



**DOES THE MOON HAVE ANY
PART IN DEFINING THE
BEGINNING OF THE BIBLICAL
MONTH?**

**THIS IS PART
ONE
OF THREE
PARTS!**





**Is the
Moon
really in
charge
of the
Biblical
Month?**

The Lunar Deception



A Lunatic Authority!

Or are
we
dealing
with
something
much
more
serious?

Jews and the Moon



Job 31:26-28

(New Living Translation)

- Have I looked at the sun shining in the skies, or the moon walking down its silver pathway, **27** and been secretly enticed in my heart to worship them?
28 If so, I should be punished by the judges, for it would mean I had denied the God of heaven.

- Most Christians that know anything about the Scriptures, or Jewish beliefs, do know the Jews follow the moon to calculate their Biblical month.
- Because of this, most make the assumption (and believe) the Biblical month really is based on the moon.

Questions that Need Answers for this Study

1. Where did sun and moon worship really begin?
2. Did this happen somewhere between the generations of Adam and Noah?
3. Do the sun god and moon goddess represent the major “no gods” or are there other more important pagan gods?
4. If the sun god and moon goddess are the dominant pagan gods, which one of the two takes the #1 position?
5. If sacred regard is given to the sun and moon for any reason, is this classed as worship?
6. If the sighting of the sun and moon are part of the worship calendar, is that action regarded as worship?
7. Will this study be able to conclude which is more deceptive? Sun worship, or moon worship?





Job & the Moon ... Was it a Mystery?

- Job lived around the time of Abraham – long before the 12 tribes of Israel, or any Jews.
- At the time of Abraham, Yahuah's people were known as Hebrews.
- This study will begin to examine the history beginning with Adam to Noah.
- Then we will examine the history from Shem to Abraham, words of Job, the Torah commands of Moses, and the Old Testament history of the northern tribes of Israel and the tribe of Judah.
- The mystery will be solved through understanding the history.

Jews & their Moon -


Are we dealing with a Mystery?

Most people believe the Jews (today) are correct in following certain phases of the moon in connection with their feast and festival worship statutes. In fact it is a mystery why their “moon” isn’t even questioned!

This mystery will be solved through:

1. Understanding exactly what happened after the flood (from Shem to Abraham) and when the worship of “other gods” actually became a strong practice among pagans.
2. Understanding the history of Terah, Abraham coming out of Ur of the Chaldees and how they were affected by pagan gods.
3. Understanding that we are to follow the examples of Job and Abraham.
4. Understanding exactly what Moses taught through Torah on the worship of “the created” rather than “the Creator.”
5. Understanding the history of both the northern tribes of Israel before they were scattered, and then the history of Judah from that point onward. What gods were the 12 tribes mesmerized by?
6. Finally, we’ll see what the non-Torah books teach on the “this mysterious moon.” Will it agree with our Jewish friends?





**Yes, we will be picking on
the moon in this study!**

- 1. Out of all the “no gods” what “gods” take supremacy?**
- 2. Would the sun god and the moon goddess be two supreme gods?**
- 3. Out of these two, which “god” earns 1st place?**

