוה, to be accepted for you [on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**]: on the day after the **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת on **Day 15 / Month 1**] the priest shall wave it.

**Leviticus 23:15-16** <sup>15</sup> And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the **Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת on **Day 15 / Month 1**], from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: **seven weeks** [**Sheva Shabbatot** שבע שבתות]. <sup>16</sup> Count **fifty days** to the day after the **seventh week** [**ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt** השביעת]; then you shall offer a new grain offering to יהוה.

There are also **three witnesses** in the Messianic Scriptures in **Luke 23:52-56** and **Mark 16:1** which testify that the first **High Sabbath of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1** **is called a Sabbath** [**Sha-bat** שבת].

**Luke 23:52-56** <sup>52</sup> This man [Joseph of Arimathea] went to **Pilate** (27-37) and asked for the body of יהושע. <sup>53</sup> Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. <sup>54</sup> That day was the **Preparation** [**Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1**], and the **Sabbath** [**σάββατον** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] drew near. <sup>55</sup> And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. <sup>56</sup> Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the **Sabbath** [**σάββατον** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] according to the commandment.

**Mark 16:1** When the **Sabbath** [**σάββατον** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

The first **High Sabbath of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1** occurred on **Yom Ham-i-shi** on the **fifth day of the week** in the year of the resurrection. [**15 Nisan = Thursday, March 25, 34 C.E. (1733560) = Day**



**15, Month 1]** Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of James and Salome bought spices at the market the next day on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**. [**16 Nisan = Friday, March 26, 34 C.E. (1733561) = Day 16, Month 1]**

This market day on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Yom Shi-shi** the **sixth day of the week** on **Day 16 / Month 1**, upon which the women bought spices, occurred *between* the **High Sabbath** on the first day of the **Festival of Unleavened Bread** on **Yom Ham-i-shi** the **fifth day of the week** on **Day 15 / Month 1**, and the day of the resurrection on the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Sha-bat** on **Day 17 / Month 1**. [**17 Nisan = Sabbath, March 27, 34 C.E. (1733562) = Day 17, Month 1]**

The *ancients* referred to **High Sabbaths** as “**Sabbaths**” even though certain teachers today *deny this fact* in order to promote the *false teaching* to count the Omer from the day after the **Weekly Sabbath** according to the **Sadducean** method.

## Resheet Firstfruits Were Offered During the Festival of Unleavened Bread

In some years like **2015 C.E.**, the first day of the **Festival of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1** lands on **Yom Ri-shon** on the **first day of the week**. *If* in antiquity one would have *incorrectly* counted the Omer from the day *after* the **First Weekly Sabbath** of **Unleavened Bread** in years like this, then **Resheet Firstfruits** would have been offered on **Day 22 / Month 1** *after* the **Festival** was over which would have been *too late*.

It is highly *unlikely* **Resheet Firstfruits** were *ever historically offered* on **Day 22 / Month 1** as **Israel** *never* counted the omer from the **Weekly Sabbath** as the **Sadducees** said. **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered *during* the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** because יהוה instructed **Israel** to present their offerings *during* the **Festivals**.

**Exodus 23:14-17** <sup>14</sup> “**Three times you shall keep a Feast to Me in the year:** <sup>15</sup> You shall keep the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** (you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib [Month 1], for in it you came out of **Egypt**; none shall appear before Me empty); <sup>16</sup> and the **Feast of Harvest**, the firstfruits of your labors which you have sown in the field; and the **Feast of Ingathering** at the end of the year, when you have gathered in the fruit of your labors from the field. <sup>17</sup> **Three times in the year** all your males shall appear before יהוה Elohim.

**Deuteronomy 16:16-17** <sup>16</sup> “**Three times a year** all your males shall appear before יהוה your Elohim in the place which He chooses: at the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**, at the **Feast of Weeks**, and at the **Feast of Tabernacles**; and they shall not appear before יהוה empty-handed. <sup>17</sup> **Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of יהוה your Elohim which He has given you.**”

Furthermore, the offering of **Resheet Firstfruits** was *not to be delayed*.

**Exodus 22:29** “**You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to Me.**”

The **Resheet Firstfruits** offering was to be offered on *the day after the High Sabbath* [Leviticus 23:11], on **Day 16 / Month 1** in *spring* [Exodus 12:1-2, 23:15], and *without delay* [Exodus 22:29]. יהוה has taught us that **Month 1** should begin *as soon as possible* [Exodus 22:29] using the *rule of the equinox* which always places **Day 15 / Month 1** on or after the Hebrew Day of the **spring equinox** [Exodus 13:10]. If **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered *after* the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** it would have been *too late* for יהוה.



## Deuteronomy 16:9 says to Number Seven Weeks

The Scriptures teach in **Deuteronomy 16:9** that *seven weeks* [*Sheva Shavuot* שבעה שבועות] are to be numbered.

**Deuteronomy 16:9** *Seven weeks* [*Sheva Shavuot* שבעה שבועות] shall you number to yourself: begin to number the *seven weeks* [*Sheva Shavuot* שבעה שבועות] from such time as you begin to put the sickle to the grain.

These **Sheva Shavuot** [שבעה שבועות] *seven weeks* can begin on any day of the week and make up **49 days**.

## Leviticus 23:15-16 says to Count Seven Perfect Sabbaths and to Number 50 Days

As we have already stated, there are usually *eight* Sabbaths within the **49 day** Omer count, and for this reason **Leviticus 23:15-16** has been *mistranslated* as saying that *seven weeks* should be counted. However, based on *two key phrases* which appear below in bold italics upper case, **Leviticus 23:15-16** may be *correctly translated* as saying that one should count **Seven Weekly Sabbaths** from **Day 16 / Month 1** – **NOT** *seven weeks*.

**Leviticus 23:15-16A** <sup>15</sup> And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN SABBATHS** [*Sheva Shabbatot* שבע שבתות] **THEY SHALL BE PERFECT** [temimot tihyeynah תמימת תהיינה]: <sup>16A</sup> Until **THE TIME AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH SABBATH** [*ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt*] shall you number **fifty days**.

שבע שבתות תמימת תהיינה

tihyeynah temimot shabbatot sheva

they shall be perfect Sabbaths Seven

In the *first phrase*, the reader must understand that **Seventh Day Sabbaths** observed on the **Seven Day Cycle** are *perfect* in the sense that they are based on the *creation sequence* and counted from the *creation week*. They are to be *distinguished* from **High Sabbaths** which are observed on the *lunar cycle*.

The word *perfect* delineates a *class* of **Sabbath** more than a *rank* among Sabbaths. In **Leviticus 23:32**, **Yom Kippur** on **Day 10 / Month 7** is called a **Sha-bat Sha-baton** [שבת שבתון] **Sabbath of Sabbaths** and this phrase could be used to argue its *rank* among Sabbaths. All Sabbaths are important, but the phrase *temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה, *they shall be perfect*, refers to **Weekly Sabbaths** based on the **Seven Day Cycle**.

**Daniel Gregg** The next part of counting is to count ‘**seven Sabbaths they shall be perfect**’ שבע שבתות תמימת תהיינה *sheva shabbatot temimot tihyeynah*. The word ‘**perfect**’ or complete is *temimot* תמימת. This is a further indication of counting the **seventh day**, since **seven** is the number of perfection, wholeness, or completion. It says ‘**they shall be perfect**’ *temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה. This language is to specify to count only the **seventh days**. The seventh day of **Unleavened Bread** is also a **Sabbath**, as is the first day of **Unleavened Bread**, but these **Sabbaths** are not counted. They are not **perfect seventh days** according to **creation**, which fall in the **perfect** unbroken cycle of **seventh days**.

Daniel Gregg, “In the Day After the Sabbath – How to Count to Shavuot – Practical Matters,” Last modified on 04/16/2018. <www.torahtimes.org/articles/shavuot\_01.html>





If one understands that the phrase *temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה *they shall be perfect* in Leviticus 23:15B instructs us to count **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**, one should also understand that the word *mimocharat* ממחרת in Leviticus 23:16 MUST be translated as the time after.

Leviticus 23:15-16A <sup>15</sup> And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN SABBATHS** [*Sheva Shabbatot* שבע שבתות] **THEY SHALL BE PERFECT** [*temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה]: <sup>16A</sup> Until **THE TIME AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH SABBATH** [*ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt*] shall you number **fifty** days.

השביעת	השבת	ממחרת	עד
ha shev-ē-ēt	ha shabbat	mimocharat	ad
the seventh	Sabbath	<u>the time after</u>	Until

It is *critical* to *correctly* translate *mimocharat* ממחרת in Leviticus 23:16 as the time after, as **Shavuot** can occur from **1 day** to **7 days after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**. In 2026 C.E., Omer Day 1 [Day 16 / Month 1] will fall on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week**, and so Omer Day 50 [**Shavuot**] will occur **1 day after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**. In 2033 C.E., Omer Day 1 [Day 16 / Month 1] will fall on a **Weekly Sabbath**, and so Omer Day 50 [**Shavuot**] will occur **7 days after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**.

## Mimocharat / Machar Can Mean Both “the Day After” and “the Time After”

As Leviticus 23:15-16 says to count **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**, the word *mimocharat* ממחרת must be translated as the time after in Leviticus 23:16, and the time after here refers to period of **1 day** to **7 days after** the **Seventh Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**. So the same word *mimocharat* ממחרת, translated as the day after in Leviticus 23:15A, MUST BE translated as the time after in Leviticus 23:16 as the **50 day** count begins on the day after the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. The *correct Messianic* interpretation is shown below.

### Correct Messianic Interpretation for Counting Seven Weekly Sabbaths

Leviticus 23:15-16A <sup>15</sup> And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN SABBATHS** [*Sheva Shabbatot* שבע שבתות] **THEY SHALL BE PERFECT** [*temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה]: <sup>16A</sup> Until **THE TIME AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH SABBATH** [*ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt*] shall you number **fifty** days.

If the word *mimocharat* ממחרת were to be *incorrectly* translated as the day after in both Leviticus 23:15A and 23:16, then the **50th day**, **Shavuot**, would *always* fall on the day after the **Weekly Sabbath**. This would imply that the **1st day** of the count *always* begins on the day after the **Weekly Sabbath** as the **Sadducees** said.

Spiritual warfare has been waged for millennia over how to correctly translate the word *mimocharat* ממחרת in Leviticus 23:15-16. If one *incorrectly* translates *mimocharat* ממחרת as the day after instead of the time after in Leviticus 23:16, it causes one to *incorrectly* insist that the Sabbath in Leviticus 23:15A is a **Weekly Sabbath** instead of the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. The result of this is that the counting methodology will change from the *correct Messianic* method to the *incorrect Sadducean* method as shown below.

## **Incorrect Sadducean** Interpretation for Counting **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**

**Leviticus 23:15-16A** <sup>15</sup> *And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **Seventh Day Sabbath**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN SABBATHS** [**Sheva Shabbatot** שבע שבתות] **SHALL BE COMPLETED**. <sup>16A</sup> *Until **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH SABBATH** [**ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt**] shall you number **fifty** days.**

Some versions of the Tanak are **incorrectly** translated as above. We iterate that the **mistranslation** above is caused when **mimocharat** ממחרת is **incorrectly** rendered as **the day after** in **Leviticus 23:16**, causing some to **incorrectly** insist that **Shavuot** will always fall on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week**.

