

The International Dateline

And other oddities of the pagan, man-made calendar.

The International Date Line is an invisible line that divides one day from the next on planet earth. It has been brought to my attention that a study on the International Date Line would be of interest in helping folks to better understand the Creation Calendar. I have accepted that challenge.

Let's get the absurdities out of the way first. Did YHVH, the Creator of the Universe, make this date line for us and place it in the middle of the Pacific Ocean? Can you find a passage in Scripture to support this idea? **IF** YHVH made this line in the ocean, do you think He would permit mere mortal man to move it around at his discretion?

The answers to these three questions are no, no, and no, yet clearly there is day and night on our round planet, and just as clearly, days, weeks, months and years have to begin SOMEWHERE. And given a moments thought, these segments of time would not be able to begin at the same moment in time for everyone on earth. So man, in his infinite wisdom (that was a joke, OK?), thought it best to put a date line where it would affect the least number of people, and thus selected the middle of the largest body of water on the planet. Should you wonder why they were concerned—if you and I were on a large boat crossing the Pacific, your cabin fore (in the front) and mine aft (in the back), it is possible for you and I to be living in two separate days on the calendar while on the SAME ship. Can you imagine the difficulties that would arise if a city, state or nation were so divided? Have you noticed that the time zone lines are a meandering mess at times? That is because the powers-that-be didn't want to bisect a city with a time zone so they selected the most remote areas. As difficult as it would be if the clock in your next door neighbor's house was an hour different than yours, can you imagine if he was on a different day than you?

So placing these lines in order to affect the least number of people seems like a good idea, right? Question: Can man manipulate time? When and by whom was he given authority to manipulate time? Understanding when a day, week, month or year begins, or the difference between night and day is not a manipulation of time, it is an acknowledgment of the passage of time. YHVH and He alone created time and established its limits. He also told us how to tell or divide time...

And Elohim said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

*And Elohim made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: He made the stars also. **Genesis 1:14-16***

The day and year are named in this passage but the week and month are implied IF you recognize time as understood in Scripture. Of course the sun regulates the day as it was created to divide day from night....

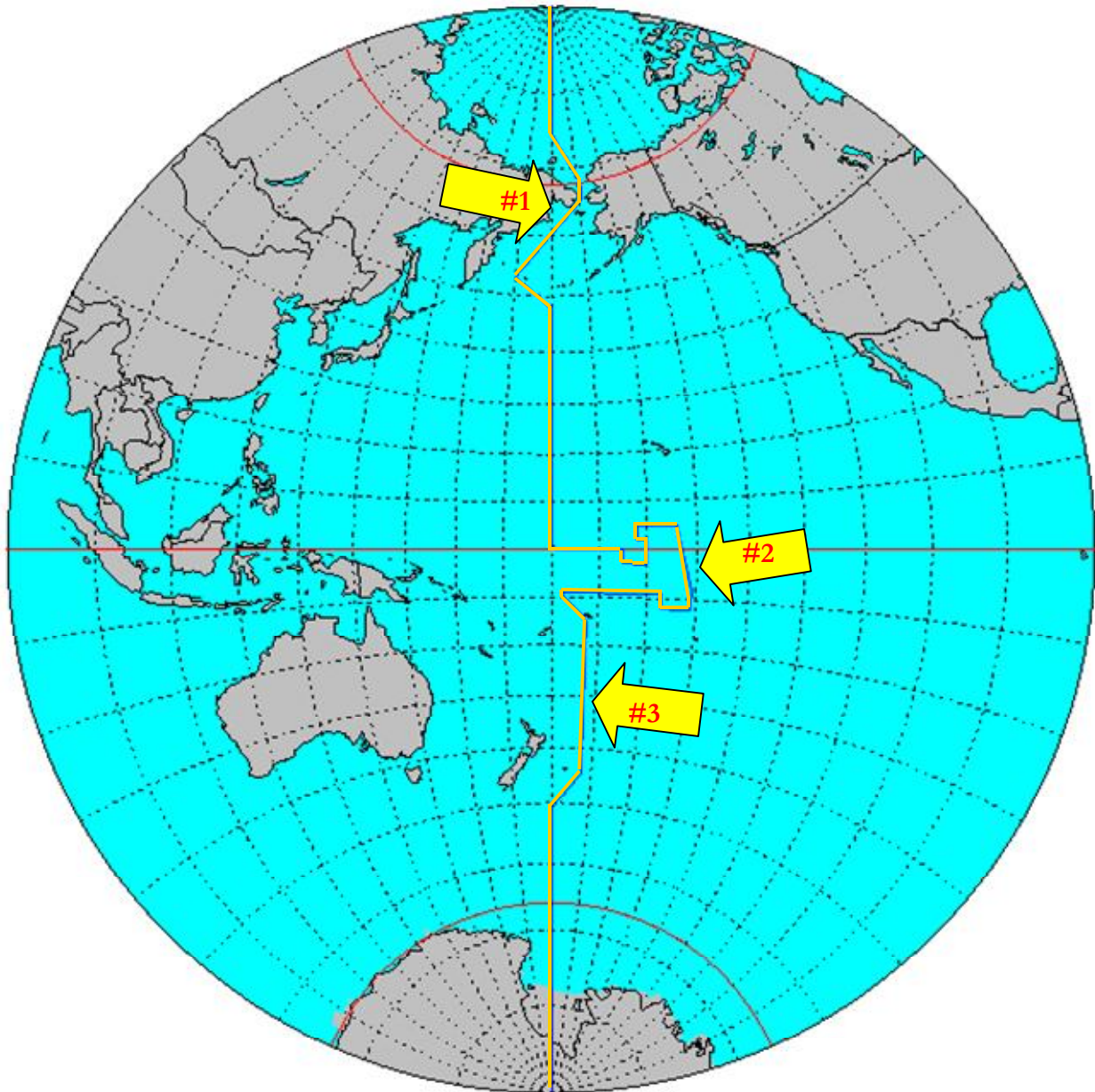
And Elohim said, Let there be light: and there was light.

