4451 — HEBREW CALENDAR, THE

In scripture (until the captivity at least) dates are often fixed by reference to the Seasons, and to Agriculture, because the Hebrew year was divided according to natural phenomena exclusively. It combined therefore the solar and lunar year. The months began with the New Moon, but the first month was fixed (after the Exodus and by the necessities of the Passover) by the ripening of the first corn (barley). Watchmen announced to the priests at Jerusalem the first appearance of the new moon (Jer 31:6) which, being duly attested, was proclaimed by a blast of trumpets, and beacon of fires, (NB Three years, from two at least of the northern, central and southern districts of Palestine; were required for the determination of Passover month). The lunar month averaging 29.5 days, a year of 12 months of 30 and 29 days alternately naturally resulted; but this involved a variation of 11 and 22 days alternately in 18 of 19 years. To reconcile this lunar year with the year of seasons, **a 13th month must be inserted about once in three years**. This the Jews probably intercalated before the first month, i.e in what would seem a backward season, for they now **call it Veadar, or the 2nd Adar**, but it is not mentioned in the Bible. Thus their practice approximated roughly to the Metonic cycle (adopted by the modern Jews about A.D 360), in which a year of 13 months is inserted in seven (intercalary) out of a cycle of 19 years. In the subjoined Calendar,, it is assumed, as usual , that the first month of the Hebrew ecclesiastical year, **Abib or Nisan, answers to half March and half April; the earliest possible commencement of the lunar year being on our March 5th.**

Names of English months	Jewish months	Festivals	Season	Wind and Weather	State of the Country
December January ***10***	**Tebeth** 29 days 4 of Civil year 10. of Sacred year (Est 2:16)		Mid-Winter	N,N,W,N,E Coldest month. Rain, hail, snow (Jos 10:11) on higher hills and occasionally at Jerusalem. January and February called by Arabs "the fathers of rain"	Flocks leave the chill highlands for the Jordan valley, and its cultivation begins. Its groves and pastures "scarlet with anemones, poppies and ranunculus" Oranges ripen. The lowest districts becomes green with corn
January February ***11***	**Sebat** 30 days 5 C. 11. S (Zec 1:7)		Winter	N,N,W,N,E Weather gradually becomes warmer towards end of month the cool season begins (the most pleasant)	In warmer and sheltered localities almond and peach trees begin to blossom. Oranges ripe
February March ***12*** **(VeAdar comes here after Adar if it is a leap year)**	**Adar** 29 days 6 C. 12.S (Est 3:7; 9:26) Ezr 6:15	"The First Sabbath"= the first S of this month 14 and 15 (Est 9:20-21) Feast of *Purim* or *lots,* in commemoration of the deliverance recorded in Esther which is then read in the synagogues	Cold and rainy season, or spring	W Thunder and hail frequent, sometimes snow. The *latter rains* begin, on which, plenty or famine, the crops and pasture depend.	In the valley of the Jordan cultivation draws to an end , and barley ripens
March April ***1***	**Abib** =*green* (ripe) *ears* 30 days **1. of Sacred year** 7 of Civil year Ex 12:2,13:4,Neh 2:1) Also **Nisan**	The "*first second* Sabbath" of Lu 6:1 = the first S. of this month **14** The Passover **16** First Fruits of barley harvest presented, i.e a wave offering of the first ripe Omer (*sheaf* or handful of barley made before reaping began (De 16:9,Le 23:10-14:2K4:42) **15-21** Seven days of unleavened Bread	Harvest begins	S, sometimes Sirocco, a dry wind from S.E (deserts) Fall of *latter* or *spring* rains (De 11:14) The melting snows (Lebanon) and rains fill its channel, and Jordan overflows in places its "lower plain" (Jos 3:15, Zec 10:1)	*Barley* harvest begins in sub-tropical plain of Jericho and in the Jordan valley wheat coming into ear. Uplands brilliant with short-lived verdure and flowers.
April May ***2***	**Zif** *(blossom)* 29 days 2 S 8 C (1K 6:1,37	**14** Second or Little Passover for those who could not keep the first (Nu 9:10,11)	Summer	S Showers and thunderstorms very rare (1S 12:17,18). Almost uninterruptedly cloudless till end of summer	*Principle harvest month* in lower districts. "Barley harvest" general (Ru 1:22) Wheat ripening in the uplands. Apricots ripen. In Jordan valley hot winds wither and burn up vegetation.

