

Shabbatot

A Biblical and Messianic Viewpoint

"The people of Isra'el are to keep the Shabbat, to observe Shabbat through all their generations as a perpetual covenant." Exodus 31:12-18

Ahavah Worrab
3/10/2009

A Biblical and Messianic View of the Annual Shabbatot

The Appointed Times

ADONAI said to Moshe, "Tell the people of Isra'el: 'The designated times of ADONAI which you are to proclaim as holy convocations are my designated times.'"

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23: 1-2

ADONAI Elohim's plan for salvation for human-kind can be found laid out in its entirety in one single chapter in the Tanakh. [Leviticus 23.](#)

These are the appointed times of your ADONAI Elohim and they form the basis for your new walk with Him. They are: the seven day weekly Shabbat **PLUS FOUR** Appointed Feast Times in Spring and **THREE** Appointed Feast Times in Autumn.



The Weekly Shabbat

The first of the Appointed Times that is given mention is the **weekly** Shabbat.

*"Work is to be done on six days; but the seventh day is a **Shabbat** of complete rest, a holy convocation: you are not to do any kind of work; it is a **Shabbat** for ADONAI, even in your homes."*

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23: 3

The seventh-day weekly Shabbat is The Weekly Feast day or Holy Convocation of ADONAI Elohim. It is reckoned by the counting of the Hebrew day which starts in the evening and ends the following evening.

Friday	Saturday
 Sivan 17 (20 June)	Sivan 18 (21 June)
 Sivan 18 (20 June)	Sivan 19 (21 June)

In the beginning G-d created the heavens and the earth..... G-d called the light Day and the darkness He call Night. So there was evening and there was morning, one day.

B'reshet (Genesis) 1:1-5

Fig 1. Hebrew Day – from evening to evening

After the Children were brought out of Egypt ADONAI Elohim used the daily collection of man-hu (manna: literally 'what is it?') to re-train them how to count to the seventh day. The day of completion. In Hebrew the word **SHABUA** can mean both 'week' and the number 'seven'.

It is this week of seven days (shabua) that leads us gently into the Spring and Fall Annual Feasts commanded by Elohim.

Annual Festivals held in the Spring



'Aviv' Barley

Pesach (Passover)

Unleavened Bread

First Fruits

Counting the Omer¹

Feast of Weeks

“ These are the designated times of ADONAI,
the holy convocations you are to proclaim at their designated times: ”

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23: 4

Pesach (Passover)

“ In the first month, on the *fourteenth day* of the month, **between sundown and complete darkness**, comes **Pesach** for ADONAI.

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23: 5

Unleavened Bread

“ On the *fifteenth day* of the same month is the **festival of matzah²**; for seven days you are to eat *matzah*. On the **first day** you are to have and **holy convocation³**; don't do any kind of ordinary work. Bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI for seven days. On the **seventh day** is a **holy convocation⁴**; do not do any kind of ordinary work. ”

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:6-8

¹ Counting the Omer is not a 'feast day' per se but rather the number of days (50) that has to be counted from First Fruits to Feast of Weeks.

² That is: 'Unleavened Bread'

³ **1st Annual Shabbat**

⁴ **2nd Annual Shabbat**

Firstfruits

“ ADONAI said to Moshe, “Tell the people of Isra'el, 'After you enter the land I am giving you and harvest its ripe crops, you are to bring a **sheaf of the firstfruits** of your harvest to the *cohen*. He is to wave the sheaf before ADONAI, so that you will be accepted; the *cohen* is to **wave it on the day after the Shabbat**.

On the day that you wave the sheaf, you are to offer a male lamb without defect, in its first year, as a burnt offering for ADONAI. Its grain offering is to be one gallon of fine flour mixed with olive oil, an offering made by fire to ADONAI as a fragrant aroma; its drink offering is to be of wine, one quart.

You are not to eat bread, dried grain or fresh grain until the day you bring the offering for your G-d; this is a **permanent regulation** through all your generations, **no matter where you live.** ”

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:9-14

Counting the Omer⁵

“ From the day after the day of rest – that is, from the day you bring the sheaf for waving – you are to count seven full weeks, until the day after the seventh week; you are to count fifty days; and **then⁶** ...

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:15-16

Feast of Weeks (Shav'ot / Pentecost)

...you are to present a **new grain offering** to ADONAI.