And Elohim saw the light, that it was good: and Elohim divided the light from the darkness.

*And Elohim called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. **Genesis 1:3-5***

Do you see any room in either of these passages for man to manipulate time or date lines?

Please examine the illustration below. The original date line was a fairly straight line extending north and south along the 180° meridian line of longitude, roughly through the middle of the Pacific Ocean. This line is on the opposite side of the globe from 0° and Greenwich Mean Time.



Please note the many peculiarities that are now seen in International Date Line (IDL) represented by the yellow line. There have been major changes to the IDL over the years; three are pointed out by the arrows. The history behind these changes will show you the arbitrary nature of the man-made date line. The powers-that-be say that the International Date Line is NOT arbitrary, but necessary. However, the IDL can be and has been moved by popular vote and by governmental decree. It is therefore an arbitrary, artificial, man-made line to divide the days. And without this man-made line the Gregorian calendar blows up. Here now is the story behind the moving the date line in the three places above, notated by the arrows.

#1. In 1867 Alaska was sold to the United States for what by many was then considered to be the absurdly large sum of \$7,200,000. The change to the American mode of time reckoning was put into effect by decreeing that Friday, October 6, 1867 (this change affected only Alaska as it was entering into the calendar observed by the USA) would be followed by Friday, October 18, 1867— a shift of 12 days due to the change to the Gregorian calendar, plus one day on account of the day change and minus one day for the relocation of the date line to the waters of the Bering Strait. So Alaska endured two Fridays in a row in the fall of 1867. Talk about arbitrary!

If you are scratching your head about that, let me explain. In 1867, the Russian Orthodox Church observed the Julian calendar, not the Gregorian. In fact, Russia did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1918. If you will remember, from 46 B.C., when the Julian calendar was “invented” until 1582 when the Pope Gregory “invented” the Gregorian calendar to correct for the errors of the Julian calendar (which had no leap days), it was determined that by 1582 the Julian calendar was off by 10 days. Upon implementation of the Gregorian calendar in 1582, nearly the entire world (those still affected by the Roman Empire) saw Thursday, October 4 followed by Friday, October 15.

At the much later date of 1867, when the USA purchased Alaska from Russia, Alaska had to have a calendar change to that of its new “owner”. The 12 days were due to the differences between the Julian and Gregorian calendars. Plus one day was because the next day was another day, MINUS one day because they MOVED the line so none of the Alaskan Aleutian islands would be in the Russian time zone, thus the zig, then the zag in the date line. See arrow #1 above.