This information is in the **Thompson's Chain Reference KJV Bible the 5th Edition on page 1800 - 1801**

(The statement underlined in blue has been studied and corrected. Ask for the copy via contact shown bottom right)

HEBREW CALENDAR, THE. cont

Names of English months	Jewish months	Festivals	Season	Wind and Weather	State of the Country
May June ***3***	**Sivan** 30 days 3. S. 9 C (Est 8:9)	***THE FEAST OF WEEKS COUNTS SEVEN WEEKS THEN ADDS ANOTHER 50 DAYS. SEE LEV 23:15-16, JOHN 4:35. THIS TAKES US TO THE 4th MONTH, NOT 3rd.*** *(I MADE THIS CORRECTION)*		Usually N,W also E and Khamseen or parching wind from S. deserts. Air motionless and brilliantly clear.	*Wheat harvest* begins in upland districts. Almonds ripe, Grapes begin to ripen. Honey of the Jordan valley collected in May-July
June July ***4***	**Tammuz** 29 days 4. S 10 C (Zec 8:19)	6. Feast of Weeks, or Harvest, or First Fruits (of grain, i.e a wave offering of two first unleavened *loaves* from the new wheat; Le 23:17) The Pentecost of the N.T (Gk ="Seven weeks" De 16:9)	Hot season	Usually N,W also E and Khamseen (a dry, hot and depressing wind) from S. Air motionless and brilliantly clear. Heat becomes intense. Heavy dews still fall.	Wheat harvest highest districts. Various fruits ripe. Springs and vegetation dry up everywhere. The nomads (Bedouins) leave the steppes sot mountain pastures. Elsewhere the country parched, dry and hard, "a dreary waste of withered stalks and burnt-up grass" (the stubble," AV
July August ***5***	**Ab** 30 days 5. S 11 .C (Ezr 7:9,Zec 7:3)			E Ditto.	Principle fruit month. Grapes, figs, walnuts and olives, etc. The vintage begins (Le 26:5)
August September ***6***	**Elul** 29 days 6. S 12 C (Ne 6:15)			NE Heat still intense. (2K 4:18 -20); much lightning, rain rarely	Vintage general. Harvest of doura and maize. Cotton and pomegranate ripen.
September October ***7***	**Ethanim** 30 days 1. of Civil year **7 Of Sacred year** (1K 8:2) also **Tisri**	**1**. Feast of Trumpets = New Years Day **10.** Day of Atonement, "the fast" (Ac 27:9) i.e the only one enjoined by Law; the first day of Jubilee years **15-21** Feast of Ingathering, or Tabernacles. The harvest home and greatest national festival, a final thanksgiving for the years crops (see Ne) and commemoration of the Wanderings (Le 23:39-43)	Seed time, or earing	N,E Dews very heavy, *former* or early, i.e autumnal rains begin to (Jl 2:23) soften the iron ground (De 11:14). Nights frosty (Ge 31:40)	Ploughing and sowing begin (when rains had sufficiently saturated the ground) - In whatever weather, as time runs short (Pr 20:4; Ec 11:4) Cotton harvest
October November ***8***	**Bul** (*rain)* 29days 2 C. 8.S (1K 6:38) Marchesvan			N,N,W,N,E,S,S,W Rainy month, partly fine. Rains from S. and S. W	Wheat and barley sown. Vintage in Northern Palestine. Rice harvest. Fig tree laden with fruit. Orange and citron blossom. Almost all vegetation has disappeared.
November December ***9***	**Chisleu** 30 days 3 C. 9. S (Ne 1:1,Zec 7:1)	25 (for 8 days) Feast of Dedication, i.e commemoratory of the purification of the Temple (defiled by Antiochus Epiphanes, Da 11:31) by Judas Maccabeaus (1Mac 4:52-59) or (from general illumination made) Feast of Lights, the anniversary of the erection of David's altar on Araunah's threshing floor	Winter begins (John 10:22)	Snow on the mountains; stormy. In December, January and February, greatest amount of rain in the year	The trees bare. The plains and deserts which the summer sun and drying winds have parched gradually become green pastures.

CORRECTIONS WERE MADE BY RICHARD K. AFTER A CAREFUL STUDY OF THE VERSES MENTIONED. SEE THE RED LETTERS IN MAY/JUNE SECTION. THE STATEMENT UNDERLINED IN BLUE HAS ALSO BEEN CORRECTED AND A COPY OF THE STUDY IS AVAILABLE FOR FREE. FOR ANY QUESTIONS AND INQUIRES PLEASE REACH ME ON **+254728177546** VIA WHATSAPP/TELEGRAM OR CALL