## **Incorrect Pharisaical** Interpretation for Counting **Seven Weeks**

**Leviticus 23:15-16A** <sup>15</sup> *And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN WEEKS** [**Sheva Shabbatot** שבע שבתות] **SHALL BE COMPLETED**. <sup>16A</sup> *Until **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH WEEK** [**ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt**] shall you number **fifty** days.**

The three letter root of **mimocharat** ממחרת is **machar** מחר which refers to some future time ranging from the **next day** to **some time in the future**.

**Daniel Gregg** Jacob speaks to Laban, and says, “Then my righteousness shall have answered for me in the DAY tomorrow when you come concerning my wages” (**Genesis 30:33**) **beyom machar** ביום מחר. In all these cases ‘day’ means some extended period of time. This usage of the word DAY is the key to understanding **Shavuot**.

With this in view, let us break down the word **mimocharat** ממחרת. The word first has a preposition prefixed to it: **mi** מ. It also has a construct ending at ת. The middle part is **machar** מחר. This means ‘tomorrow,’ ‘hereafter,’ or ‘time to come.’ The meaning we are interested in is illustrated in **Exodus 13:14**, “When your son asks you in **time to come**, saying, ‘What is this?’ then you shall say to him, ‘With a powerful hand Yahweh brought us out from **Egypt**, from the house of bondage.’” The word **machar** is properly translated here by the NAS as ‘**time to come**,’ but it is literally ‘tomorrow.’ There are several other passages that can show this meaning, i.e. **Joshua 22:24, 27**. So add this to your Hebrew understanding.

Daniel Gregg, “In the Day After the Sabbath – How to Count to Shavuot – Practical Matters,” Last modified on 04/16/2018. <[www.torahtimes.org/articles/shavuot\\_01.html](http://www.torahtimes.org/articles/shavuot_01.html)>

The point is well taken that the Scriptures do use the word **machar** מחר to refer to a **time to come** which is not necessarily **the day after** but may be some time **off in the future**.

**Joshua 22:21-27** <sup>21</sup> *Then the children of Reuben, the children of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh answered and said to the heads of the divisions of **Israel**: <sup>22</sup> “יהוה Elohim of elohims, יהוה Elohim of elohims, He knows, and let **Israel** itself know – if it is in rebellion, or if in treachery against יהוה, do not save us this day. <sup>23</sup> If we have built ourselves an altar to turn from following יהוה, or if to offer on it burnt offerings or grain offerings, or if to offer peace offerings on it, let יהוה Himself require an account. <sup>24</sup> But in fact we have done it for fear, for a reason, saying, ‘**In time to come** [**machar** מחר] your descendants may speak to our descendants, saying, “What have you to do with יהוה Elohim of **Israel**? <sup>25</sup> For יהוה has made the Jordan a border*



between you and us, you children of Reuben and children of Gad. You have no part in יהוה. ” So your descendants would make our descendants cease fearing יהוה. ’<sup>26</sup> Therefore we said, ‘Let us now prepare to build ourselves an altar, not for burnt offering nor for sacrifice,<sup>27</sup> but that it may be a witness between you and us and our generations after us, that we may perform the service of יהוה before Him with our burnt offerings, with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your descendants may not say to our descendants **in time to come** [machar מחר], “You have no part in יהוה. ”’”

The fact that the word **machar** מחר can refer either to **the day after** OR **a time after** is critical for interpreting **Leviticus 23:15-16** correctly. In **Leviticus 23:15**, **mimocharat** ממחרת **MUST** be translated as **the day after**, and in **Leviticus 23:16**, **mimocharat** ממחרת **MUST** be translated as **the time after**.

## There is an Active Conspiracy to Conceal the Truth of the Resurrection

**After His crucifixion**, the chief priests and **Pharisees** were concerned about **rumors** of a resurrection and took specific measures to ensure that the body of יהושע Messiah **could not be stolen**.

**Matthew 27:62-66** <sup>62</sup> On the **next day** [**High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**], which followed the **Day of Preparation** [**Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1**], the chief priests and **Pharisees** gathered together to **Pilate (27-37)**, <sup>63</sup> saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’” <sup>64</sup> Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ **So the last deception will be worse than the first.**” <sup>65</sup> **Pilate (27-37)** said to them, “You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how.” <sup>66</sup> So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

It is ironic that the chief priests and **Pharisees** were concerned with **deception**. In spite of their best attempts to **prevent deception**, יהושע Messiah arose from the dead. **After His resurrection**, some of the **Roman** guard reported to the chief priests in **Jerusalem**. Why? Wouldn’t the **Roman** guard report to their centurion?

**Matthew 28:11-15** <sup>11</sup> Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. <sup>12</sup> When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, **they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers**, <sup>13</sup> saying, “Tell them, ‘His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.’” <sup>14</sup> **And if this comes to the governor’s [Pilate’s (27-37)] ears, we will appease him and make you secure.**” <sup>15</sup> **So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Judeans until this day.**

The **Roman** guard reported to the chief priests in **Jerusalem** for **money** and **protection** from **Pilate (27-37)**, and the chief priests and **Pharisees** then **entered into a deception** against the truth of the Messiah’s resurrection.

**Sometime after** the resurrection on the **First Sabbath** in 34 C.E., certain religious officials evidently **conspired** to change “seven **Sabbaths**” to “seven **weeks**” in **Leviticus 23:15**, and “seventh **Sabbath**” to “seventh **week**” in **Leviticus 23:16**. One motive for doing this would be to **conceal** the fact that יהושע Messiah arose on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot** on the **Weekly Sabbath** during the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**.

**Daniel Gregg** The rabbinic schools ... ‘solved’ the problem by translating ‘**sabbaths**’ as ‘**weeks**’ in vs. 15 and 16. **The rabbis changed it to ‘weeks’ because they wanted to cover up the fact that Messiah rose from the dead on the ‘first of the Sabbaths.’** The real solution to



this problem must 1. translate **Sabbaths** correctly, 2. be consistent with the proposition **mi**, and 3. start counting after the **Passover Sabbath**, 4. render the Hebrew idiom **machar** correctly in the context ... ‘The tomorrow of’ something is an indefinite period, i.e. hereafter, defined by the requirement to count **seven Sabbaths** in vs. 15, and a 50th day in vs. 16. Said 50th day need not come on Sunday. **Machar** simply means ‘time after’ or ‘time to come.’ In vs. 11, only one day is required to wave the sheaf, and therefore, tomorrow simply means the next day after the **Passover Sabbath**. Between 43 and 49 days are needed to count off **seven Sabbaths**, and between 1 and **7 days** are needed after the **seventh Sabbath** to reach the 50th day.

Daniel Gregg, “In the Day After the Sabbath – How to Count to Shavuot – Practical Matters,” Last modified on 04/16/2018. <[www.torahtimes.org/articles/shavuot\\_01.html](http://www.torahtimes.org/articles/shavuot_01.html)>

## There is an Active Conspiracy to Change the Day of the **Passover**

The conspiracy did not end with **incorrectly** interpreting **Leviticus 23:15-16**. Sectarian **Pharisees** later moved the **Passover** from **Day 14 / Month 1** to **Day 15 / Month 1** and departed from the instruction in the Torah.

Today an almost universal consensus exists among “**religious authorities**” to observe the **Passover** on the evening beginning **Day 15 / Month 1** instead of on the evening beginning **Day 14 / Month 1**. The only ostensible reason for doing this is to obfuscate the details concerning the sacrifice of the **Passover** Lamb of Elohim, and to keep people enslaved in sin.

**Matthew 23:13** “But woe to you, scribes and **Pharisees**, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; **for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.**”

The **net result** of this confusion over the chronology of the resurrection has been to move the true worship of יהוה Elohim from **Sabbath** to Sunday, causing many **foreheads** and **hands** to be **marked** with devoted service to the **beast** of pagan **Rome**. **Popery** promotes the lie that devotion to the Messiah of **Israel** involves going to church on Sunday. The wicked one has caused the “**faithful**” to cease observing the **New Moons**, **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** of יהוה, and to cease from observing the **Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1**.

Billions have been duped into believing a lie that יהושע Messiah was crucified on Friday and arose on Sunday, and that there are three days and three nights between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning. The **Sunday resurrection lie** also plays into the **firstfruits deception** which stems from the **Sadducean** method for counting the omer. As a result, many **incorrectly teach** that the **50 day** omer count always begins on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week**, and that **Shavuot / Pentecost** is always on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week**.

## Messiah the Firstfruits Did NOT Rise from the Grave on **Resheet Firstfruits**

The **Sunday resurrection lie** plays into the **firstfruits deception** by **incorrectly** teaching that **Resheet Firstfruits** and **Shavuot** **always occur on Sunday**. This confusion apparently stems from misconstruing Paul’s words.

**1 Corinthians 15:20-23** <sup>20</sup> *But now Messiah is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.* <sup>21</sup> *For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.* <sup>22</sup> *For as in Adam all die, even so in Messiah all shall be made alive.* <sup>23</sup> *But each one in his own order: Messiah the firstfruits, afterward those who are Messiah’s at His coming.*





Paul *said* יהושע Messiah became the *firstfruits* of those who have fallen asleep who will be resurrected to life. Paul *did not say* that יהושע Messiah arose from the grave *on Firstfruits* on **Day 16 / Month 1**. יהושע died on **Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1**, **Firstfruits** was on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and יהושע arose on the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 17 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. This truth can be readily verified on the **Creation Calendar**.

No properly informed person can dispute the fact that billions of people have been *deceived* concerning the true resurrection day of יהושע Messiah, and have been led into syncretistic pagan sun worship by virtue of the fact that they set apart the **first day of the week** instead of the **Seventh Day**.

This deception has been carried out by: 1) *mistranslating* the phrase *mia tōn sabbatōn* [μία των σαββάτων] as **first day of the week** instead of **First of the Sabbaths**; 2) *mistranslating mimocharat* ממחרת as *the day after* in **Leviticus 23:16**; 3) *changing* “**Sabbaths**” to “**weeks**” in **Leviticus 23:15-16** taking away the knowledge of the **First Sabbath**; 4) *changing* the observance of **Passover** from **Day 14 / Month 1** to **Day 15 / Month 1**.

Even before 70 C.E., certain teachers were *taking away the key of knowledge* with their *false interpretations*. יהושע Messiah confronted them *to their face* about *preventing* others from understanding the Torah correctly.

**Luke 11:52** “*Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in you hindered.*”

There is Such a Thing as a **Perfect Sabbath** and a **Perfect Week**:  
A Second Witness to Counting **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** to **Shavuot**

**Correct Messianic** Interpretation for Counting **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths**

**Leviticus 23:15-16** <sup>15</sup> And you shall count from **THE DAY AFTER** [ממחרת] the **Sabbath** [the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**] from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **SEVEN SABBATHS** [Sheva Shabbatot שבע שבתות] **THEY SHALL BE PERFECT** [temimot tihyeynah תמימת תהיינה]: <sup>16A</sup> Until **THE TIME AFTER** [ממחרת] **THE SEVENTH SABBATH** [ha Sha-bat ha Shev-ē-ēt השבת השביעית] shall you number **fifty** days.