#2. The most recent major adjustment of the International Date Line was announced in 1994 by the government of Kiribati. Spread across an ocean area of nearly two million square miles, Kiribati consists of some 33 small atolls with a total surface area of only 280 square miles. This is less than 1/3 of the size of Jacksonville, Florida.

As a British colony, Kiribati was centered in the Gilbert Islands, just west of the International Date Line. Upon independence in 1979, the new republic acquired the Phoenix and Line Islands from the United States and the country found itself straddling the date line. Government offices on opposite sides of the line could only communicate on the four days of the week when both sides experienced weekdays simultaneously. For many years the International Date Line that bisected the island republic into two halves had been viewed as an annoying economic nuisance.

The western part of the republic was always 24 hours ahead of its eastern part, and there were only four days in each week when official business could be conducted between both parts. To put an end to this situation, Teburoro Tito, the president of Kiribati, announced that on 1 January 1995 the International Date Line would henceforth run along the many-cornered eastern boundary of the republic. Thus the convoluted line attested to by arrow #2 above. One curious oddity, even though Hawaii and the islands of Kiribati that are east of the IDL are in the same time zone, they are a day apart on the calendar.

#3. In Tonga today, the local Seventh-day Adventist church worships on Sunday, because when a change was made to the line (evidently by the King of Tonga), Saturday became Sunday. At this time, I have been unable to determine the date that this change took place. If anyone finds or knows this date please let me know. At any rate, this shows the ridiculousness of drawing a line of demarcation between our days. This is not the way YHWH established time in His Word.

An interesting test

You and I meet at a certain place. We immediately make peace and become fast friends. You introduce me to the Seventh day Sabbath (based on a repeating seven day calendar) which I accept. You are a farmer, I am a seafaring nomad. You and your family bid me farewell and I embark on a journey around the world.

I travel westward and circumnavigate the globe. When I return to you and your people I throw my arms around your neck and say, "Happy Sabbath Brother." You look perplexed and say, "Friend, you are mistaken, the Sabbath is tomorrow."

What happened? If I counted 1-2-3-4-5-6-7 the same as you, I would STILL be a day ahead of you. If I had traveled eastward around the globe I would be a day late for the Sabbath. Whether it takes a year for you and I to meet again or 1000 years and my descendants finish my journey and return to your descendants, to travel around the earth, that day will be gained or lost because one is either traveling toward the rising sun or toward the setting sun, while the person who does not move remains the same.

This problem does not exist with the Creation Calendar. The lights in the heavens reset the days, weeks, months and years. Regardless of our position on earth, we would each "observe" (only if we were looking) the same set of sun downs, sunrises, phases of the moon and conjunctions. This is why we can keep the Sabbath without having to know when the sun rises and sets in Israel. If we can keep the Sabbath locally, we can keep the feasts by a local sighting of the luminaries. The luminaries in the heavens are a local phenomena. We see them reset wherever we are. There is no need for a set time line. If we are several hundred miles apart, but under the same sun, it is generally going to be the same day for each of us. The Father's timeline is a roving one, established for His purpose, not man's convenience.

Do you think I'm making this little test up? I assure you, I did not. Due to the round earth and the sun circumnavigating the earth from east to west, one who travels in an easterly direction will gain time, and one who travels in a westerly direction will lose time. This fact became self-evident in the days of the early mariners who discovered that when they circled the world, they either gained or lost a day.

What appears to be the **earliest reference to the circumnavigator's paradox** is found in the works of the Syrian prince and geographer-historian Isma'il ibn 'Ali ibn Mahmud ibn Muhammad ibn Taqi ad-Din 'Umar ibn Shahanshah ibn Ayyub al Malik al Mu'ayyad 'Imad ad-Din Abu 'l-Fida (c. 1273 - 1331). In his *Taqwin al-Buldan* ("The ??? of the Lands"), Abu 'l-Fida described how **a traveller, depending on his direction of travel, would either lose or gain a day at the completion of his circumnavigation** [Rudolf Wolf, *Handbuch der Astronomie, Ihrer Geschichte und Literatur* (Zurich, 1890), vol 1, pp. 465-466].

