

Mennonite Brethren: When Was the Savior Born?

Most scholars agree that Yeshua was born somewhere around the time of the Feasts of YHWH in the fall. One indication of this relates to the climate in Yisrael. When Luke wrote: [And in the same country there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night](#), it implies that it was in the fall of the year. In Israel the climate in the winter is severe enough to require sheep to be sheltered; but in the fall mild enough for sheep to be in pastures.

A very convincing proof that Yeshua was born in the fall comes from dating the birth of John the Baptist. From 1 Chronicles 24, it is possible to know when his father Zekaryah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abiyah, was serving in the temple. We know that six months later the angel Gabriel visited Miriam (Mary) and she became pregnant by the Spirit of Elohim. This information establishes the seventh month of the Mosaic calendar as the time of the birth of Yeshua, or September/October in the Roman calendar.

We also have some amazing information from the constellation of the stars. Historians and scientists are often perplexed to find that every civilization, no matter how far back in time they go, has always referred to the same constellation of the stars. As amazing as it may be, the gospel message is clearly seen in the Zodiac, beginning with Virgo, the virgin, and ending with Leo, the King. (Read well known Radio Bible Teacher Dr D. James Kennedy's book *The Real Meaning of the Zodiac* for example.) The testimony from the heavens is a prominent feature in the recording of Yeshua's birth in the Scriptures:

[And Yeshua having been born in Beyth Lehem of Yehudah in the days of Herodes the sovereign, see, Magi from the East came to Yerushalayim saying, "Where is He who has been born Sovereign of the Yehudim? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to do reverence to Him."](#) (Matt. 2:1-2)

What the Magi or wise men (meaning "praisers of Yah") meant by, ["we have seen His star in the East,"](#) is, that on September 12, in the year 3 BC, the star Regiel (Melech) and the planet Jupiter (Zedek) made a helical rising together as one star, and appeared as Melchizedek between the feet of Leo (Yahudah). That day, September 12, 3 BC, was also the day of the Feast of Trumpets in the Mosaic calendar. However, something even more amazing happened on that same night and is referred to in Revelation 12:1-2, 5:

[And a great sign was seen in the heaven: a woman clad with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. And being pregnant, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.... And she bore a male child who was to shepherd all the nations with a rod of iron.](#)

That night on the Feast of Trumpets, 3 BC, between 6:18 and 7:39 in the evening, local time in Yerushalayim, Virgo was [clothed with the sun](#) with the new

[moon under her feet](#). That year the sun was in the sign of Virgo for twenty days, between August 27 and September 15, and for about an hour and a half during that time, the moon was under the feet of Virgo. This was most likely the exact time that Miriam [cried out in labor](#), just as described in Revelation 12. Let no one ever think that YHWH does not control the heavens or that He cannot coordinate what is happening in the heavens with what is happening on the earth. How great is our Elohim!

The Festival of Hanukkah is not found in the Torah (or Mosaic Law), but was foretold by the prophets. Moreover, the Festival is recognized in the Gospel of John (10:22) and by Yeshua Himself. Some translations refer to Hanukkah as the Feast of Dedication:

[At that time the Hanukkah came to be in Yerushalayim, and it was winter. And Yeshua was walking in the Set-apart Place, in the Temple of Shelomoh \(Solomon\).](#)

Hanukkah is a winter festival that falls in early to mid December. This eight-day festival commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple and is associated with miracles, for when only one bottle of oil was found for the lamp stand, it lasted the entire eight days. A common expression among Jewish people during Hanukkah is: "A miracle happened there!" And indeed a miracle did happen. For if we count back exactly nine months from the Feast of Trumpets or Yeshua's birth date, we arrive at the date of his conception sometime around the Festival of Hanukkah in mid-December. Today many believers in Yeshua celebrate His conception as an important part of Hanukkah.

Brethren, we are never told in the Scriptures that we are to worship on Yeshua's day of conception, birth or death, However, we are told that the Feasts of YHWH are to be kept forever, through all our generations. The Feast days tell us of His great plan of salvation for Yisrael and all the earth. The Feasts of YHWH encompass Yeshua's conception in Hanukkah, His birth on the day of Trumpets, His death on Passover, and so on. Nor do the Scriptures explicitly mention the date of Yeshua's conception or birth. But we are given the exact days, according to the Hebraic calendar, when the Feasts of YHWH are to be held. They are the commanded days of worship.

In Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 43:8 YHWH rebukes His people for their detestable practices, placing their threshold beside His threshold and their doorposts beside His doorposts. Our Father certainly does not want us to improve on what He has already established, inventing our own feasts beside His appointed times and seasons. What right do we have to change His Name, His birth date and His Feast Times. What right do we have to distance the King of the Yahudah from His people and celebrate Him in a way that is contrary to Scripture and detestable to Him? There are no words of rebuke too strong for the abominable practices that we have inherited from our fathers and forefathers.

Brethren, return again to YHWH, the Shepard and Guardian of your souls.

Shalom