There are **Weekly Sabbaths** on the **Seven Day Cycle** and **High Sabbaths** on the **lunar cycle**. However, when יהוה Elohim asks us to count **Seven Sabbaths** which are *perfect*, He means **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**. This is the *only logical explanation* for this command as there are usually *eight* Sabbaths: seven **Weekly Sabbaths** and one **High Sabbath** on **Day 21 / Month 1** in the **49 day** Omer count.

The directive for counting seven **Weekly Sabbaths** is based on the existence of the phrase *temimot tihyeynah* תמימת תהיינה **THEY SHALL BE PERFECT** in **Leviticus 23:15B**. From this phrase it is understood that יהוה Elohim is *specifying* that He wants **Weekly Sabbaths** to be counted. The key word is *temimot* תמימת which has a three letter root מִימ *mim*, and this root appears in the word ימים *yamim* twice in **Daniel 10:2-3**.

Daniel Fasted for Three **Perfect Weeks** in 518 B.C.E.

In **Year 3** of **Darius I (521-485)** of **Persia** in 518 B.C.E., Daniel fasted for *three perfect weeks*.

**Daniel 10:1-3** <sup>1</sup> In the *third year* of **Cyrus (521-485)** king of **Persia** a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. <sup>2</sup> In those days I, Daniel, was mourning *three perfect weeks* [sheloshah shavuim yamim שלשה שבועים ימים]. <sup>3</sup> I ate



no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till **three perfect weeks** [sheloshah shavuim yamim שלשה שבועים ימים] were fulfilled.

The phrase **perfect weeks** in Hebrew is שלשה שבועים ימים sheloshah shavuim yamim. In **Leviticus 23:15B**, the three letter root of תמימת temimot is מימ mim, and in **Daniel 10:2-3**, the root of ימים yamim is also מימ mim.

שלשה	שבועים	ימים
sheloshah	shavuim	yamim
three	weeks	perfect

שבע	שבתות	תמימת	תהיינה
sheva	shabbatot	temimot	tihyeynah
Seven	Sabbaths	perfect	they shall be

Therefore, a pattern may be seen in the Torah and Prophets in which the three letter root מימ mim is associated with the **perfect Seven Day Cycle** and the **perfect Seventh Day Sabbath**.

In the Torah in **Leviticus 23:15B**, יהוה shows us that **seven perfect Seventh Day Sabbaths** are to be counted. While in the Prophets in **Daniel 10:2-3**, Daniel shows us that he fasted for **three perfect Seven Day Cycles** reckoned from the **first day of the week** to the **Seventh Day Sabbath**.

The fact that Daniel fasted for **three perfect weeks** is attested in **Daniel 10:4** where Daniel testifies that the **last day** of these **three perfect weeks** was on **Day 24 / Month 1** in **518 B.C.E.**

**Daniel 10:4-13** <sup>4</sup> Now on the **twenty-fourth day of the first month [Day 24 / Month 1]**, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, <sup>5</sup> I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain Man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! <sup>6</sup> His body was like beryl, His face like the appearance of lightning, His eyes like torches of fire, His arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude. <sup>7</sup> And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. <sup>8</sup> Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. <sup>9</sup> Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground. <sup>10</sup> Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, "Oh Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. <sup>12</sup> Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for **from the first day that you set your heart to understand**, and to humble yourself before your Elohim, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. <sup>13</sup> **But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days**; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of **Persia**.

The **Creation Calendar** reveals that **Day 24 / Month 1** in **518 B.C.E.** was in fact a **Weekly Sabbath**. [**24 Nisan = Sabbath, May 4, 518 B.C.E. (1532347) = Day 24, Month 1**] The **three perfect weeks** of Daniel's fast [**Daniel 10:2-3**] are equal to the **21 days** mentioned by the angel [**Daniel 10:13**].

The **first perfect week** that Daniel fasted was from: [**4 Nisan = Sunday, April 14, 518 B.C.E. (1532327) = Day 4, Month 1**] - [**10 Nisan = Sabbath, April 20, 518 B.C.E. (1532333) = Day 10, Month 1**]

The **second perfect week** that Daniel fasted was from: [**11 Nisan = Sunday, April 21, 518 B.C.E. (1532334) = Day 11, Month 1**] - [**17 Nisan = Sabbath, April 27, 518 B.C.E. (1532340) = Day 17, Month 1**]

The **third perfect week** that Daniel fasted was from: [**18 Nisan = Sunday, April 28, 518 B.C.E. (1532341) = Day 18, Month 1**] - [**24 Nisan = Sabbath, May 4, 518 B.C.E. (1532347) = Day 24, Month 1**]

The Hebrew Word **תמימת** is a **Perfect Palindromic Word**

תמימת

temimot

perfect

In **Leviticus 23:15B**, the Hebrew word **temimot** תמימת, which translates as **perfect**, is a palindromic word as it reads the same way backwards and forwards. The same can be said of the root of the word **mim** מימ.

The Hebrew Root **מימ** is a **Perfect Palindromic Root**

מימ

mim

perfect

The Hebrew word **abba** אבא, which translates as **father**, as well as the Hebrew word **dwd** דוד which is the name of **David**, are both **palindromic Hebrew words**. **יהושע** Messiah is the **Son of David** דוד and the **Son of Elohim** and He is **perfect** תמימת. **יהושע** Messiah was a poet like His father **David** דוד and He said in a **palindromic verse**, with three **palindromic words**, that those who follow Him will be **perfect** תמימת.

**Matthew 5:48** *Therefore you shall be perfect [תמימת], just as your Abba [אבא] in heaven is perfect [תמימת].*

Those who attain to the **Age of Life** will be **perfect** in the **Seventh Millennial Day**, but this requires patience.

**James 1:2-6** <sup>2</sup> My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup> But let patience have its **perfect** [תמימת] work, that you may be **perfect** [תמימת] and complete, lacking nothing. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of Elohim, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.



## The Torah is Perfect Converting the Soul

**Psalm 19:7-11** <sup>7</sup> The Torah of יהוה is **perfect** [תמימה *temimah*], converting the soul; The testimony of יהוה is sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> The statutes of יהוה are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of יהוה is pure, enlightening the eyes; <sup>9</sup> The fear of יהוה is clean, enduring throughout eternity; The judgments of יהוה are true and righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup> Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.

## The Torah is Perfect

תמימה

temimah

perfect

## Daniel Fasted for Three Perfect Weeks

ימים

yamim

perfect

שבועים

shavuim

weeks

שלשה

sheloshah

three

## We Count Seven Perfect Sabbaths until Shavuot

שבע שבתות תמימות תהיינה

sheva shabbatot temimot tihyeynah

Seven Sabbaths perfect they shall be

## The Messianic Method for Counting the Omer

- Always places Day 1 of the Omer, **Resheet Firstfruits**, on Day 16 / Month 1 on the day after the **High Sabbath** on Day 15 / Month 1 [Leviticus 23:15].
- Always counts **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** [Leviticus 23:15].
- Always numbers 50 days [Leviticus 23:16].
- Always numbers seven weeks from Day 16 / Month 1 [Deuteronomy 16:9].
- As Month 1 and Month 2 may each have either 29 or 30 days, it always places Day 50 of the Omer, which is **Shavuot / Pentecost**, on Day 5, Day 6, or Day 7 of Month 3. **Shavuot / Pentecost** is always 1 to 7 days after the **Seventh Sabbath** [Leviticus 23:16].



## Interpreting the **Messianic** Method from the Messianic Scriptures

Before the resurrection, the Levitical priesthood, led by dictates of the **Pharisees**, interpreted the instructions for **Shavuot** according to what is termed, in this paper, the **Messianic** method. In this way they counted **seven perfect Weekly Sabbaths**, numbered **seven weeks**, and numbered **50 days** to **Shavuot / Pentecost** as Moses said. By placing **Day 1** of the Omer, **Resheet Firstfruits**, on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and by following the **first visible crescent moon**, **Day 50** of the Omer, or **Shavuot**, will fall on **Day 5, Day 6, or Day 7 of Month 3**.

### In the Year Zechariah and Elizabeth Conceived John the Immerser in 4 B.C.E.

According to **Luke 1:5-6**, Zechariah was a priest from **Course 8 – Abijah** who walked blamelessly in all the commandments and ordinances of יהוה. The fact that Zechariah followed the dictates of the Levitical Priesthood shows that in **4 B.C.E.**, **Day 1** of the Omer always fell on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and that the Priesthood counted seven **Weekly Sabbaths**, numbered **seven weeks**, and numbered **50 days** to **Shavuot** by the **Messianic** method.

### In the Year the Messiah was 12 Years old in 11 C.E.

According to **Luke 2:41-52**, יהושע was **12 years** old and in **Jerusalem** when **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered in **11 C.E.** As יהושע never sinned, He began counting the Omer by the **Messianic** method as the **Pharisees** did according to ancient tradition. There is no mention of any contentions concerning the **Creation Calendar** or the proper observance of the **Appointed Times**. Rather, יהושע sat in the midst of the teachers, listening and asking them questions. All who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. **Day 1** of the Omer was on **Day 16 / Month 1** on **Yom Ham-i-shi** the **fifth day of the week** in **11 C.E.**

### In the Year of the Resurrection of יהושע Messiah in 34 C.E.

The disciples testified in **Matthew 28:1**, **Mark 16:2**, **Mark 16:9**, **Luke 24:1**, **John 20:1** and **John 20:19** that יהושע Messiah arose was the **First Weekly Sabbath** of the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 17 / Month 1**. This suggests that in **34 C.E.**, the Levitical priesthood correctly counted seven **Weekly Sabbaths** by the **Messianic** method as Moses said. This practice ostensibly continued until the end of the Second Temple period. As the disciples testified that **Day 17 / Month 1** WAS the **First Weekly Sabbath** in the Omer count, it means that **Resheet Firstfruits** had been offered the previous day on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and that **Day 17 / Month 1** WAS **NOT** the **Weekly Sabbath** AFTER WHICH the **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered. From the apostolic testimony it is clear that the Omer was counted from the day after the **High Sabbath** of **Day 15 / Month 1**.

### In Paul's Lifetime

In **Philippians 3:5**, Paul said that concerning the Torah, he was a **Pharisee**. In **Philippians 3:6**, Paul said that concerning the righteousness which is in the Torah, he was **blameless**. This is the same word Luke used to describe Zechariah in **Luke 1:6**. From Paul's testimony, one may surmise that the **Pharisees** were counting the Omer correctly during his lifetime. However, it is **conceivable** an Omer counting controversy existed amongst believers in Paul's time as in **1 Corinthians 11:2**, he said to **keep the traditions just as I delivered them to you**.

Sometime **after** the resurrection in **34 C.E.**, and likely after the Second Temple was destroyed in **70 C.E.**, the **Pharisees** evidently began **counting weeks** to **Shavuot**. In this way they **preserved the correct starting point** for the Omer count, but **diminished the Torah** by **taking away** the command to count **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**.