You must bring bread from your homes for waving – two loaves made with one gallon of fine flour, baked with leaven – as firstfruits for ADONAI.

Along with the bread, present **seven lambs** without defect one year old, **one young bull** and **two rams**; these will be a burnt offering for ADONAI, with their grain and drink offerings, an offering made by fire as a fragrant aroma for ADONAI. Offer **one male goat** as a sin offering and **two male lambs** one year old as a sacrifice of peace offerings. The *cohen* will wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before ADONAI, with the **two lambs**; these will be holy for ADONAI for the *cohen*. On the **same day** you are to call a **holy convocation⁷**; do not do any kind of ordinary work; this is a permanent regulation through all your generations, **no matter where you live**.

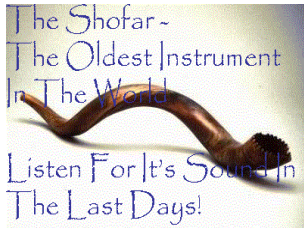
Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:16-21

⁵ The period of counting the number of days between Firstfruits and Feast of Weeks

⁶ See Spring 2007 Sarah's Tent for more information about Counting the Omer:
<http://www.sarahstent.info/spring2007.html>

⁷ **3rd Annual Shabbat**

Annual Festivals held in the Autumn



Ram's Horn Shofar

Feast of Trumpets

Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)

Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)

Eighth Day

Feast of Trumpets

“ADONAI said to Moshe, “Tell the people of Isra’el, ‘In the seventh month, the **first of the month** is to be for you a **day of complete rest for remembering, a holy convocation**⁸ announced with blasts on the shofar.

Do not do any kind of ordinary work, and bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI.’ “

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:22-25

Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)

ADONAI said to Moshe, “The **tenth of this seventh month is Yom-Kippur**; you are to have a **holy convocation**, you are to **deny yourselves**, and you are to bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI. You are not to do any kind of work on that day, because it is **Yom-Kippur**, to make atonement for you before ADONAI your G-d.

Anyone who does not deny himself on that day is to be cut off from his people; and anyone who does any kind of work on that day, I will destroy from among his people.

You are not to do any kind of work; it is a permanent regulation through all your generations, no matter where you live. It will be for you a **Shabbat of complete rest**⁹, and you are to **deny yourselves**; you are to rest on your Shabbat **from evening the ninth day of the month until the following evening**.

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:26-32

⁸ 4th Annual Shabbat

⁹ 5th Annual Shabbat

Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot)

ADONAI said to Moshe, “Tell the people of Isra’el, ‘On the fifteenth day of this seventh month is the **feast of Sukkot** for seven days to ADONAI. On the **first day** there is to be a **holy convocation**¹⁰; do not do any kind of ordinary work. For **seven days** you are to bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI; on the eighth day you are to have a holy convocation and bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI; it is a day of public assembly; do not do any kind of ordinary work....

...” ‘But on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the produce of the land, you are to observe the festival of ADONAI seven days; the **first day** is to be a **complete rest** and the eighth day is to be a complete rest.

On the **first day** you are to take choice fruit, palm fronds, thick branches and river-willows, and celebrate in the presence of ADONAI your G-d for **seven days**.

You are to observe it as a **feast to ADONAI seven days** in the year; it is a permanent regulation, generation after generation; keep it in the seventh month.

You are to live in sukkot for seven days; **every citizen of Isra’el** is to live in a sukkah. So that generation after generation of you will know that I made the people of Isra’el live in sukkot when I brought them out of the land of Egypt; I am ADONAI your G-d.’ “

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:33-43

Eighth Day

“ ‘But on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the produce of the land, you are to observe the festival of ADONAI seven days; the first day is to be a complete rest and the **eighth day**¹¹ is to be a complete rest.

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:39

¹⁰ 6th Annual Shabbat

¹¹ 7th Annual Shabbat

Annual Shabbatot



New Moon Crescent

“These are the designated times of ADONAI that you are to proclaim as holy convocations and bring an offering made by fire to ADONAI

– a burnt offering, a grain offering, a sacrifice and drink offerings, each on its own day

– besides the Shabbats of ADONAI, your gifts, all your vows and all your voluntary offerings that you give to ADONAI.”

Vayikra (Leviticus) 23:37-38

It should not come as any surprise now to learn now that there are extra days in ADONAI Elohim’s yearly calendar which are also deemed as ‘a day of rest’ – a **Shabbat**. The plural for the Hebrew word ‘Shabbat’ is ‘Shabbatot’.