Adam, Eve and the Serpent

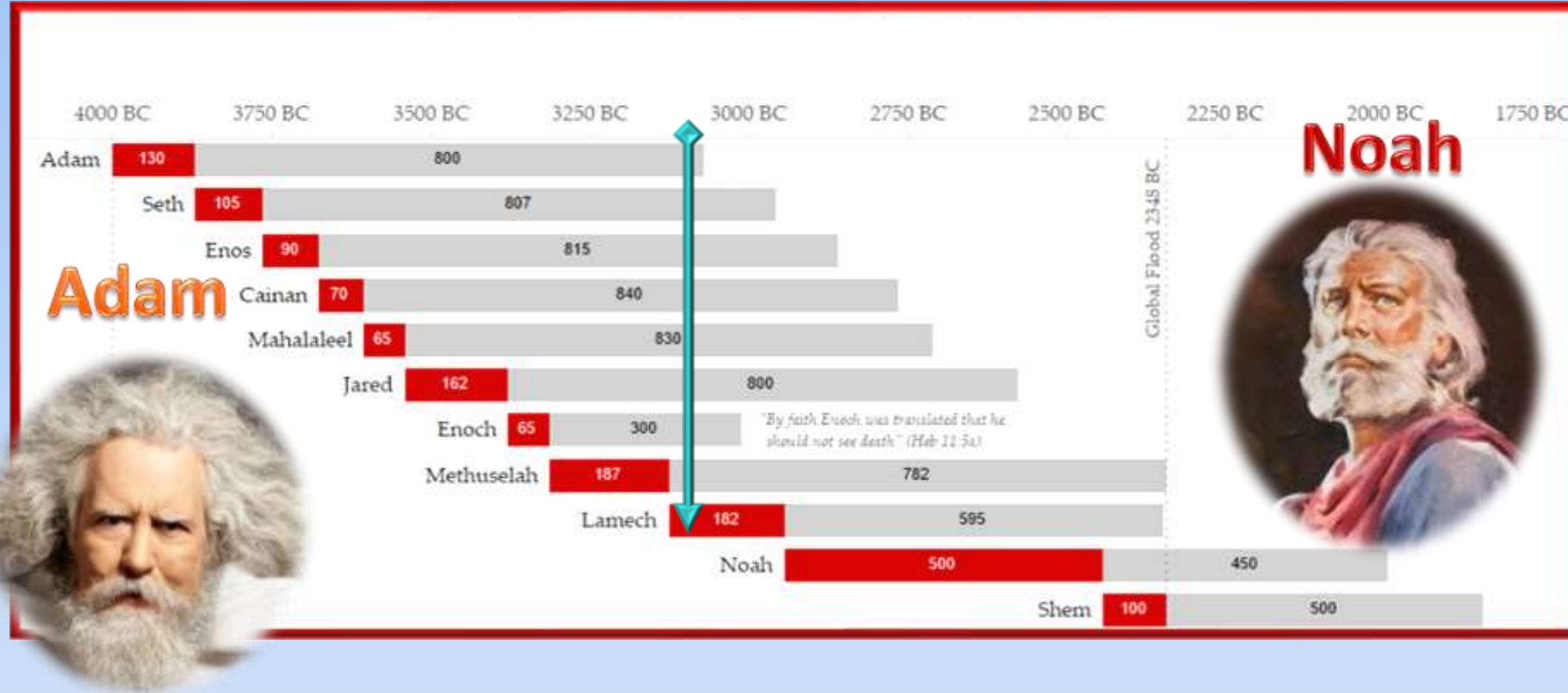


- Satan, as fallen Lucifer, posed as one that knew more than the Creator.
- Therefore, he was posing as a “higher” god, for the purpose of usurping worship.
- The serpent was the first of every “no god.”
- Assuming the two most popular choices of “no gods” are the sun god and moon goddess, which one would Satan most likely be representing in the garden?

Romans 1:25

Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator.

Adam to Noah – worship of other gods?



1. Adam: 930
2. Seth: 921
3. Enos: 905
4. Cainan: 910
5. Mahalaleel: 895
6. Jared: 962
7. Enoch: 365+
8. Methuselah: 969
9. Lamech: 777
10. Noah: 950

Adam had the privilege and responsibility to instruct 8 generations after him to Lamech for almost 1000 years. He would have cautioned as many as possible to stay away from other 'gods.'

Thought to Ponder:

- There is no record in Genesis 1-6 of these righteous patriarchs serving other gods!
- Where did the worship of other gods begin?

“no gods” Before the Flood

- Today there are 1000s of “no gods,” but this wasn’t always so.
- Before the flood, it is now believed pagan gods were actually mortal men. **They were born, waged war, had children, and died, whereupon they were deified as gods by their descendants.** This is not wild speculation. On the contrary, this is a position taken by nearly all historians of antiquity including: Isaac Newton; Augustine of Hippo; Eusebius; Justin Martyr; Josephus, etc.
- It was commonly believed that if a man was good enough, he could become a god too. This carried on down to the Roman Caesars and the Roman Pontiffs today.
- The mythologies were real stories of real men, embellished as gods in their afterlife.



Humans Worshipped as Pagan “gods”

- **Augustine** (~400 AD wrote): “... those deities who are reckoned gods of the higher orders have gone from us into heaven. Ask whose sepulchres are pointed out in Greece.”
- To simplify it, the pagan gods of the higher order were simply men; their graves in Greece.
- They started life as men and were deified and “dressed up” by those who survived them.
- This was a pagan practice common enough to be captured in the pages of scripture.



**Jewish heroes
were not deified.**

Acts 12:21-23 “On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people. They shouted, ‘**This is the voice of a god, not of a man.**’ Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of Yahuah struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.”
(NIV)

Gen 7-9 ~2350 BC - After the Flood

Gen 7-9 | ~2350 BC | Only 8 people were saved at the time of the flood.