# Historical Examples of Shavuot Being Counted from the Day After the High Sabbath on Day 15 / Month 1

## 1. Jacob began the omer count from Resheet Firstfruits on Day 16 / Month 1 in 1729 B.C.E.

Jacob would have begun to count the Omer from the day after Day 15 / Month 1 in 1729 B.C.E. [15 Nisan = Wednesday, May 2, 1729 B.C.E. (1090028) = Day 15, Month 1]

**Book of Jubilees 44:1-8** <sup>1</sup> And **Israel** [Jacob] took his journey from Haran from his house on the **New Moon** of the **third month**, [Day 1 / Month 3] and he went on the way of the **Well of the Oath** [**Beersheba**], and he offered a sacrifice to the Elohim of his father Isaac on the **seventh of the month** [Day 7 / Month 3]. <sup>2</sup> And Jacob remembered the dream that he had seen at **Bethel**, and he feared to go down to **Egypt**. <sup>3</sup> And while he was thinking of sending word to Joseph to come to him, and that he would not go down, he remained there **seven days** [Day 9 / Month 3 to Day 15 / Month 3], if perchance he could see a vision as to whether he should remain or go down. <sup>4</sup> And he celebrated the **Festival of the Firstfruits** [**Shavuot / Pentecost** on Day 6 / Month 3] with old grain, for in all the land of **Canaan** there was not a handful of seed [in the land], for the famine was over all the beasts and cattle and birds, and also over man. <sup>5</sup> And on the **sixteenth** [Day 16 / Month 3] יהוה appeared to him, and said to him, 'Jacob, Jacob'; and he said, 'Here am I.' And He said to him, 'I am the Elohim of your fathers, the Elohim of Abraham and Isaac; <sup>6</sup> fear not to go down to **Egypt**, for I will there make of you a great nation. I will go down with you, and I will bring you up (again), and in this land shall you be buried, and Joseph shall put his hands upon your eyes. Fear not; go down into **Egypt**.' <sup>7</sup> And his sons rose up, and his sons' sons, and they placed their father and their possessions upon wagons. <sup>8</sup> And **Israel rose up from the Well of the Oath on the sixteenth of the third month** [Day 16 / Month 3], and he went to the land of **Egypt**.

Wesley Center Online <[http://wesley.nnu.edu/biblical\\_studies/noncanon/ot/pseudo/jubilee.htm](http://wesley.nnu.edu/biblical_studies/noncanon/ot/pseudo/jubilee.htm)>

Jacob left Haran on Day 1 / Month 3 on **New Moon 3** in 1729 B.C.E. [1 Sivan = Sabbath, June 16, 1729 B.C.E. (1090073) = Day 1, Month 3] Jacob observed **Shavuot / Pentecost** at **Beersheba** – a name which means the **Well of the Oath** – on Day 6 / Month 3 in 1729 B.C.E. [6 Sivan = Thursday, June 21, 1729 B.C.E. (1090078) = Day 6, Month 3] Jacob offered a sacrifice to Elohim on Day 7 / Month 3 in 1729 B.C.E. [7 Sivan = Friday, June 22, 1729 B.C.E. (1090079) = Day 7, Month 3]

Jacob waited at **Beersheba** for **seven days** between Day 9 / Month 3 and Day 15 / Month 3 in 1729 B.C.E. [9 Sivan = Sunday, June 24, 1729 B.C.E. (1090081) = Day 9, Month 3] - [15 Sivan = Sabbath, June 30, 1729 B.C.E. (1090087) = Day 15, Month 3] After tarrying **seven days**, Jacob heard from יהוה and left immediately for **Egypt** on Day 16 / Month 3 in 1729 B.C.E. [16 Sivan = Sunday, July 1, 1729 B.C.E. (1090088) = Day 16, Month 3]

The **Book of Jubilees 45:1** says Jacob arrived in **Egypt** on Day 1 / Month 4 on **New Moon 4** in 1729 B.C.E. [1 Tammuz = Monday, July 16, 1729 B.C.E. (1090103) = Day 1, Month 4] Jacob used **old grain** during **Shavuot** as there was no new grain in the land of **Israel** as there was a famine. Jacob observed **Shavuot / Pentecost** at **Beersheba** exactly **292 years before** Moses received the Torah on **Mount Sinai** on **Shavuot / Pentecost** in 1437 B.C.E.

## 2. Moses began the omer count from Resheet Firstfruits on Day 16 / Month 1 in 1437 B.C.E.

Although there is not a specific verse in the Torah that says that יהוה gave the Torah to Moses on **Shavuot / Pentecost**, there is a strong **tradition** that this is in fact when it happened. There is however direct evidence or testimony from the **written Torah** that the events described in **Exodus 19:16-24:3** did in fact occur on **Shavuot / Pentecost**. In **Exodus 19:1**, the Torah states that the children of **Israel** came to the wilderness of Sinai on the **selfsame day** that they had left the land of **Egypt**.

**Exodus 19:1** *In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the selfsame day they came into the wilderness of Sinai.*

This is a very interesting verse. The children of **Israel** left the land of **Egypt** when they crossed the Red Sea, and this occurred on the seventh day of **Unleavened Bread** on Day 21 / Month 1 in the year of the Exodus in 1437 B.C.E. according to **Exodus 12:16B-17**. [21 Nisan = Sunday, April 21, 1437 B.C.E. (1196670) = Day 21, Month 1]



**Exodus 12:16-17** <sup>16</sup> And the seventh day [of **Unleavened Bread**] shall be a set apart convocation [miqra qodesh] to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you. <sup>17</sup> And you shall observe the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**; for in this selfsame day [the seventh day of **Unleavened Bread**] I will have brought your armies out of the land of **Egypt**: Therefore shall you observe this day in your generations as an ordinance throughout the ages.

**Rashi Bamidbar 15:38** And the eight strings in [the tzitzis] – correspond to the eight days – that **Israel** waited from when they left **Egypt** until they sang the song at the sea. [Rashi to Exodus 14:5 says that the **Israelites** sang the Song at the Sea on the seventh day after the Exodus from **Egypt**. When he says here that they waited eight days after they left **Egypt**, he means eight days from when they were given permission to leave **Egypt**, on the fourteenth of Nisan, one day before the actual Exodus. (Rabbeinu Bachye)]

According to **1 Kings 6:1**, it was in the **480<sup>th</sup> Civil Year** from the Exodus in **1437 B.C.E.** that **Solomon (962-923)** began building the First Temple in his fourth regnal year which began in the autumn in **959 B.C.E.**

**1 Kings 6:1** And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of **Israel** had come out of the land of **Egypt**, in the fourth year of **Solomon's (962-923)** reign over **Israel**, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month [Month 2], that he began to build the house of יהוה.

It is possible to determine that **Year 4** of **Solomon's (962-923)** reign began in the autumn of **959 B.C.E.** as the history of the **Judean** kings is intertwined with the history of the **Babylonian** kings whose reigns are determined by solar and lunar eclipses. As these histories have now been properly calibrated it is possible to know with certainty that the children of **Israel** came out of the land of **Egypt** on the seventh day of **Unleavened Bread** on **Day 21 / Month 1** in **1437 B.C.E.** on **Yom Ri-shon [first day of the week]**. [**21 Nisan = Sunday, April 21, 1437 B.C.E. (1196670) = Day 21, Month 1**]

The children of **Israel** came to Wilderness of Sinai on first **Yom Ri-shon [first day of the week]** in **Month 3** of **1437 B.C.E.** which fell on **Day 5 / Month 3**. [**5 Sivan = Sunday, June 2, 1437 B.C.E. (1196712) = Day 5, Month 3**] The children of **Israel** came out of the land of **Egypt** on the seventh day of **Unleavened Bread** on **Day 21 / Month 1** on **Yom Ri-shon [first day of the week]**. Then on the selfsame day on **Yom Ri-shon [first day of the week]** – they came into the Wilderness of Sinai on **Day 5 / Month 3**. This evidence is a **testimony** or **witness** from יהוה. On **Day 5 / Month 3**, Moses received the directions in **Exodus 19:10-11** and he relayed these directions to **Israel** as it says in **Exodus 19:15**.

**Exodus 19:10-11** <sup>10</sup> And יהוה said to Moses, “Go to the people and set them apart today [first day of the week] and tomorrow [second day of the week] and let them wash their clothes, <sup>11</sup> and be ready on **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]**: for on **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]** יהוה will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mount Sinai.”

**Exodus 19:15** And he [Moses] said to the people, “Be ready for **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]**; do not come near your wives.”

The instructions in **Exodus 19:10-11** were given to Moses on **Yom Ri-shon [first day of the week]** on **Day 5 / Month 3**. [**5 Sivan = Sunday, June 2, 1437 B.C.E. (1196712) = Day 5, Month 3**] יהוה told Moses that He would appear to the **Israelites** after **3 days** on **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]** on **Day 7 / Month 3**. On **Day 7 / Month 3** on **Shavuot** in **1437 B.C.E.**, Moses received revelation at Mount Sinai as it says in **Exodus 19:16**. [**7 Sivan = Tuesday, June 4, 1437 B.C.E. (1196714) = Day 7, Month 3**]

**Exodus 19:16-20** <sup>16</sup> Then it came to pass on **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]**, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. <sup>17</sup> And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with Elohim, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. <sup>18</sup> Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because יהוה descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. <sup>19</sup> And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and Elohim answered him by voice. <sup>20</sup> Then יהוה came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain.

Therefore, the **tradition** that Moses received revelation from יהוה Elohim on **Shavuot / Pentecost** is verified by the **written Torah** in **Exodus 19:10-16** which says this event occurred on **Yom Shli-shi [third day of the week]** on **Shavuot** on **Day 7 / Month 3**. It was **50 days** before this that the Omer count began on **Day 16 / Month 1**. [**16 Nisan = Tuesday, April 16, 1437 B.C.E. (1196665) = Day 16, Month 1**] This evidence is a **testimony** or **witness** from history, and is scientifically verifiable proof from the written Torah, that Moses counted the Omer from **Day 16 / Month 1**.



Moses went up to Mount Sinai on **Day 8 / Month 3**. [**8 Sivan = Wednesday, June 5, 1437 B.C.E. (1196715) = Day 8, Month 3**] This was the first of *three times* that he went up for **40 days** and **40 nights**, and Moses apparently descended **123 days** later with the *second tablets* containing the **Ten Commandments**. For there is a strong *tradition* within traditional Hebrew sources which say that Moses descended with the second tablets on **Yom Kippur** on **Day 10 / Month 7**.

**Ta'anith 30B** R. Simeon B. Gamaliel said: There never were in **Israel** greater days of joy than the fifteenth of Av [**Day 15 / Month 5**] and the **Day of Atonement** [**Day 10 / Month 7**]. I can understand the **Day of Atonement** [**Day 10 / Month 7**], because it is a day of forgiveness and pardon and on it the second tables of the Torah were given, but what happened on the fifteenth of Av [**Day 15 / Month 5**]?

**Baba Bathra 121A** One well understands why the **Day of Atonement** [**Day 10 / Month 7**] [should be such a festive occasion for it is a] day of pardon and forgiveness, [and it is also] a day on which the second Tables were given, but what is [the importance of] the fifteenth of Av [**Day 15 / Month 5**]?