It was Antonio Pigafetta (c. 1490 - c. 1535), the Italian chronicler of the first circumnavigation of the world by the Portuguese explorer and navigator **Ferdinand Magellan (c. 1480 - 1521), who first mentioned a peculiar incident that had occurred during the voyage: somewhere a whole day had apparently been 'lost'**. When Pigafetta, one of the eighteen survivors of the original 270-odd crew members who had set out from the Spanish port of San Lúcar de Barrameda in September 1519, nearly three years later sighted the Cape Verde Islands, he noted:

“On Wednesday, the ninth of July [1522], we arrived at one these islands named Santiago, where we immediately sent the boat ashore to obtain provisions. [...] And we charged our men in the boat that, when they were ashore, they should ask what day it was. They were answered that to the Portuguese it was Thursday, at which they were much amazed, for to us it was Wednesday, and we knew not how we had fallen into error. For every day I, being always in health, had written down each day without any intermission. But, as we were told since, there had been no mistake, for we had always made our voyage westward and had returned to the same place of departure as the sun, wherefore the long voyage had brought the gain of twenty-four hours, as is clearly seen.”

This phenomenon caused great excitement after Magellan’s voyage, to the extent that a special delegation was sent to the pope to explain this temporal oddity to him. Later, in 1580 and 1594, respectively, the English explorer Sir Francis Drake and Venetian trader, Francesco Carletti encountered and documented the same phenomenon.

Here is a compilation (in the blue font) of what the internet has to offer about the IDL.

International Date Line

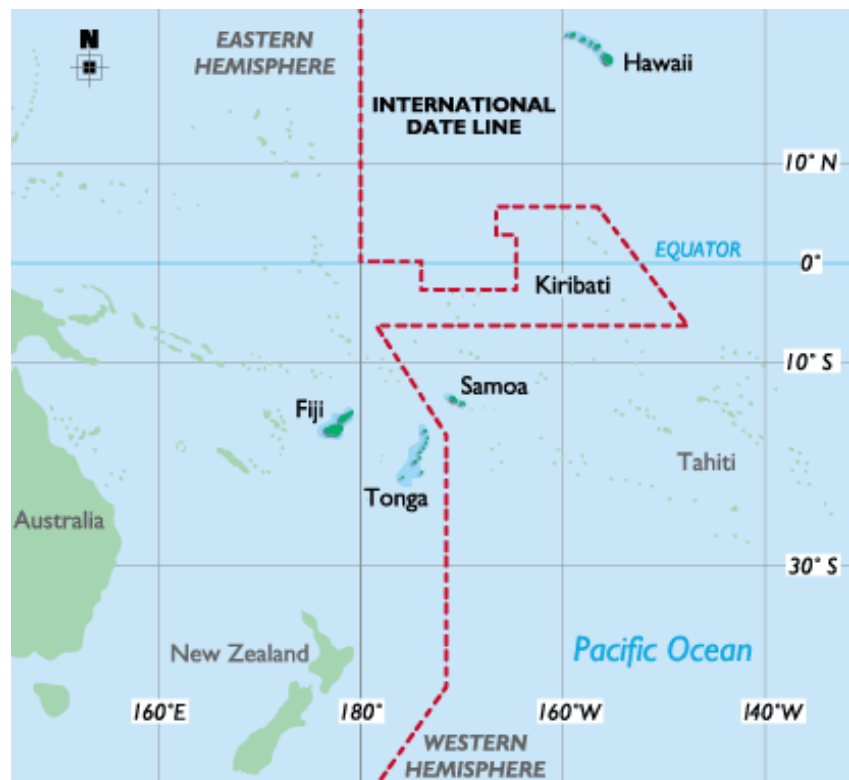
The 180° meridian is ideal for serving as the International Date Line (see illustration). It is exactly halfway around the world from the zero, or Greenwich, meridian, from which all longitude is reckoned. It also falls almost in the center of the largest ocean; consequently there is the least amount of inconvenience as regards population centers.

The International Date Line sits on the 180° line of longitude in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, and is the imaginary line that separates two consecutive calendar days.

It is not a perfectly straight line and has been moved slightly over the years [slightly?] to accommodate needs of varied countries in the Pacific Ocean. Note how it bends to include all of Kiribati in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Immediately to the left of the International Date Line (*the date*) is always one day ahead of the date (*or day*) **immediately to the right** of the International Date Line in the *Western Hemisphere*.