The biblical New Year the 1st Month (Aviv/Nisan) begins with the sighting of the new moon crescent after sunset from Isra’el.

Annual Shabbatot Fact File

- The Annual Shabbatot are to be treated as if they were a ‘weekly Shabbat’
- These Annual Shabbatot can fall on any day of the week.
- Unlike the Weekly Shabbat you are allowed to prepare meals.

“On the first day you shall hold a solemn assembly and on the seventh day a solemn assembly; no work shall be done on those days; only what everyone must eat, that alone may be prepared by you.”

Sh’mot (Exodus) 12:16

Where the Annual Shabbat Fall in the Appointed Times

Close study of the above scriptures reveals when each of the Annual Shabbatot takes place:

Appointed Times	Date	Annual Shabbat	Duration of Festival	Notes
Spring				
Pesach (Passover)	14 Aviv		Twilight hours until complete dark at the end of 14	In ancient times the Passover lamb was slain in the afternoon of the 14 NOT a Shabbat
1st Day Unleavened Bread	15 Aviv	1 st Annual Shabbat	7 days	Unleavened Bread is a week (7 days) long festival
First Sheaf (First Fruits) aka ‘The Omer’				This is the day that the Wave Offering of barley is made by the High Priest. NOT a Shabbat
7th Day Unleavened Bread	21 Aviv	2 nd Annual Shabbat		Concludes the Feast of Unleavened Bread
Shavu’ot (Pentecost)		3 rd Annual Shabbat	1 day	Falls 50 days after the Wave Offering (Counting of the Omer)
Autumn (Fall)				
Yom Teru’ah (Trumpets)	1 st day of the 7 th month	4 th Annual Shabbat	1 day	
Yom Kippur (Atonement)	10 th day of the 7 th month	5 th Annual Shabbat		Day of Fasting
Sukkot (Tabernacles)	15 th day of the 7 th month	6 th Annual Shabbat	7 days	
Eighth Day	22 day of the 7 th month	7 th Annual Shabbat	1 day	

Overview Seven Annual Shabbatot

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Biblical Reference</i>
First Annual Shabbat	The first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread	The 15th of Aviv.	Lev. 23:7
Second Annual Shabbat	The seventh day of Unleavened Bread	The 21st of Aviv	Lev. 23:9
Third Annual Shabbat	Shavuot (Feast of Weeks/Pentecost)	Date determined from when the Wave Offering was made by the High Priest	Lev. 23:15-21; Acts 2
The Fourth Annual Shabbat	The Feast of Trumpets	The first day of the 7th month	Lev. 23:24
The Fifth Annual Shabbat	The Day of Atonement	The 10th day of the 7th month	Lev. 23:27-32
The Sixth Annual Shabbat	Sukkot	The 15th day of the 7th month	Lev. 23:34-35
The Seventh Annual Shabbat	The Eighth Day	The 22nd day of the 7th month	Lev. 23:39

A Sign for All Times of ADONAI Elohim's Set Apart People

The people of Isra'el are to keep the Shabbat, to observe Shabbat through all their generations as a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the people of Isra'el forever; for in six days ADONAI made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day he stopped working and rested.' "

Sh'mot (Exodus) 31:16-17

As with the weekly Shabbat, the Annual Shabbat function as both a **Mark of Separation** and a **Sign of Recognition**.

They serve as a Mark of Separation:

Keep my decrees and follow them. I am ADONAI, who sets you apart as holy.

Leviticus 20:8

The people of Isra'el were given Shabbat along with the additional Appointed Feasts of ADONAI Elohim to separate Elohim's People from the rest of humankind.

It is an indication to all other peoples that His Called-out ones share a unique relationship with their Elohim and a special bond with His Family of Shabbat keeping people.

They function as a Sign of Recognition:

In keeping these holy convocations sacred we show that we are His people. His word declares Shabbat to be a sign by which to distinguish the commandment-keeping people.

It is ADONAI who makes His people holy. This knowledge is saving knowledge. **Exodus 31:13** tell us that Shabbat is a sign of the covenant between ADONAI and His people throughout all of their generations for the purpose that

*"..... You are to observe my Shabbats.....
So that **you will know** that I am ADONAI,
who sets **you apart for me.**"*

All translations are taken from the Complete Jewish Bible by D H Stern