**Eliyahu Zuta 42** The Scriptures recounts that when Moses descended Mount Sinai after receiving the Ten Commandments and found his people worshipping a Golden Calf, he shattered the tablets in great anger. Later, he ascended Mount Sinai a second time to receive a new set of tablets. According to Jewish tradition, it was on the first of Elul that he went up the mountain, and it was on **Yom Kippur** that he returned with the new tablets. During the forty days that Moses was gone, the people fasted from sunrise to sunset and, on the fortieth day, from sunset to sunset. When Moses finally came down the mountain carrying the new Tablets of the Law, he found the people weeping, and he too wept. Only then did Elohim accept their repentance for the sin of the Golden Calf, declaring the tenth of Tishrei [**Day 10 / Month 7**] a **Day of Atonement** for all future generations.

Philip Goodman, *The Yom Kippur Anthology*, p. xviii.

**Rashi** Moses brought down from Mount Sinai the second Tablets of the Torah on **Yom Kippur** [**Day of Atonement** on **Day 10 / Month 7**].

**Seder Olam Rabbah 6** There is a rabbinic tradition which links the date of Moses' descent from Mount Sinai, carrying the second Tablets of the Law, with the date of **Yom Kippur** [**Day 10 / Month 7**].

Abraham P. Bloch, *Day by Day in Jewish History*, p. 8.

**Lamentations Rabbah 33** It is quite right that the **Day of Atonement** [**Day 10 / Month 7**] [should be an occasion for dancing] since it was a day of forgiveness and expiation for **Israel**, and the day upon which the second tablets [of the Torah] were given. Philip Goodman, *The Yom Kippur Anthology*, pp. 22-23.

When one begins to count **123 days** from **Day 8 / Month 3** in **1437 B.C.E.**, it takes one to **Yom Kippur** on **Day 10 / Month 7** in **1437 B.C.E.** on the **Creation Calendar**. [**10 Tishri = Sabbath, October 5, 1437 B.C.E. (1196837) = Day 10, Month 7**] The fact that there are **123 days** from **Day 8 / Month 3** to **Day 10 / Month 7** in **1437 B.C.E.** is a *hidden miracle* within the Torah as **Month 3**, **Month 4**, **Month 5** and **Month 6** must each contain **30 days**.

In **1437 B.C.E.** there are indeed four consecutive months of **30 days** from **Month 3** to **Month 6** on the **Creation Calendar** and this *scientific evidence* is a *testimony* or *witness* that Moses descended with the *second tablets* with the **Ten Commandments** on **Yom Kippur** on the day of the **fall equinox** on the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 10 / Month 7** according to *tradition*.

Moses counted the Omer from the day after the **Sabbath** of **Day 15 / Month 1** for Moses came out of the land of **Egypt** on **Yom Ri-shon** [first day of the week] on **Day 21 / Month 1** according to **Exodus 12:16-17**. [**21 Nisan = Sunday, April 21, 1437 B.C.E. (1196670) = Day 21, Month 1**] This day, **Yom Ri-shon** [first day of the week], was the *selfsame day* that the children of **Israel** came into the wilderness of Sinai on **Day 5 / Month 3** according to **Exodus 19:1**. [**5 Sivan = Sunday, June 2, 1437 B.C.E. (1196712) = Day 5, Month 3**]

יהוה came down in the sight of all the people on Mount Sinai on **Yom Shli-shi** [third day of the week] on **Day 7 / Month 3** on **Shavuot** according to **Exodus 19:11-16**. [**7 Sivan = Tuesday, June 4, 1437 B.C.E. (1196714) = Day 7, Month 3**] Moses received revelation at Mount Sinai on **Day 7 / Month 3** on **Bikkurim Firstfruits** in **1437 B.C.E.** because he counted the Omer from **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**.

Moses *ascended* the *first time* for **40 days** and **40 nights** on the *morning* of **Day 8 / Month 3** according to **Exodus 24:9** and **Jasher 82:8**. [**8 Sivan = Wednesday, June 5, 1437 B.C.E. (1196715) = Day 8, Month 3**] He stayed on the mountain for **40 days** and **40 nights** according to **Exodus 24:18**, **Deuteronomy 9:9-11** and **Jasher 82:9-11**. Moses *descended* the *first time* after **40 days** and **40**





nights with the *first tablets* with the Ten Commandments on Day 18 / Month 4 and found **Israel** worshipping a golden calf according to Exodus 32:15 and Jasher 82:17. [18 Tammuz = Monday, July 15, 1437 B.C.E. (1196755) = Day 18, Month 4]

Moses *ascended* the *second time* for 40 days and 40 nights on the *morning* of Day 19 / Month 4 according to Exodus 32:30-31 and Jasher 82:21. [19 Tammuz = Tuesday, July 16, 1437 B.C.E. (1196756) = Day 19, Month 4] He stayed on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights according to Deuteronomy 9:18-25 and Jasher 82:22-23. Moses *descended* the *second time* after 40 days and 40 nights on Day 29 / Month 5 according to Exodus 32:34-33:1 and Jasher 82:24-25. [29 Av = Sunday, August 25, 1437 B.C.E. (1196796) = Day 29, Month 5]

Moses *ascended* the *third time* for 40 days and 40 nights on the *morning* of Day 30 / Month 5 according to Exodus 34:4 and Jasher 82:25. [30 Av = Monday, August 26, 1437 B.C.E. (1196797) = Day 30, Month 5] He stayed on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights according to Exodus 34:28, Deuteronomy 10:10 and Jasher 82:26-28. Moses *descended* the *third time* after 40 days and 40 nights with the *second tablets* with the Ten Commandments on Day 10 / Month 7 on the **fall equinox** on the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Yom Kippur** according to Exodus 34:29 and Jasher 82:28. [10 Tishri = Sabbath, October 5, 1437 B.C.E. (1196837) = Day 10, Month 7]

## An Annual Commemoration of the Deliverance from **Egypt** and the Giving of the Ten Commandments

Elohim purposed that the Omer count would historically commemorate the 50 days which were counted from the *day after* **Israel** left Avaris / Rameses, **Egypt** on the first day of **Unleavened Bread** on Day 15 / Month 1, until the Ten Commandments were given on **Shavuot** on Day 7 / Month 3 in 1437 B.C.E. **Israel** left Avaris / Rameses on Day 15 / Month 1 on the first day of **Unleavened Bread**. [15 Nisan = Monday, April 15, 1437 B.C.E. (1196664) = Day 15, Month 1]

**Numbers 33:3** They departed from Rameses [Avaris] in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month [Day 15 / Month 1]; on the day after the **Passover** [on Day 14 / Month 1] the children of **Israel** went out with boldness in the sight of all the **Egyptians**.

The Ten Commandments were received 50 days after this day on **Shavuot** which landed on Day 7 / Month 3 in 1437 B.C.E. [7 Sivan = Tuesday, June 4, 1437 B.C.E. (1196714) = Day 7, Month 3] On this day all of the events described in Exodus 19:16 to Exodus 24:3 took place including when יהוה Elohim gave of the Ten Commandments.

**Exodus 20:1-17** <sup>1</sup> And Elohim spoke all these words, saying: <sup>2</sup> "I am יהוה your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of **Egypt**, out of the house of bondage. <sup>3</sup> You shall have no other elohims before Me. <sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself a carved image – any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; <sup>5</sup> you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, יהוה your Elohim, am a jealous Elohim, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, <sup>6</sup> but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. <sup>7</sup> You shall not bring the name of יהוה your Elohim to nothing, for יהוה will not hold him guiltless who brings His name to nothing. <sup>8</sup> Remember the **Sabbath Day**, to keep it set apart. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the **Seventh Day** is the **Sabbath** of יהוה your Elohim. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup> For in six days יהוה made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the **Seventh Day**. Therefore יהוה blessed the **Sabbath Day** and hallowed it. <sup>12</sup> Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which יהוה your Elohim is giving you. <sup>13</sup> You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup> You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup> You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup> You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup> You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

At this time in history it is possible to determine that the Omer should be counted from Day 16 / Month 1. Although **Shavuot** is *not observed* every year on Day 7 / Month 3, it is *observed* every year exactly 50 days after **Israel** left Avaris / Rameses on the first day of **Unleavened Bread** on Day 15 / Month 1. As Hebrew Months typically have 29 or 30 days, and as the 50 days of the Omer count always begin on Day 16 / Month 1, **Shavuot** can land on Day 5 / Month 3, Day 6 / Month 3, or Day 7 / Month 3.

Therefore, it is reasonable and logical to conclude that Elohim intended for His people to commemorate the 50 days counted from the *day after* the **annual High Sabbath** of Day 15 / Month 1. The **Weekly Sabbath** does not enter into the equation for determining the commencement of this 50 day historical commemoration. The 50 days are counted from the *day after* the first day of the **annual Festival of Unleavened Bread** and *not* from the **Weekly Sabbath** which occurs within the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**.



3. Joshua began the omer count from **Resheet Firstfruits** on Day 16 / Month 1 in 1397 B.C.E.

The Scriptures record in **Joshua 5:10-12** that the manna ceased and that the children of **Israel** ate the **fruit** of the land of **Canaan** on **Day 16 / Month 1**, indicating Joshua also counted the Omer from **Day 16 / Month 1** in 1397 B.C.E.

**Joshua 5:10-12** <sup>10</sup> And the children of **Israel** camped in **Gilgal** and kept the **Passover** on the **fourteenth day of the month [Day 14 / Month 1]** at evening in the plains of **Jericho**. <sup>11</sup> And they ate of the stored grain of the land on the day after the **Passover**, [Day 15 / Month 1] unleavened cakes, and parched grain in the selfsame day. <sup>12</sup> And the manna ceased [on Day 16 / Month 1] on the day after they had eaten of the stored grain of the land. And the children of **Israel** no longer had manna, but they ate of the fruit of the land of **Canaan** that year [beginning on Day 16 / Month 1].

Joshua and the children of **Israel** kept the **Passover** on the evening beginning **Day 14 / Month 1** in 1397 B.C.E. in the plains of **Jericho**. [14 Nisan = Tuesday, April 22, 1397 B.C.E. (1211281) = Day 14, Month 1] Joshua and the children of **Israel** ate of the stored grain of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain, on the first day of **Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. [15 Nisan = Wednesday, April 23, 1397 B.C.E. (1211282) = Day 15, Month 1] Joshua and the children of **Israel** would have begun to eat of the **fruit** or **increase** [tebuwah תבואה] of the land of **Canaan** only after the **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered to יהוה on **Day 16 / Month 1** in 1397 B.C.E. [16 Nisan = Thursday, April 24, 1397 B.C.E. (1211283) = Day 16, Month 1]

4. The Septuagint's **Greek** translation allows for the omer count to begin on **Resheet Firstfruits** on Day 16 / Month 1.

**Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246)**, the second Pharaoh of the **33<sup>rd</sup> Ptolemaic Dynasty**, requested that 70 **Judean** scholars come from **Jerusalem** to translate the Torah or Pentateuch into **Greek** more than two centuries before the Messiah was born. The result was the **Septuagint**, or translation of the 70, which was the official **Greek** translation of the Pentateuch. It translates **Leviticus 23:15-16** in the following manner:

**Leviticus 23:15-16** <sup>15</sup> And you shall number to yourselves from the day after the **Sabbath [Day 15 / Month 1]**, from the day on which you shall offer the sheaf of the heave offering: **seven full weeks**. <sup>16</sup> Even until the day after the last week shall you number fifty days, and shall bring a new grain offering to יהוה.