On the time and date codes shown at right, note that **Tonga** and **Samoa** have the same time but are 1 day apart as Samoa is in the Western Hemisphere, on the opposite side of the IDL from Tonga.



As you travel further west, note that the time in **Fiji** is 1 hour earlier than Tonga (see illustration above). You will also notice that **Hawaii**, further to the east of Samoa, is 1 hour later in time. While the world is divided into 24 time zones, there has to be a place where there is a difference in days, somewhere the day truly “starts” on the planet. Thus, the 180° line of longitude, exactly one-half way around the planet from Greenwich, England and 0° longitude is approximately where the International Date Line is located. So, travel east across the IDL results in a day, or 24 hours being subtracted. Traveling west across the IDL results in a day being added.

De Facto and De Jure date lines

The IDL drawn on the map on this page and all other maps is now and always has been an artificial construct of cartographers—it is de facto. No international organization nor any treaty between nations has fixed the ‘straight line’ segments and their junctions. All nations unilaterally determine their standard time zones, which are applicable only on land and adjacent territorial waters. These national zones do not extend into international waters. Indeed, the 1884 International Meridian Conference explicitly refused to propose or agree to any time zones, despite ‘common knowledge’ that they did, stating that they were outside its purview. The conference resolved that the Universal Day (midnight-to-midnight Greenwich Mean Time), which it did agree to, “shall not interfere with the use of local or standard time where desirable.”

The nautical date line is a de jure construction determined by international agreement. It is the result of the 1917 Anglo-French Conference on Time-keeping at Sea, which recommended that all ships, both military and civilian, adopt hourly standard time zones on the high seas. The United States, for example, adopted its recommendation for US military and merchant marine ships in 1920. This date line is implied but not explicitly drawn on time zone maps. It follows the 180° meridian except where it is interrupted by territorial waters adjacent to land, forming gaps—it is a pole-to-pole dashed line. Ships must adopt the standard time of a country if they are within its territorial waters, but must revert to international time zones (15° wide pole-to-pole gores) as soon as they leave its territorial waters. In reality they use these time zones only for radio communication etc. Internally in the ship, e.g. for work and meal hours they use a suitable time zone of their own wish. The 15° gore that is offset from GMT or UT1 (not UTC) by twelve hours is bisected by the nautical date line into two 7.5° gores that differ from GMT by ±12 hours.

Other Historical Alterations

The Philippines, as part of the Viceroyalty of New Spain, long had its most important communication with Acapulco in Mexico, and was accordingly placed on the east side of the date line, despite being at the western edge of the Pacific Ocean. 00:01 Tuesday in London was 17:21 Monday in Acapulco and about 08:05 Monday in Manila. During the 1840s, trade interests turned to China, the Dutch East Indies and adjacent areas, and the Philippines was changed to the west side of the date line. Monday, 30 December 1844 (ending up as a 365-day year, despite being a leap year) was followed by Wednesday, 1 January 1845.

Samoa changed in 1892, eight years following the international conference that would result in de facto development of the Date Line. The king was persuaded by American traders to adopt the American date, being three hours behind California, to replace the former Asian date, being four hours ahead of Japan. The change was made at the end of the day, Monday, 4 July 1892, so that year, there were 367 days, including two occurrences of Monday, July 4.

Time (without any units of measure) **may be an abstract concept**, but once established as a unit of measure, it is no longer abstract; it is science (whether good or bad, accurate or inaccurate). Pagan man's time is abstract, based on the machinations and calculations of their own intellect, not Scripture. Time in Scripture is no more abstract than you are. The sun and moon are there in living color, having kept time since Creation. If anything, you and I are more abstract than the sun and moon. They were created for signs, seasons, days and years. That's it. They have not deviated from these tasks since Creation other than the dent Yah put in His clock altering it slightly. You and I are all over the map, hot then cold running emotions, happy then dissatisfied with work, passionate then indifferent about new ideas or truth that cross our path, helpful then a burden to our parents or children. There is no limit to what you and I are capable of in any given circumstance. I can SEE you just like I can SEE the sun and moon. The sun and moon have VERY few functions yet do their tasks every day of the year without deviation, and mostly without observation or concern.