- Noah's families grew and became dispersed/estranged from one another in the land of Ur of the Chaldees.
- Ham: idolatry/heathenism changes the glory of Yahuah into images like man, birds, beasts and creeping things. (Rom 1:23)
- Yahuah had to separate a people for himself from the next rising heathen kingdom.
- Shem: preserved the pure knowledge and worship of Yahuah down to his descendants of Terah and sons Haran, Abram and Nahor.

Note: All dates are approximate calculations.

Gen 10:8-9 ~2250 BC – Nimrod/Babel

Gen 10:8-9

~2250 BC

“And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.
9 He was a mighty hunter before YHVH (Yahuah).”

- When Nimrod died, he was the first human that became deified as the “sun god” eventually named Baal.
- His wife, Semiramis, became the “moon goddess” [named Ashtoreth].
- Tammuz, the illegitimate son, became the “false messiah.”
- Many new languages confused the construction on the Tower of Babel.
- Therefore, the “sun god,” “moon goddess” and Tammuz were given many new names with each culture.
- These are the 3 main false deities of the Scriptures.



NIMROD'S SECRET IDENTITY

THE GREATEST CONSPIRACY ON EARTH

ASTROLOGY

HINDUISM

ZOROASTRIANISM

MITHRAISM

CHRISTIANITY

ISLAM

**NIMROD, THE FIRST SUN DEITY, STARTED IT ALL:
WORSHIP OF THE HOST OF HEAVEN**

Names of “no gods”

Culture	Nimrod Lord of Heaven	Semiramis Queen of Heaven	Son False Messiah
Israelites	Baal	Ashtoreth	Tammuz
Phoenicians	El	Astarte	Bacchus
Babylon	Belus	Rhea, Ishtar	Tammuz
Assyria	Ninus	Beltis	Hercules
Greece	Zeus	Aphrodite	Dionysius
Rome	Jupiter	Cybele, Diana	Attis
Egypt	Ra	Isis, Hathor	Osiris, Horus



The Scriptural history of pagan gods begins with Nimrod, the sun god.

Gen 11 ~1925 BC – Terah's Family

- Even though the family of Shem, through Terah, had a knowledge of the proper worship of Yahuah, their worship was corrupted by idolatry, serving other gods in Ur of the Chaldees.
- **Gen 11:31** Terah took Abram, Lot and Sarai "... and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees ..."
- **Josh 24:2** And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith Yahuah Elohim of Israel,
Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.



Other "gods" of Ur

Gen 11:31 ~1925 BC And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.



- Yahuah needed to separate out “a people” for Himself that would not serve “other gods.”
- Haran was a leading settlement with a temple dedicated to moon worship!
- Abram was “called out of Haran” to Canaan. He continued to be righteous and faithful never turning to pagan worship.

Terah Remains in Haran

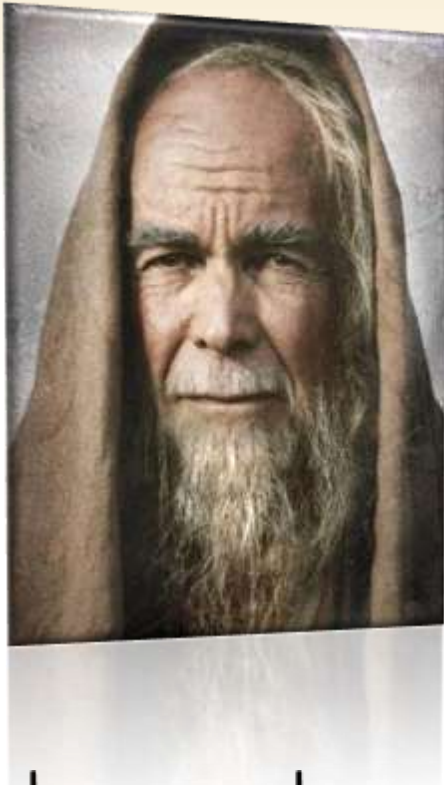
- Terah did not proceed beyond Haran he felt that was “his” land of Canaan.
- Terah (H8646; *Terach*) had a family business of manufacturing idols.
- The main “no gods” of Ur were the “sun god” and “moon goddess.”
- What kind of gods may Terah have been involved with?
- Josh 24:2 declares Terah (and family) served other gods. Out of Ur this would have been gods fashioned after Nimrod and Semiramis.
- Note: Abraham left for Canaan. Laban didn't!