The Septuagint interprets **Leviticus 23:15-16** as some translations of the Tanak and this translation will allow for the omer count to begin on **Day 16 / Month 1**, and for **Shavuot / Pentecost** to fall on **any day** of the week. However, the Septuagint is deficient as it does not instruct us to count **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** as the **Messianic Method** purports. The apostolic record indicates that the Levitical Priesthood counted **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** by the **Messianic Method**.

5. **Hyrcanus I (135-104)** began the omer count from **Resheet Firstfruits** on Day 16 / Month 1 in 132 B.C.E.

**Hyrcanus I (135-104)** also counted the Omer from the day after the **Sabbath** of **Day 15 / Month 1** in 132 B.C.E. For Josephus recounts that **Hyrcanus I (135-104)** forced **Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)** to stay at the **Lycus River** after defeating the **Parthian** General **Indates** in 132 B.C.E. when "**Pentecost did then fall out to be the next day to the Sabbath.**"

**Josephus, Antiquities 13 / 251-253** <sup>251</sup> "When **Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)** had erected a trophy at the river Lycus, upon his conquest of **Indates**, the general of the **Parthians**, he stayed there two days. It was at the desire of **Hyrcanus I (135-104)** the **Judean**, because it was such a **Festival**, derived to them from their forefathers, whereupon the law of the **Judeans** did not allow them to travel." <sup>252</sup> And truly he did not speak falsely in saying so; for the **Festival**, which we call **Pentecost**, did then fall out to be the **next day to the Sabbath** [in 132 B.C.E.]; nor is it lawful for us to journey, either on a **Sabbath** day or on a **Festival** day. <sup>253</sup> But when [in 129 B.C.E.] **Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)** joined forces with **Arsaces (c.138-127)**, the king of **Parthia**, he lost a great part of his army, and was himself slain; and his brother **Demetrius II Nicator (129-125)** succeeded in the kingdom of **Syria**, by the permission of **Arsaces (c.138-127)**, who freed him from his captivity at the same time that **Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)** attacked **Parthia**, as we have formerly related elsewhere.

William Whiston, *The Works of Josephus*, p. 352.

**Shavuot / Pentecost** fell on the **sixth day of the week** on **Day 7 / Month 3** in 132 B.C.E. [7 Sivan = Friday, June 7, 132 B.C.E. (1673368) = Day 7, Month 3] The **Seventh Day Sabbath** occurred on the **next day** on **Day 8 / Month 3** in 132 B.C.E. [8 Sivan = Sabbath, June 8, 132 B.C.E. (1673369) = Day 8, Month 3]. So several centuries before the time of יהושע Messiah, Josephus writes that **Pentecost did then fall out to be the next day to the Sabbath**, and this was special, as **Pentecost** could have fallen out to be next



to any day of the week. This constitutes important historical evidence that the Omer was being counted from **Day 16 / Month 1** in the **second century B.C.E.**

In **129 B.C.E.**, **Antiochus VII Sidetes (138-129)** was killed fighting **Arsaces (c.138-127)** and **Demetrius II Nicator (129-125)** began his *second reign* by the permission of **Arsaces (c.138-127)** who freed him from his captivity. **Demetrius II Nicator's (145-141) first reign** began in **145 B.C.E.** and ended when he was defeated and imprisoned by **Mithradates I (c.171-138)** in **141 B.C.E.**

#### 6. Zachariah [Course 8 – Abijah] and Elizabeth began the omer count from Resheet Firstfruits on Day 16 / Month 1.

Shortly before John the Immerser was born, Luke testifies in **Luke 1:6** that John's parents, Zachariah and Elizabeth, *blamelessly* kept all the commandments and ordinances of יהוה.

**Luke 1:5-6** <sup>5</sup> *There was in the days of Herod [the Great (37-1)], the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the Course of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron (1436-1398), and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> And they were both righteous before Elohim, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of יהוה blameless.*

This is an important statement, for **Luke 1:5-23** says that Zachariah served as a Levitical priest from **Course 8 – Abijah** in the Second Temple. And if Zachariah and Elizabeth kept all the commandments and ordinances of יהוה *blamelessly*, it is possible to determine that the entire Levitical Priesthood at the end of the Second Temple Period counted the Omer from **Day 16 / Month 1**, and observed **Shavuot** the exact way in which Moses commanded. From **Luke 1:6**, it is also possible to know that Zachariah and Elizabeth counted the **Shemmitah Cycle** and the **Jubilee Cycle** correctly and carried out the requirements of these commandments.

#### 7. יהושע Messiah was 12 years old when He observed Resheet Firstfruits being offered on Day 16 / Month 1 in 11 C.E.

Apart from the historical testimony of Zachariah and Elizabeth, there is also the testimony of יהושע Messiah who never sinned and who kept the Torah of Moses perfectly.

**Hebrews 4:15** *For we do not have a High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

**Hebrews 9:28** *So Messiah was offered once to bear the sins of many, and to them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin to salvation.*

**1 Peter 2:21-22** <sup>21</sup> *For to this you were called, because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps,* <sup>22</sup> *“Who committed no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth.”*

In order to keep the commandments perfectly, יהושע Messiah kept the **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** on the calendar handed down by Moses. If He would not have done so He would have sinned. For this reason, the practices at the end of the Second Temple Period are very important. For יהושע of **Nazareth** lived out His life in **Israel** and practiced keeping the commands of Elohim and counted the Omer from **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**. He observed **Shavuot** on **Day 5, Day 6** or **Day 7** of **Month 3** according to the practice of the Levitical priesthood. And Luke records that He observed the **Passover** in **Jerusalem** at **12 years** of age in **11 C.E.**

**Luke 2:40-52** <sup>40</sup> *And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of Elohim was upon Him. <sup>41</sup> His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. <sup>43</sup> When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy יהושע lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; <sup>44</sup> but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. <sup>45</sup> So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. <sup>46</sup> Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. <sup>48</sup> So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.” <sup>49</sup> And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?” <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them. <sup>51</sup> Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And יהושע increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with Elohim and men.*





As יהושע Messiah never sinned, and as He kept the **Passover** with the rest of **Israel** in **Jerusalem**, then **Israel** must have been observing the **Creation Calendar** at this time in the way Moses had instructed. And of course it must be noted that later in His life, יהושע Messiah **criticized** the Samaritans who believed the Omer should be counted from the **Weekly Sabbath**.

**John 4:22** *You [Samaritans] worship what you do not know. We know what We worship, for salvation is of the **Judeans**.*

יהושע Messiah also **criticized** the **Sadducees** for their ignorance of the Scriptures and the power of Elohim.

**Matthew 22:29** *יהושע replied, You [**Sadducees**] are in error, for you do not know the Scriptures or the power of Elohim.*

The way the Levitical Priesthood observed the **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** had a direct bearing on the ability of יהושע to observe them. If the priests of the Second Temple did not keep the **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** exactly as Moses prescribed, then there would have been no way for יהושע to keep the commandments of the Torah correctly, and He would have sinned against His own Torah. Therefore, from the evidence in **Luke 1:5-6**, **Hebrews 4:15**, **Hebrews 9:28** and **1 Peter 2:21-22** it is certain the Levitical Priesthood was **correctly** observing the **Appointed Times** and **Festivals** in the days of יהושע at the end of the Second Temple Period.

#### 8. The **Messiah's** disciples began counting seven **Weekly Sabbaths** from Day 16 / Month 1 by the **Messianic Method**.

The disciples of יהושע Messiah also counted the Omer from **Day 16 / Month 1** as is evident from their testimony of the resurrection day which occurred on **Day 17 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. [**17 Nisan = Sabbath, March 27, 34 C.E. (1733562) = Day 17, Month 1**] The resurrection occurred **before sunrise** on the **First Sabbath** of **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** in the Omer count in 34 C.E. This is certain as the **Greek** phrase *mia tōn sabbatōn* [μια των σαββάτων] should be translated as **First of the Sabbaths** in the Messianic Scriptures.

**Luke 24:1** *Now on the **First of the Sabbaths** [μια των σαββάτων] very early in the morning, they came to the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared.*

**John 20:1** *And on the **First of the Sabbaths** [μια των σαββάτων] Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb while it was still dark and saw the stone taken away from the tomb.*

The fact that the apostles called **Day 17 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. the **First Sabbath** indicates that the apostles counted the Omer by the **Messianic Method**. The apostles themselves testify that the **Sabbath** on which יהושע arose was the **First of the Sabbaths** in the count to **Shavuot**. As יהושע arose on **Day 17 / Month 1** on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot** in 34 C.E., it **precludes the possibility** that **Shavuot** is counted from the day after the **Weekly Sabbath** as the **Sadducees** said. Rather, the apostles counted to **Shavuot** from the day after the **High Sabbath** of **Day 15 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. according to the **Messianic Method**.

**If** the apostles had counted the Omer by the **Sadducean** method, they would have begun to count from the **day after the Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 17 / Month 1**, and the **Sadducean First Sabbath** would have occurred on **Day 24 / Month 1** in 34 C.E. However, as the apostles called **Day 17 / Month 1** the **First Sabbath** in 34 C.E., it **positively indicates** that the apostles of יהושע Messiah counted by the **Messianic Method**, and **Day 24 / Month 1** was the **Second Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**.

Mark and Luke indicate the women came to the tomb when it was **early in the morning**, but John more precisely says **while it was still dark**. John therefore testified that יהושע Messiah had arisen **before sunrise** on the **First Sabbath**. This is a vital piece of information, for in **Matthew 12:40**, יהושע had prophesied that He would be in the heart of the earth for **three days and three nights**.

**Matthew 12:40** *For as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be **three days and three nights** in the heart of the earth.*

If the resurrection had occurred **after sunrise** on the **First Sabbath** then He would have, from a **Judean** point of view, been in the heart of the earth for parts of **4 days**, as **any part of a day** constitutes **a day** in Hebraic thought. יהושע was placed in the tomb **before sunset** as **Passover** on **Day 14 / Month 1** was ending shortly **before** the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1** began.

**Luke 23:50-54** <sup>50</sup> Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. <sup>51</sup> He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the **Judeans**, who himself was also waiting for the **Kingdom of Elohim**. <sup>52</sup> This man went to **Pilate (27-37)** and asked for the body of יהושע. <sup>53</sup> Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. <sup>54</sup> That day [**Day 14 / Month 1**] was the **Preparation**, and the **Sabbath** [**Day 15 / Month 1**] drew near.





יהושע was in the heart of the earth for *part of the day* on **Day 14 / Month 1**, *all of the day* on **Day 15 / Month 1**, and *all of the day* on **Day 16 / Month 1**. If He would have been in the tomb for *part of the day* on **Day 17 / Month 1**, He would have been in the heart of the earth for parts of **4 days** from a **Judean** perspective. This is why the Spirit of Truth explicitly said through John that the women came *while it was still dark* on the morning of **Day 17 / Month 1** where they found the tomb empty *before sunrise*.

While Mark, Luke and John use the phrase *mia tōn sabbatōn* [μία των σαββάτων], or the *First of the Sabbaths*, to describe when the women came to the tomb, Matthew employs two **Greek** phrases to *specify in no uncertain terms exactly when* the women came to the tomb during the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**.