I'm not asking you to reckon time man's way which is abstract (and in error), I'm asking you to reckon time the way it is reckoned in Scripture (using all the evidence available), then going outside and looking up to see if it is so. It IS so, therefore it is not abstract; it is concrete.

Gregorian Calendar not even Solar

Solar Day? The Gregorian calendar (c. 1582) is a man-made invention, and while I agree it tracks the orbit of the sun VERY well, it is not the calendar established in **Genesis 1:14**. And I would argue that the Gregorian calendar although called a solar calendar is not even that. The entire thing is a contrived, convoluted mess. The Gregorian days are midnight to midnight, but the sun is not out at midnight. So much for a solar day.

In Scripture, the day begins at dawn, and ends at night. See **Genesis 1:3-5**. The light was called day, the DARKNESS was called night. The sun divides the two. If the day begins at dark when night begins, then the sun is not doing its job (**Genesis 1:18**). Scripture also says woe to those who call day night and night day, **Isaiah 5:20-21**. See also **Job 17:10-12**

Solar Week? The Gregorian calendar weeks are not linked to the sun either. Can you go outside, look at the sun and tell me whether it is a Sabbath or satyrday? Nope. So much for a solar week.

The weeks in Scripture are not seven days in an unbroken cycle. The Sabbaths are lunar events, falling on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th days of the month, EVERY month. In each month there are 4 weeks and these weeks are separated from the weeks of the next month by new moon days which are not counted as week days.

Solar Month? This is quite laughable. Are the Gregorian months linked to any solar cycle, or even lunar for that matter? Nope. They are completely arbitrary. So much for a solar month.

The months in Scripture are lunar. The word month means moon. In fact the English word "month" is from an older time when this was a recognized fact. The word month comes from moonth, leaving a lunar legacy on a modern segment of time that is now completely divorced from its original lunar origin.

Solar Year? The Gregorian year begins January 1, in the dead of winter. Is there any significant solar event to announce January 1 as the beginning of a new year? Nope. So much for a solar year.

The year in Scripture is from spring to spring. The month of Abib (which means **green ears**) is the title of the first month of the Hebrew year signifying the green ears of barley that are harvested in the middle of the first month of the year. Sure, the Spring Equinox is the sign in the cosmos that spring has begun and this is a solar measurement, but in Scripture, the new moon of the first lunar month was also in the equation, so the year in Scripture is a lunar event, see **Exodus 12:1-2**.

*And YHVH spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.*

The word month appears three times in this passage; each one translated from the Hebrew word, “chodesh” which means rebuilding (of the moon). So New Year’s day from a Scriptural standpoint is a lunar event.

*And YHVH spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
This “rebuilding” shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first “rebuilding” of the year to you.*

In Hebrew “new moon” is Chodesh (Strong’s H-2320), “moon” is Yawrayakh (H-3394). Chodesh is a phase of the moon. The moon is visible for all phases except the dark days. What visible part might indicate that a particular month is the first month of the year, the “chodesh” that YHVH was pointing out to Moses and Aaron? Here is what it looks like EVERY year...



It is a flat, bowl shaped crescent moon. This crescent is seen immediately after the new moon nearest the spring equinox. It only looks like this at the beginning of the year, the month of Abib. Look up, then look down. If the moon looks like this, the barley will be there. The months just before and just after are tipped to the left (in the northern hemisphere). The flattest one is the Abib moon.

Unless the signal for the new year is distinctly different, then there is no way to

look up (as commanded in **Genesis 1:14**) and determine the beginning of (the first month of) new year. What have I taken out of context? Are not the lights in the heavens to be for signals, beacons to announce the days, Sabbaths, festivals, and years? The Sabbath is a sign (using the same word found in **Genesis 1:14**). See **Exodus 31:13**, **Ezekiel 20:12**, and **20:20**.

The New moons were a distinctly different segment of time, **Ezekiel 46:1**, separate from both the SIX working days and the weekly Sabbath.

Apply **Isaiah 28:9-10**. When you do that, you will discover that the lights in the heavens are signals or beacons that tell time. They cannot tell time unless you LOOK at the clock, in this case, the luminaries in the heavens.