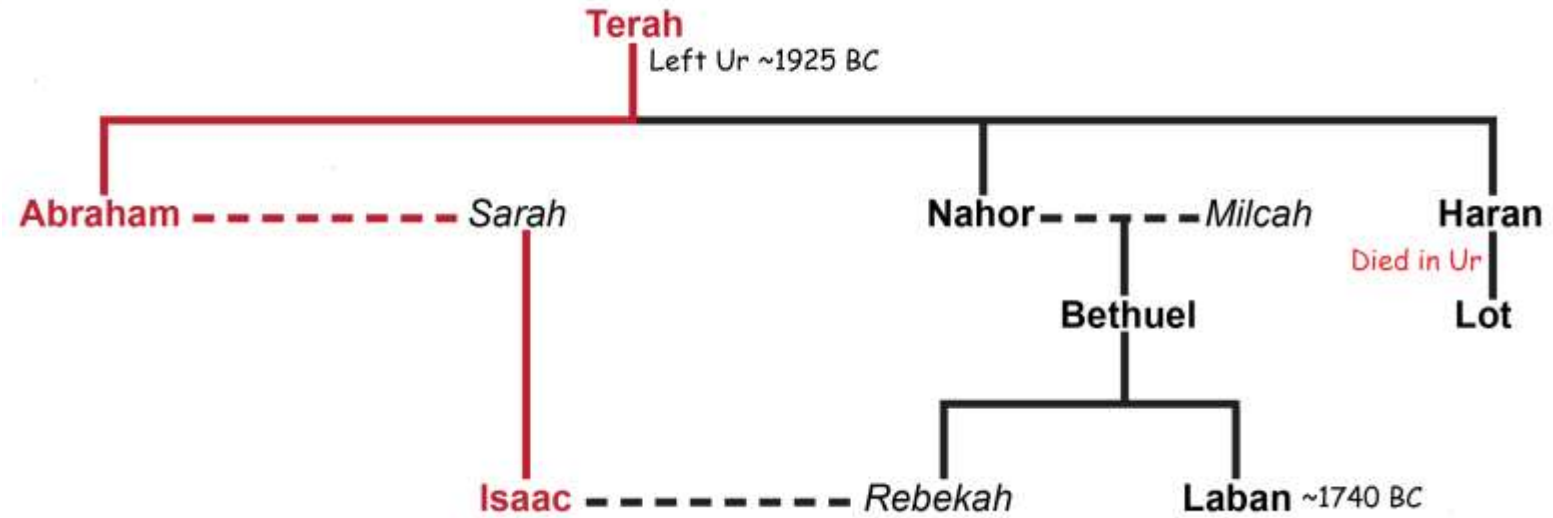
Abram Searches out Canaan (Gen 12:1-4)



- It was in Haran that Abram received the divine call to continue to Canaan (Gen 12:1-4).
- Question: Was Abram an idolater before his call?
- Although Abram was not entirely free from idolatry in his father's house, there is no indication in the Scriptures that idol worship was part of his life.
- **Gen 26:5** Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.
- This may be the reason why Abram was "called out" to Canaan. Lot went with him.
- What about the rest of Terah's family - Nahor?



Laban Remains in Haran



- Laban was born about 1890 BC.
- About 1740 BC Rachel stole Laban's images (Gen 31:19).
- Images and idols were still in Terah's [H8646] family 200 years later.
- images H8655; teraphim; a family idol.

It's time to make the connection between:

"teraphim" images and Great-grandfather "Terah"!



Commentary for “Terah” and “teraphim”

Gen 31:25-35 “Why hast thou stolen my gods?”

- (The Wycliffe Bible Commentary) Here he [Laban] referred to his (teraphim) (v. 30; cf. 19). Evidently Laban was more concerned over losing his images than over losing Jacob's family. His search failed to discover these little "gods."
- (Barnes' Notes) Teraphim; (OT:8655). This word occurs three times in this chapter, and nowhere else in the Pentateuch. It is always in the plural number.

The teraphim were symbols or representatives of the Deity, as Laban calls them his gods. They seem to have been busts of the human form, sometimes as large as life (1 Sam 19:13). Those of full size were probably of wood; the smaller ones may have been of metal. They have been worn on an ephod for the purposes of divination (Gen. 30:27). **The employment of them in the worship of God, which Laban seems to have inherited from his fathers (Josh 24:2), is denounced as idolatry (1 Sam 15:23); and hence, they are classed with the idols and other abominations [eventually] put away by Josiah (2 Kings 23:24).**