**Matthew 28:1** *On the latter of the Sabbaths [Ὁψε δε σαββάτων], at the dawning of the First of the Sabbaths [εἰς μίαν σαββάτων], Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.*

Matthew uses the phrase *opse de sabbatōn* [Ὁψε δε σαββάτων], *latter of the Sabbaths*, to refer to the **Weekly Sabbath** on **Day 17 / Month 1**, as opposed to the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**, the **Weekly Sabbath** being the *latter* of the two. The women came as the **Weekly Sabbath** was *dawning* on **Day 17 / Month 1** during *morning twilight*. Matthew uses the phrase *mian sabbatōn* [μίαν σαββάτων], or the *First of the Sabbaths*, to say that the women came on the **First Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot** in **34 C.E.**

In **Mark 16:9**, Mark uses *prōto sabbātou* [πρώτη σαββάτου] to refer to **Chief Sabbath** of seven **Weekly Sabbaths** in the **50 day** count to **Shavuot** – the **First Sabbath** – when the Messiah appeared to Mary Magdalene on **Day 17 / Month 1** in **34 C.E.**

**Mark 16:9** *Now when יהושע was risen early on the First Sabbath [πρώτη σαββάτου], He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven devils.*

The unified testimony of the apostolic writings pinpoints *exactly when* the women came to the empty tomb. John gives an account of the *last hours* of the **Weekly Sabbath** when the disciples encountered יהושע *late in the day* on **Day 17 / Month 1**.

In **John 20:19**, the **Greek** words *hēméra* [ἡμέρα] and *mia sabbatōn* [μία σαββάτων] refer to the *day* which was the *First of the Sabbaths* in the count to **Shavuot**, and they describe a time about **12 hours after the resurrection** when the disciples saw the risen Messiah shortly *before sunset* at the *end* of the **Seventh Day Sabbath**.

**John 20:19** *Then in the afternoon that day [ἡμέρα], the First of the Sabbaths [μία σαββάτων], the doors having been locked where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Judeans, came יהושע and stood in the midst and said to them, “Shalom to you.”*

## 9. Paul counted seven **Weekly Sabbaths** and began the omer count from **Day 16 / Month 1** by the **Messianic Method**.

From the testimony of Paul, who considered himself a *blameless Pharisee*, it is possible to deduce that Paul counted the Omer from the **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1** as the **Pharisees** did at this time by the **Messianic Method**.

**Philippians 3:4-6** <sup>4</sup> *If any other man thinks that he has a reason to trust in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of **Israel**, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews, in regard to the Torah, a **Pharisee**; <sup>6</sup> Concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly; as to the righteousness which is in the Torah, blameless.*

## 10. Josephus [Course 1 – Jehoiarib] began the omer count from **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1** in the 1st century.

Flavius Josephus was a **Judean** who was born into a priestly family several years after יהושע of **Nazareth** ascended into heaven at the end of the Second Temple period. Josephus was from **Course 1 – Jehoiarib** and was thus personally familiar with the Second Temple and the temple service. He confirms that the **Judeans** in his day continued the tradition of counting the **50 days** to **Shavuot** from the second day of **Unleavened Bread** from **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**.

**Josephus, Life 1 / 2** Now I am not only sprung from a sacerdotal family in general, but from the **first** of the **twenty-four** courses. William Whiston, *The Works of Josephus*, p. 1.

**Josephus, Antiquities 3 / 250-254** <sup>250</sup> But on the second day of **Unleavened Bread**, which is the **sixteenth day of the month** [Day 16 / Month 1], they first partake of the fruits of the earth, for before that day they do not touch them. And while they suppose it proper to honor Elohim, from whom they obtain this plentiful provision, in the first place, they offer the **Firstfruits of their barley**, and that in the manner following: <sup>251</sup> They take a handful of ears, and dry them, then beat them small, and purge the barley from the bran; they then bring one tenth deal to the altar, to Elohim; and, casting one handful of it upon the fire, they leave the rest for the use of the priest; and after this it is



that they may publicly or privately reap their harvest. They also at this participation of the **Firstfruits** of the earth, sacrifice a lamb, as a burnt offering to Elohim.<sup>252</sup> When a **week of weeks** has passed over after this sacrifice (which weeks contain forty and nine days), on the fiftieth day, which is **Pentecost**, but is called by the Hebrews *Asartha*, which signifies **Pentecost**, they bring to Elohim a loaf, made of wheat flour, of two tenth deals, with leaven; and for sacrifices they bring two lambs;<sup>253</sup> and when they have only presented them to Elohim, they are made ready for supper for the priests; neither is it permitted to leave anything of them till the day following. They also slay three bullocks for a burnt offering and two rams; and fourteen lambs, with two kids of the goats, for sins;<sup>254</sup> nor is there any one of the **Festivals** but in it they offer burnt offerings; they also allow themselves to rest on every one of them. Accordingly, the Torah prescribes in them all what kinds they are to sacrifice, and how they are to rest entirely, and must slay sacrifices, in order to feast upon them. William Whiston, *The Works of Josephus*, p. 96.

In Josephus's time **Shavuot** always occurred **50 days** after **Day 16 / Month 1**, and as both **Month 1** and **Month 2** had **29** or **30** days, **Shavuot** fell on either **Day 5**, **Day 6** or **Day 7** of **Month 3** as **Shavuot** was being observed on the **Creation Calendar**.

#### 11. The Aramaic Targum Onkelos translation allows for the omer count to begin on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**.

**Targum Onkelos** is the official eastern Targum or Aramaic translation of the Torah, and this translation allows for the omer count to begin on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1** in the **50 day** count to **Shavuot / Pentecost**.

**Leviticus 23:15-16** <sup>15</sup> And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the **Sabbath** [**Day 15 / Month 1**], from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: **seven complete weeks**. <sup>16</sup> Even to the day after the seventh week shall you number fifty days, then you shall offer a new grain offering to יהוה.

However, the Aramaic translation is deficient as it does not instruct us to count **Seven Perfect Weekly Sabbaths** as the **Messianic Method** purports. The **Targum Onkelos** translation allows for the **50 day** omer count to **Shavuot** to begin on the day *after* the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1** which was the day the priests put the sickle to the standing grain according to **Deuteronomy 16:9**.

**Deuteronomy 16:9** *Seven weeks shall you [Israel] count for yourself: begin to number the seven weeks from the time you first put the sickle to the standing grain.*

The “**you**” in **Deuteronomy 16:9** refers to the Levitical Priesthood who stood before יהוה on behalf of **Israel** as it was the **priests** who initiated the **50 day** count to **Shavuot** when *they* offered the **Resheet Firstfruits**. Although the barley harvest in **Israel** was generally recognized as a sign of spring and **Passover**, the **50 day** count to **Shavuot** officially began when the **priests** put the sickle to the standing grain on **Day 16 / Month 1**. This is an important point to understand. An individual farmer in one region of the country might put his sickle to the grain at a different time than another farmer in another region of the country, however each individual farmer *did not* initiate a separate Omer count.

It was a select group of priests who ceremonially *put the sickle to the standing grain* on behalf on the nation of **Israel** and this act commenced the **50 day** count to **Shavuot**. The **priests** put the sickle to the standing grain after the sun went down after the end of the first day of **Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. It was at this time, as the second day of **Unleavened Bread** was commencing on **Day 16 / Month 1**, that the first day of the Omer was counted in ancient **Israel**, and this is well documented in Hebrew history.

**Encyclopedia Judaica** The rabbis, in the light of **Exodus 16:36** – “The Omer is a tenth of an *ephah*” – interpreted the word as a measure of grain and also ruled that it was to be brought of barley only. The *ephah* was three *se’ot* and thus on the **16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan** three *se’ot* of barley were reaped, brought to the Temple, ground and sifted, and of this, one tenth (the Omer) was “waved” by the priest. The **Mishnah (Men. 10)** describes the ritual in detail. It was celebrated with a great deal of ceremony and festivity in order to stress the opinion of the rabbis that the **16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan** was the correct date. The ceremony, including the reaping, took place even if the **16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan** was a **Sabbath**; one opinion has it that on a weekday five *se’ot* were reaped since after sifting only three would remain but that on a **Sabbath** only three were reaped so as to avoid unnecessary work (Men. 10:1). If the barley was ripe it was taken from the vicinity of **Jerusalem**; otherwise it could be brought from anywhere in **Israel**. It was reaped by three men, each with his own scythe and basket. The grain was then brought to the Temple where it was winnowed, parched, and ground into coarse flour. It was then sifted through 13 sieves and one tenth was given to the priest who mixed it with oil and frankincense for “a pleasing odor to יהוה” and “waved” it “before יהוה.” This was done by the priest taking the offering on his outstretched hands and moving it from side to side and up and down. This ceremony was interpreted as a prayer to Elohim to protect the harvest from injurious winds and other calamities (Men. 62a). After the waving ceremony a handful was burnt on the altar and the rest was eaten by the priests.

*Encyclopedia Judaica* - CD-ROM Edition Version 1.0, Judaica Multimedia (Israel) Ltd. Text Copyright Keter Publishing House Ltd., 1997.



**Alfred Edersheim** “The morrow after the **Sabbath**”: The expression, “the morrow after the **Sabbath**” (**Leviticus 23:11**), has sometimes been **misunderstood** as implying that the presentation of the so-called “first sheaf” was to be always made on the day following the **Weekly Sabbath** of the **Passover-week**. This view, adopted by the “Boëthusians” and the **Sadducees** in the time of Messiah, and by the Karaite Jews and certain modern interpreters, rests on a misinterpretation of the word “**Sabbath**” (**Leviticus 23:24, 32, 39**). As in analogous allusions to other feasts in the same chapter, it means not the **Weekly Sabbath**, but the day of the **Festival**. The testimony of Josephus, of Philo, and of Jewish tradition, leaves no room to doubt that in this instance we are to understand by the “**Sabbath**” the **15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan**, on whatever day of the week it might fall. Already, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, the spot whence the first sheaf was to be reaped had been marked out by delegates from the Sanhedrin, by tying together in bundles, while still standing, the barley that was to be cut down. Though, for obvious reasons, it was customary to choose for this purpose the sheltered Ashes valley across Kidron, there was no restriction on that point, provided the barley had grown in an ordinary field – of course in **Israel** itself – and not in garden or orchard land, and that the soil had not been manured nor yet artificially watered. When the time for cutting the sheaf had arrived, that is, on the evening of the **15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan** (even though it were a **Sabbath**), just as the sun went down, three men, each with a sickle and basket, formally set to work. But in order clearly to bring out all that was distinctive in the ceremony, they first asked of the bystanders three times each of these questions: “Has the sun gone down?” “With this sickle?” “Into this basket?” “On this **Sabbath** (or first **Passover-day**)?” – and, lastly, “Shall I reap?” Having each time been answered in the affirmative, they cut down barley to the amount of one ephah, or ten omers, or three seahs, which is equal to about 29 liters (7 gallons 5 pints US measure). The ears were brought into the Court of the Temple, and thrashed out with canes or stalks, so as not to injure the corn; then “parched” on a pan perforated with holes, so that each grain might be touched by the fire, and finally exposed to the wind. The corn thus prepared was ground in a barley-mill, which left the hulls whole. According to some, the flour was always successfully passed through thirteen sieves, each closer than the other. The statement of a rival authority, however, seems more rational – that it was only done till the flour was sufficiently fine, which was ascertained by one of the “Gizbarim” (treasurers) plunging his hands into it, the sifting process being continued so long as any of the flour adhered to the hands. Though one ephah, or ten omers, of barley was cut down, only one omer of flour, or about 2.9 liters (6 US pints), was offered in the Temple on the second Paschal, or **16<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan**. The rest of the flour might be redeemed, and used for any purpose. The omer of flour was mixed with a “log,” or nearly 0.4 liter (0.7 US pint) of oil, and a handful of frankincense put upon it, then waved before יהוה, and a handful taken out and burned on the altar. The remainder belonged to the priest. This was what is popularly, though not always correctly, called “the presentation of the first or wave-sheaf” on the second day of the day of the **Passover-feast**, or the **16<sup>th</sup> of Nisan**.

