

Chodesh Report

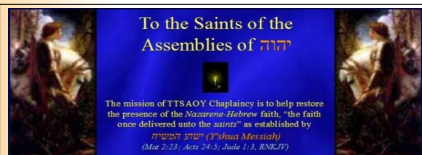
A publication by TTSAOY Chaplaincy Fellowship, an outreach program of TTSAOY, dedicated in service to the saints since 2001.

October 2020

The Original Chodesh Newsletter

Issue 68

Elcha's Chag Sukkot



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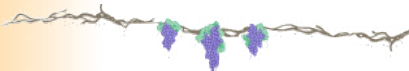
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Who we are

The Chodesh Report is an open dialog of topical research and studies by TTSAOY Chaplaincy and like-minded Associates.

This is a free monthly newsletter published by **To the Saints of the Assemblies of YHWH**.

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Scriptural Allusions I

Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am YHVH your Elohim. (Lev 23:42-43)

These are the journeys of the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron. And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the commandment of יהוה: and these are their journeys according to their goings out. (Num 33:1-2, RNKJV)

Intro

This is a story of 'Elchanan ben Levi, a son of the tribe of Levite. who was part of the exodus from Egypt. In this [fictional] diary of events, Elchanan shares his experiences and thoughts during Israel's redemption from Egypt and the trek through the desert to Mt.

Sinai. 'Elcha's [shortened name] experiences may seem familiar to many through the process of his own spiritual journey, a journey of introspect, humility, and of overcoming... the journey of the elect.

Note: Elcha's diary [See CR Issue 58: *Into the Wild-erness (The Diary of Elchanan)*] begins here during the latter part of the year following Korah's and others' demise at Mt. Sinai and under Moses's watchful and careful guidance, among which were instructions about Yahweh's festival days. Elcha had yet to experience Yah's annual festival days since leaving Egypt, and his first was *Yom Teruah*.



Elcha's Chag Sukkot

It was around 1462 BCE^{1 2} that Moses re-instituted the rites of the passover. It was later that same year when he instructed the people, *"Three times thou shalt keep a [pilgrimage festival] unto me in the year (Exod 23:14)*, and yet another year [1461 BCE] before Moses expounded upon Yah's festivals, including the festival *Yom Teruah*.

- And יהוה spake unto Moses, saying,
- *Speak unto the children of Yisra'EL, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of shofars, an holy convocation. (Lev 23:23-24, HKJV+S)*

Elcha noted of this event,

עֲשֵׂה לָךְ אֶת יוֹם תְּרוּעָה
בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי בַּיּוֹם הַרִאשׁוֹן
לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי בַּיּוֹם הַרִאשׁוֹן לַחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי

... shofar blast of 'I Am' makes fear. Protect me 'I Am'.

Moses presented this festival to be a celebration. Elcha was confused upon

1 *The Reese Chronological Bible [RCB] (1977) pp. 152-3, 227*

2 From *Exodus Decoded* (2006), a History Channel documentary film by archeologist Simcha Jacobovici. Jacobovici puts the Exodus in 1500 BC. However, it is believed that the pharaoh Ahmose ruled in 1550–1525 BC. Jacobovici determines Ahmose's rule 50 years to the future; ergo, other scholars determine the Exodus to be 1500-1475 BCE in place in time.

being told of a day of shouting and shofar blasting Elcha because he was remembering that dreadful day at Sinai and the people's fear and trembling upon 'I Am's presence and the blast of His shofar. Little could Elcha anticipate the purpose and timing of this day, yet he and others could understand blessings were to follow if they were to abide by the 'I Am's' will.

Yom Teruah introduced the harvest season festivals. It was, and still is, the 1st day of the seventh chodesh [month]. The new year's planting season began immediately after these festivals. Since Israel's economy was primarily agriculture based, much later this month was designated the start of the secular year. More importantly, Yom Teruah was a call for gathering, a day appointed as a holy convocation, and a day from which planning and preparing for the soon coming festival of ingathering, **Chag Sukkot**.

Prior to *Chag Sukkot*, on the tenth day of the seventh chodesh all were to observe a special day, a day of humbling ones self and afflicting their souls with fasting. Moses called it *Yom Kippurim*. Moses further explained that the ten days prior to this day was for remembering all that one may have done over the past and repent of any sins [violating יהוה's commands]. Five days afterward, the people were to meet and live with the mishpocha [all Israel's tribal families] while in the presence of יהוה living in their midst for eight days of the *Sukkot Festival* and a last eighth day. Elcha became overwhelmed with his newfound sense of humility and a peculiar sense of duty upon Kippur, and in a moment of reverence he wrote in his diary,

כַּיְיָמֵינוּ אֲנִי אֶפְרַיִם בְּיָמֵינוּ
בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ
בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ
בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ בְּיָמֵינוּ

Yom Kippurim begins with humility and is a covering made.

