

Clear Cut Proof Why Barley is Not the Parameter for the start of the Year. By Don Esposito



I have lived in Israel for the last almost 15 years or so, and have studied the Biblical calendar for almost 20 years. I would like to show quite conclusively that Barley in Israel was never the biblical mandate to start the New Year.

First of all there is nothing in the bible about starting the year based on the barley harvest. This was too arbitrary and how would Noah have known when barley was seen in Israel on the ark or any biblical person for that matter before Israel entered the Promised Land in 1443 B.C.? Also, barley grows quite different from place to place and even in Egypt where Israel came out from the barley harvest there is in late January or early February depending on the year and weather. Clearly the sun, moon and stars were given to calculate the biblical calendar.

Gen 1:14 *And Elohim said, Let light sources be in the expanse of the heavens, to divide between the day and the night. **And let them be for signs and for (Holy day) seasons, and for days and years.***

Also, clearly, the Holy Days of Yahweh had to be kept in their season and not at any time of the year as each Holy Day depended on the harvest of its particular season associated with it.

Exo 13:10 *And you shall keep this ordinance **at its appointed time (in its season)**, from year to year.*

Exo 12:2 *This month (Aviv) shall be the head of months for you. It shall be the first of the months of the year for you.*

So, the question is not whether to add a 13th month but when to add the 13th month. Since Exodus 12:2 clearly states that Aviv 1 and not simply Passover is the dividing line between the old year and the New Year, it would not be correct to start the New Year 10 or 11 days into Aviv, to simply have the Passover fall in the New Year, but have the other 10 days in the old year. Also, according to the biblical reckoning you cannot have Sukkot start before the autumn equinox.

Exo 34:22 *And you shall observe a Feast of Weeks for yourself, the first-fruits of the harvest of wheat; also the Feast of Ingathering **after the turn of the year.***

The Hebrew word for turning of the year is “Tekufah” and is the word used for equinox for a revolution of the sun. If you start your year before the spring equinox you will not have your Holy Days fall after the autumn equinox. Also, every Holy Day needs the harvest fruits for whichever feast celebration is being done. In the spring you need the new grain for the wave sheaf offering on the feast of firstfruits, and in the fall you need the 7 harvest fruits for the Sukkot celebration. If you start your year too early in the winter while the old year is still going on many years you will not have ripe harvest grain or fruits in the spring or fall. In the year 2013 the Jewish feast of Sukkot started September 19th, but the turning of the year (tekufah, equinox) is not until September 22nd; clearly proving the Jewish calendar in 2013 was incorrect. Even look at the following quote from the Rabbis own writings in the Talmud stating that if Sukkot fell before the autumn equinox than a 13 month must be added to avoid this.

*Should the Tekufah of Tammuz extend till after the Succoth Festival, or the Tekufah of Tebeth till the sixteenth of Nisan, the year would be intercalated, **so that the festivals might fall in their due seasons, viz., Passover in Spring, Succoth in Autumn (after the equinox.***
(Sanh 11b)

The reason to wait until after the tekufah (equinox) or turning of the year for Sukkot is quite simple; not only does the fall harvest have to be ripe before Sukkot, but it has to be harvested as this is the main reason of the feast. That reason being to take the harvest fruits of the dates, and the pomegranates, and the figs, and the wine and the olives. That is why it is called the feast of “ingathering”. It is inconceivable that Israelites would have went to Jerusalem for Sukkot empty handed, as it would be about a month trip turnaround from the time leaving until returning, while their harvest fruits would have ripened and fell and rotted while they were away. If one biblically waits until after the tekufah (equinox) to start the year, then they will always have Sukkot after the autumn tekufah and the fruits will be ripened and harvested.

Calculating Aviv only by Barley is not scriptural and has actually turned out to be a major scam by some elements hoodwinking brethren for control and money. I have checked for barley almost every year here from Israel and except for it taking a day of my time and gasoline, there are no other costs involved. However, some of these so-called barley hooligans have websites up with paypal links collecting much money for this so-called barley hunt.

The problem with only using barley to try to calculate the month of Aviv is that it makes the calendar dependent on man's assessment, which is at times flawed and at times outright deceitful. As I mentioned, the barley in Israel does not ripen at the same time throughout the country and is actually a two month harvest starting around the beginning of April until late May or early June.

The people who come here to try to pervert the New Year according to their own agenda will either ignore barley in some years as 2014 if they don't want to call Aviv yet, or they will try to create a perception of over ripe barley that isn't there.

I have said before that if barley and the firstfruit omer on the feast of firstfruits is a direct reflection of Yahshua as the firstfruit born of the dead to Yahweh, then it stands to reason that there would have to be representation of barley throughout Israel and the harvest would have to be more than 50 to 60% harvestable by the feast of firstfruits.

Last year there was minimal (probably only about 10%) barley available by the Jewish incorrect feast of firstfruits, and yet the barley hunters claimed it was Aviv. This year is like last year and there is a small early harvest and small minimal Aviv barley just like last year and probably even a little more, and yet the barley hunters did NOT claim it was Aviv.

So what was the difference from last year to this year? The difference is that if they called the New Moon that just happened the month of Aviv, not only would they have their year start in winter of the old year before the equinox, but they would also have their Passover commence before the equinox and have 2 Passovers in the same year, clearly against scripture.

So they simply claim there is no barley to avoid this problem. This clearly shows why Yahweh would never leave His sacred Holy Day calendar to be dependent on a few rogue barley hunters in Israel that have no authority from him or His ordained elderhood.

By living here for the last some-odd 15 years I can attest that the barley hunters on several occasions have not been honest about the barley harvest. It doesn't matter that they send a few pictures as I mentioned the harvest happens over 2 months throughout the land, so if they want to call Aviv, they will send pictures in the area that there may be barley, and if they don't want to call Aviv yet, they will simply go to areas that haven't turned Aviv yet.

Yahweh would never have such a confusing way to start His sacred Biblical calendar. He clearly stated in Gen 1:14- that **the moon, and sun and stars** are for calculating days, and months **and years**. It says nothing about barley.

Barley as well as other harvest fruits are simply an earthly sign to the heavenly calendar, but they do not signify the start of the year, the biblical tekufah, or in English, the equinox, does according to scripture. For full information on the start of the biblical year and timing please read our book called "**The Biblical calendar**" on-line at www.coyhwh.com .