Alfred Edersheim, *The Temple*, Kregel Publications, Michigan, 1997, pp. 170-171.

The historical evidence shows that when the Levitical Priesthood was operating, **Resheet Firstfruits** barley was offered at **daybreak** on **Day 16 / Month 1** at the same time the *morning sacrifice* was offered immediately *after sunrise*.

**Menachoth 5A-5B** Rather said R. Papa, This is the reason for Resh Lakish’s view: he is of the opinion that the **daybreak**<sup>25</sup> [of the sixteenth day of Nisan] renders [the new harvest] permitted. For both R. Johanan and Resh Lakish said, **Even when the Temple was in existence it was the daybreak that rendered [the new harvest] permitted.**<sup>1</sup> Rabbi Dr. I Epstein, (Translator). *The Babylonian Talmud*, The Soncino Press Ltd., New York, 1990.

(25) Lit., ‘when the eastern sky has lit up’.

(1) V. infra 68a. The restriction against partaking of the new harvest is lifted at the dawn of the sixteenth of Nisan, before the offering of the ‘Omer. Consequently the handful, even though taken under another name, may be burnt upon the altar, for the new harvest is already permitted to all.

**Menachoth 68A** GEMARA. Rab and Samuel both stated that when the Temple stood the offering of the ‘Omer rendered [the new corn] permitted, and **when the Temple was no more the daybreak [of the sixteenth day] rendered it permitted.** What is the reason for this? Because two expressions are written; it is written, Until ye have brought,<sup>18</sup> and also, Until this selfsame day.<sup>18</sup> How are they to be reconciled? The former refers to the time when the Temple stood, the other to the time when the Temple was no more. R. Johanan and Resh Lakish both stated that even **when the Temple stood the daybreak [of the sixteenth day] rendered it permitted.** But is it not written also, Until ye have brought? – This is only a recommendation.<sup>19</sup> [But have we not learnt:] **AFTER THE ‘OMER WAS OFFERED THE NEW CORN WAS PERMITTED FORTHWITH?**<sup>20</sup>

Rabbi Dr. I Epstein, (Translator). *The Babylonian Talmud*, The Soncino Press Ltd., New York, 1990.

(18) Lev. XXIII, 14.

(19) It is proper to abstain from the new corn until the offering of the ‘Omer, but there is no transgression if one did not observe this rule.

(20) But surely not before the offering of the ‘Omer.



**Rosh Hashanah 30A** THAT THE WHOLE OF THE DAY OF WAVING THE ‘OMER THE **NEW CORN** SHOULD BE FORBIDDEN. What is the reason? –The Temple, [let us hope], will speedily be rebuilt, and [the **Judeans**] will [then] say, ‘**Last year did we not eat [the new corn] from daybreak?**’<sup>19</sup> Now too let us eat’, they not knowing that last year when there was no [waving of the] ‘omer it was **daybreak** which rendered the **new corn permissible**, but now that there is the ‘omer it is the ‘omer which renders it permissible. When [are we supposing] it will be built? Shall I say it will be built on the sixteenth [of Nisan]? **Then daybreak [of the sixteenth] will render the new corn permissible.**<sup>20</sup>

Rabbi Dr. I Epstein, (Translator). *The Babylonian Talmud*, The Soncino Press Ltd., New York, 1990

(19) The text says, Ye shall not eat bread ... until this selfsame day, until ye have brought the offering (of the ‘omer). – Lev. XXIII, 14. The Rabbis learn from this (Men. 68), that when the ‘omer is brought the new corn may be eaten as soon as it is brought, and when it is not brought the new corn may be eaten from daybreak on the sixteenth of Nisan.

(20) The Temple not yet having been built.

## 12. Rosh Hashanah 6B stipulates that the **Judeans** began the omer count from **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1**.

Historical evidence that **Shavuot / Pentecost** occurred on **Day 5, Day 6 or Day 7 of Month 3** in ancient **Israel** is found in the **Babylonian Talmud** in tractate **Rosh Hashanah 6B**.

**Rosh Hashanah 6B Pentecost** is sometimes on the **fifth** of the **[third] month**, sometimes on the **sixth**, and sometimes on the **seventh**.

This statement in **Rosh Hashanah 6B** stipulates that the omer count must begin on **Day 16 / Month 1** and that a **Hebrew Month** begins when the crescent moon first becomes visible from **Jerusalem**. This historical record is extremely valuable for determining how the Temple in **Jerusalem** and **Israel** as a nation decided to keep the **Festival of Shavuot / Pentecost**.

Based on all the *whole counsel* of יהוה and on the testimony of history it is certain that יהוה instructed **Israel** to count the Omer from **the day after Day 15 / Month 1** by the **Messianic Method**. This is the way יהושע counted the Omer, this is the way Moses counted the Omer, and this is the way anyone who wants to follow יהוה should count the Omer.

**Day 1** of the Omer is on **Resheet Firstfruits** on **Day 16 / Month 1** and **Day 50** of the Omer which is **Shavuot / Pentecost** will fall on **Day 5 / Month 3, Day 6 / Month 3, or Day 7 / Month 3**.

In the **49 days** leading up to **Shavuot / Pentecost** there will always be **Seven Weekly Sabbaths**, and **Shavuot / Pentecost** will always occur **1 day to 7 days after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**.

In **2019 C.E.**, **Omer Day 1 [Day 16 / Month 1]** will fall on **Yom Ri-shon** the **first day of the week**, and so **Omer Day 50 [Shavuot / Pentecost]** will occur **1 day after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**.

In **2033 C.E.**, **Omer Day 1 [Day 16 / Month 1]** will fall on a **Weekly Sabbath**, and so **Omer Day 50 [Shavuot / Pentecost]** will occur **seven days after** the **Seventh Weekly Sabbath**.



## A Summary of the Historical Evidence for Counting the Omer From the Day After the High Sabbath of Day 15 / Month 1

**Shavuot / Pentecost** will always land on **Day 5, Day 6 or Day 7** of **Month 3** depending on the number of days in the first two months. If **Month 1** and **Month 2** each contain **30 days** then **Shavuot / Pentecost** will land on **Day 5 / Month 3**. If **Month 1** contains **30 days** and **Month 2** contains **29 days**, or if **Month 1** contains **29 days** and **Month 2** contains **30 days**, **Shavuot / Pentecost** will land on **Day 6 / Month 3**. If **Month 1** and **Month 2** each contain **29 days** then **Shavuot / Pentecost** will land on **Day 7 / Month 3**.

When the Levitical priesthood was performing the temple service, **Day 1** of the Omer was always on **Day 16 / Month 1** and this is when **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered to יהוה according to the **Messianic** Method. As יהושע Messiah never sinned, it is certain that He counted the Omer this way. An abundance of historical evidence proves the Omer was counted from **Day 16 / Month 1**.

1. Book of Jubilees 44:1-8 – Jacob counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 in 1729 B.C.E.
2. Exodus 19:1-16 – Moses counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 in 1437 B.C.E.
3. Joshua 5:10-12 – Joshua counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 in 1397 B.C.E.
4. Septuagint Translation [3rd century B.C.E.] – Allows for the Omer to be counted from Day 16 / Month 1.
5. Antiquities 13 / 251-253 – **Hyrcanus I (135-104)** counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 in 132 B.C.E.
6. Luke 1:5-6 – Zachariah [**Course 8 Abijah**] and Elizabeth counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 in 4 B.C.E.
7. Luke 2:41-42 – יהושע Messiah was 12 years old when **Resheet Firstfruits** were offered on Day 16 / Month 1 in 11 C.E.
8. Matthew 28:1 – יהושע Messiah resurrected on Day 17 / Month 1 on the **First Weekly Sabbath** in the count to **Shavuot**.
9. Philippians 3:4-6 – Paul counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1 by the **Messianic** Method.
10. Antiquities 3 / 250-254 [1st century C.E.] – Josephus [**Course 1 Jehoiarib**] counted the Omer from Day 16 / Month 1.
11. Targum Onkelos Translation [2nd century C.E.] – Allows for the Omer to be counted from Day 16 / Month 1.
12. Rosh Hashanah 6B [5th century C.E.] – Positively stipulates that the Omer was counted from Day 16 / Month 1.

Based upon this evidence it is logical to conclude that יהוה Elohim intended His people to count the **50 days** from **Day 16 / Month 1** which was the *day after* the **annual High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1**. The **50 days** are counted from the *day after* the first **High Sabbath** of the **Festival of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1**, and *not* from the **Weekly Sabbath** which occurs within the **Festival of Unleavened Bread**, *unless* **Day 15 / Month 1** falls on the **Weekly Sabbath**.

At this time it is provable that the Omer should be counted from **Day 16 / Month 1**. **Shavuot / Pentecost** is an annual commemoration of the **50th day after Israel** left Avaris / Rameses, **Egypt** on the first day of the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** on **Day 15 / Month 1** in 1437 B.C.E. [Numbers 33:3]. As Hebrew Months typically have **29 or 30 days**, and as the **50 days** of the Omer count always begin on **Day 16 / Month 1**, **Shavuot** can fall on **Day 5 / Month 3**, **Day 6 / Month 3**, or **Day 7 / Month 3**.

When **Day 15 / Month 1** falls on the **Weekly Sabbath** as in 2019 C.E., **Shavuot** will occur **1 day** after the **Seventh Sabbath**, and the **Messianic** Method, **Pharisaical** method, and **Sadducean** method will all place **Shavuot** on the same day. When **Day 15 / Month 1** falls on **Yom Shi-shi** the **sixth day of the week** as in 2033 C.E., **Shavuot** will occur **7 days** after the **Seventh Sabbath**.

## The Messianic Method for Counting the Omer

- Always places **Day 1** of the Omer, which is **Resheet Firstfruits**, on **Day 16 / Month 1** on the day after the **High Sabbath** on **Day 15 / Month 1** [Leviticus 23:15].
- Always counts seven **Weekly Sabbaths** [Leviticus 23:15].
- Always numbers **50 days** [Leviticus 23:16].
- Always numbers **seven weeks** from **Day 16 / Month 1** [Deuteronomy 16:9].
- As **Month 1** and **Month 2** may each have either **29 or 30 days**, it always places **Day 50** of the Omer, which is **Shavuot / Pentecost**, on **Day 5, Day 6, or Day 7** of **Month 3**. **Shavuot / Pentecost** is always **1 to 7 days** after the **Seventh Sabbath** [Leviticus 23:16].