It was from the beginning of *Chag Sukkot* that their potential as a nation was realized. As a special chosen people, so long as they would abide by יהוה's commands, they were promised peace and prosperity exceeding all other nations. At the festival site they were met with regalia provided by the Levites and volunteers, an unending supply of special and hard to find festival foods and spices, and singing and dancing into the cool night air. Special music from the differing tribes played calming flute and harp music until all fell asleep in anticipation of the next day's adventures.

Day-to-day events included exploration of the surrounding areas they had traveled to while in the wilderness. Flowing waters and streams covered in grasses and rushes, fragrant flowering plants, red rock formations and spires reaching to the sky, strange and exotic creatures not yet seen while serving Pharaoh in the Egyptian sands. The most rewarding experiences for parents involved the children's new found

discoveries, which were told with great zeal to the elders around campfires later in the evenings. Elcha's memory would last his lifetime of this wonderful event. The tribe Yahudah enjoyed it so much to this day it is called, "*zeman simchateynu*, the "season of our joy." Elcha shared in their joy when writing about his experience in a *sukkah*.

The night following Yom Kippur is when to begin building a sukkah, or discuss the building of the sukkah. A friend came that night to pick up a challah to break his fast.

Moses instructs to build sukkah [thicket covered shelter] for Chag Sukkot. The sukkah we build is built by workmen; the sechach, the green leafy branches that cover the sukkah, were gathered and placed on top by my myself, father, and his friends.

We sit in them each day remembering our deliverance from Egypt and encamping with יהוה while in this wilderness. I love the exotic palm scent that permeates the whole festival, and enjoy the elbowing, squashing, and laughter that comes with a sukkah packed with family and friends. Rainwater can drip through the thatches of our shelters and cool our meals adding a special scent from the bows that serve to cover us from the sun's heat.

Living in the midst of so many, a place to build a sukkah can be hard to find. Upon arriving at the place Moses says יהוה has placed His name, we begin our search. We briefly thought to build upon a rise, but soon found a place among our mishpachah [family members] instead. Erecting it took a day. The evening meal was welcomed with joyful greetings and thanksgiving.

Sukkot was designated a festival traveled to. The last two days before Sukkot were a frenzy of measuring, gathering supplies, building sleds, and shlepping way into the night. We had little time to talk to each other as we raced between cooking ahead, finding thatch, palms, and branches and trucking it to the site, invitations to meet with friends and packing. The climax of it all was anxiously waiting for Moseh to say when to begin our chag [journey].

That first night, as darkness fell outside and we sat in our sukkah with our guests who were also sitting in a sukkah for the first time, they commented on the

reality of this fact (that יהוה is going to tabernacle with mankind for eternity) drew from the lips of an angel these amazing words:

- 3 **And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of YHVH is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and YHVH himself shall be with them, and be their Elohim.**
(Rev 21:3)

Yeshua the Messiah is the Tabernacle of יהוה!; and on the earth made new he will again dwell in the midst of His people just as surely as He occupied the tabernacle built by Moses in the days of old. That is what the Feast of Tabernacles is a reminder and foretaste of.

References

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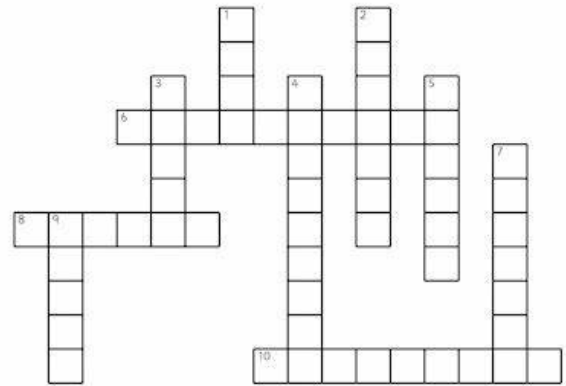
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Harvest Picture Crossword



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Activity village



Scriptural Allusions II

And they found written in the law which YHVH had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:... And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness. (Neh 8:14, 17)