The Gregorian calendar is a fraud, a complete lying, fraud, claiming to be a solar calendar when in reality it is based solely upon the vain machinations of carnal men.

Some of the months in Scripture have names. These are the pagan names that Israel obtained while in Babylon. Originally, the days of the week and the months ALL had ordinal numbers, not names. The reason was because the Father knew full well that man would name them after the pagan gods that were worshipped on those particular days.

As proof that what I'm saying is true, Tammuz is the "name" of the 4th "Jewish" month. You remember Tammuz don't you? (**Ezekiel 8:14**). If you want to know the names the Jews gave their months (as they are known today), they are Nisan, Iyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Ab, Elul, Tishri, Heshvan, Chislev, Tebeth, Shebat and Adar (when there was a 13th month, it was called Veadar - meaning second Adar). However, I highly recommend that you not put these to memory as they were not given by YHVH and will just become another tradition of man that you will have to unlearn. The Torah says...

*And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth. **Exodus 23:13***

See also **Joshua 23:7** and **Psalms 16:4**. I write these names with fear and trembling, but do so hoping to educate another Israelite of their duty to YHVH.

The Gregorian calendar is also rife with the names of pagan gods...

sunday	= sun god
monday	= moon goddess
tuesday	= tiu, the Norse god of war
wednesday	= woden, the Norse god, (also worshipped as Santa Claus)
thursday	= thor, the Norse god of thunder
friday	= frigga, the Norse goddess and wife of odin (woden)
saturday	= saturn, the Roman god of agriculture

The week presented above replaced the original pagan seven day planetary week, which consisted of satyrday, sun's day, moon's day, mars' day, mercury's day, jupiter's day and venus' day. Satyrday was not the 7th day of the week until 321 A.D. when Rome adopted the pagan seven day planetary week. Satyrday was the first day of the pagan seven day planetary week for its entire history (even during the time Scripture was being written), and was not the seventh day of the week until Constantine venerated the day of the sun, supplanting satyrday with sunday as the first day of the week.

Here are some more names of pagan gods whose names we are not supposed to utter. I am purposely NOT capitalizing these pagan names—as I want to give them no honor whatsoever.

january	janus, the Roman god of doors/gates
march	mars, the Roman god of war
may	maia, the Roman goddess of spring
june	juno, the Roman goddess of marriage
july	Julius Caesar
august	Caesar Augustus

Six of the months are named after pagan deities. If it matters, February is named after the februa, the bloody leather strap that the pagan priests slapped young women with on “Valentine’s Day” to ensure their fertility during the next year.

Is it so hard to simply say the first, third or ninth month? That is what Israel originally did. Do we have to have a name to hang on the months? No. It is only tradition or force of habit that we have and use names today.

There is no date line with the Creation Calendar, and if there is, it is floating. When the sun rises for me, the day begins. When that same sun rises for the Hawaiians, the same day begins for them. Later, when the same sun rises in Japan, the same day begins for them. The difference is that if you look at the moon at sunset for the first two weeks of the month and at dawn the last two weeks, the moon will tell you what day it is. The waxing and waning gibbous moons announce the work days of the week, the quarter phase moons announce the weekly Sabbaths. The dark phase (1-2 days after the last Sabbath of the month) are new moon days. The whole world can see the rising and setting of the sun. The issue is-- do they know what it signifies?

The whole world can see the bowl shaped moon that announces the new year, IF they are looking and know what it signifies.

The folks in the general region of the first visible crescent (when it can first be seen) can tell when the first work day will commence. If their neighbors to the north, south, east or west had cloud cover or live in a valley or have tall trees (tall buildings, air pollution or light pollution are a modern obstruction) blocking their view, they should be able to rely upon those who CAN see the signal to go to work, IF they are looking and know what is signified.

The whole world can see the quarter phase moons that announce the weekly Sabbaths, IF they are looking and know what they signify.

Whoever is in charge is in charge of the calendar. The popes are still in charge of the Gregorian calendar. The calendar you observe tells you when to work and when to worship. WHEN you worship tells heaven and the on-looking universe WHO you worship. So getting the day right is THAT important.

The cloud is moving. We need either to follow or be left in the wilderness.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Miller

www.creationcalendar.com.

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