Rules of the Sukkah

Dr. Seuss style
By Rabbi Arthur E. Gould

You can build it very small¹
You can build it very tall²

You can build it very large³
You can build it on a barge

You can build it on a ship⁴
Or on a roof but please don't slip⁵

You can build it in an alley⁶
You can build it in a valley⁷

You can build it on a wagon⁸
You can build it on a dragon⁹

You can make the scakh of wood¹⁰
Would you, could you, yes you should

Make the scakh from leaves of tree
You shouldn't bend it at its knee¹¹

Build your Sukkah tall or short
But no Sukkah is built in the Temple Court

You can build it somewhat soon
You cannot build it in the month of June¹²

If your Sukkah is well made
You'll have the right amount of shade¹³

You can build it very wide
You can not build it on its side

Build it if your name is Jim
Or Bob or Sam or even Tim

Build it if your name is Sue¹⁴
Do you build it, yes you do!

From the Sukkah you can roam
But you should treat it as your home¹⁵

You can invite some special guests
Don't stay in it if there are pests

You can sleep upon some rugs
Don't you build it where there's bugs

In the Sukkah you should sit
And eat and drink but never spit

If in the Sukkah it should rain
To stay there would be such a pain¹⁶

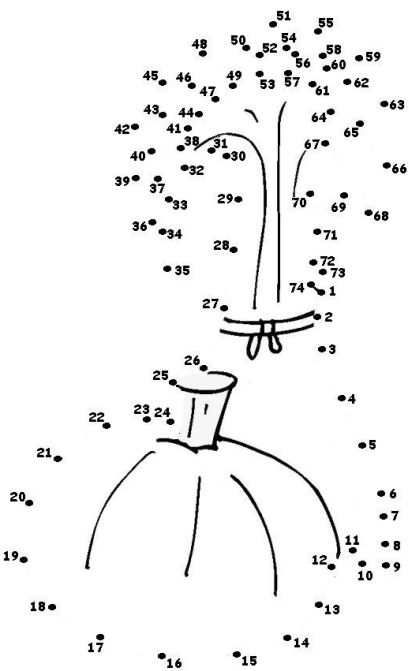
And if it should be very cold
Stay there only if you're bold

So build a Sukkah one and all
Make it large or make it small

Sukkah rules are short and snappy
Enjoy Sukkot, rejoice be happy

SUKKAH WORLD.COM
www.sukkahworld.com YOUR SUKKAH FOR LESS

This page is just for the children, but I'm sure a few adults may also be entertained as well.



Rosh Chodesh

Rosh Chodesh 7, September 2020

The new moon should be visible within the realm of Israel on Sep. 18, 2020 Jerusalem Standard Time [JST] after sunset [1][2].

Data for September 18, 2020:

Sunset 6:23 PM (JST)
 Moonset 7:40 PM
 Age 1.1d/30 since last
 Illumination 2%'

[1] Lunisolcal V4.5 (Voeking, 2013)

[2] [3] SkyViewCafe V5.8.6 (Shetline, 2000-2018)

Note: Gregorian calendar years 2020-21 should not host an Adar 2, a 13 month biblical calendar leap year.

Amazing Quotes

Talk unbelief, and you will have unbelief; but talk faith, and you will have faith. According to the seed sown will be the harvest.

~ E.G. White

Those who have courage and faith shall never perish in misery. ~ Anne Frank

Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been. ~ Mark Twain

The Feast Days of יהוה

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| - | Abib 1 (Starts @ sunset Mar 25) | - | Mar 26 |
| - | Yah'shua's Kiddush | Abib 13 | Apr 7 |
| - | Passover Memorial (at even) | Abib 14 | Apr 8 |
| I, II | Passover Feast (DUB) | Abib 15-21 | Apr 9-15 |
| - | Wave Sheaf | Abib 16 | Apr 10 |
| III | Feast of First Fruits (Pentecost) | Abib 16 + 49 | May 29 |
| IV | Feast of Trumpets | Day 1 of 7 th new moon | Sep 19 |
| V | Atonement | Day 10 of 7 th new moon | Sep 28 |
| VI | Feast of Booths (FOT) | Day 15-21 of 7 th new moon | Oct 3-9 |
| VII | Last Great Day (8 th Day) | Day 22 of 7 th new moon | Oct 10 |

Lighter Side



Moses' Maps App got miraculously hacked...

To build a sukkot...

Whether it is a basic shelter,



... a formal setting,



... or Texas style,



Build it, and they will come.

Notes:

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