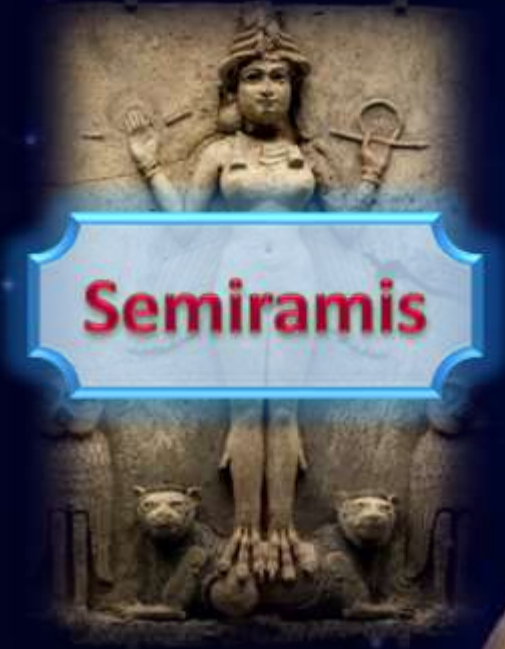
Which “no god” gains the authority?



... the sun god?

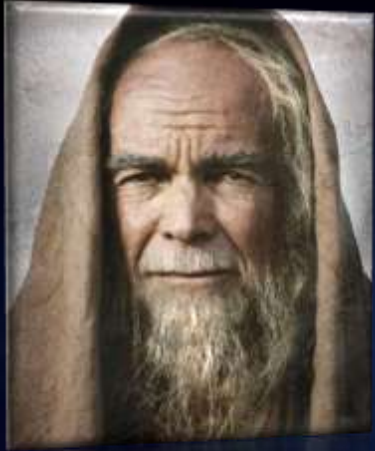


... or the moon goddess?



Semiramis

**Let's begin by
examining
“Laban.”**



Investigation on the Hebrew Name Laban

Gen 31:30, 34 And [Laban said], yet
wherefore hast thou stolen my gods?

34 Now Rachel had taken the images ...
and sat upon them. And Laban searched
all the tent, but found them not.



Comparing “Terah & Laban” to “Images and the Moon”

Column 1 +	Column 2 =	Column 3
Laban (H3837)	Lebanah (H3842) “Whiteness” (color of the moon)	Spelling, Pronunciation and Word Numbers Connect to the Moon
Terah (H8646)	“teraphim” Images (H8655) “Family Idols”	Spelling, Pronunciation and Word Numbers Connect to Idols

- There is very strong indication now that Terah did have an occupation in Haran of making idols for distribution.
- Remember, Terah came out of Ur, the first center for major idol worship and Haran was also a moon worshipping center.
- There is no Scripture stating those words, but the connection can be proven through the name Terah, and the “teraphim” family idols that were in Laban's possession about 200 years later – only to be coveted and stolen by Rachel.

The Family Business of Terah

Column 1 +	Column 2 =	Column 3
Laban (H3837)	Lebanah (H3842) “Whiteness” (color of the moon)	Spelling, Pronunciation and Word Numbers Connect to the Moon
Terah (H8646)	“teraphim” Images (H8655) “Family Idols”	Spelling, Pronunciation and Word Numbers Connect to Idols



- **Terah’s business of manufacturing idols would have been passed down through the generations, thus having a line of precious family idols.**
- Everything is pointing back to these “family idols” as being connected to moon worship (Laban/Lebanah). These were very likely moon idols - straight from Semiramis in Babylon.





Egypt & Moon Worship

- Abraham was told his descendants would be in bondage to Egypt, not returning to Canaan for 430 years.
- Egypt had their own sun gods and moon gods.
- It's very likely these two major gods were a snare to Yahuah's people while in bondage.
- "Ra" was Egypt's sun god, challenged with the 10th plague of Egypt and the death of the first born of each family.
- At Passover, all firstborn "under the blood" were delivered from death.
- There are 42 campsites on the journey to Canaan. Let's examine Campsite #11.

~1490 BC Mt Sinai: 11th Campsite

- The #11 connects with reproof, warning and disorder.
- The root word for “Sinai” means “tares, thorns and demons” [neg. form].
- In the Syric language, “Sinai” means “to shine” as the “moon” which was an object of worship in the area.
- This campsite, found in an area of moon worship, is the very place where the enemy planned to again exalt his throne over Yahuah’s.
- Only 40 days after the everlasting covenant was spoken, Yahuah’s people had broken their covenant agreement, and found dancing before the image of the Egyptian false trinity.
- This action was clearly a case of blasphemously mixing worship to Yahuah with idolatry.

11th Campsite:

False Trinity

Ex 32:4-5 ... he [Aaron] had **made** it a **molten calf**: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.
5 And when Aaron saw it, **he built an altar before it ...**

- The golden calf was not a single entity. There were three “gods” represented in the Israelite altar at the base of Mt Sinai.
- The physical altar site still stands at the base of *Jebel el Lawz* along with photos of what the Egyptian calf “god” most accurately looked like.

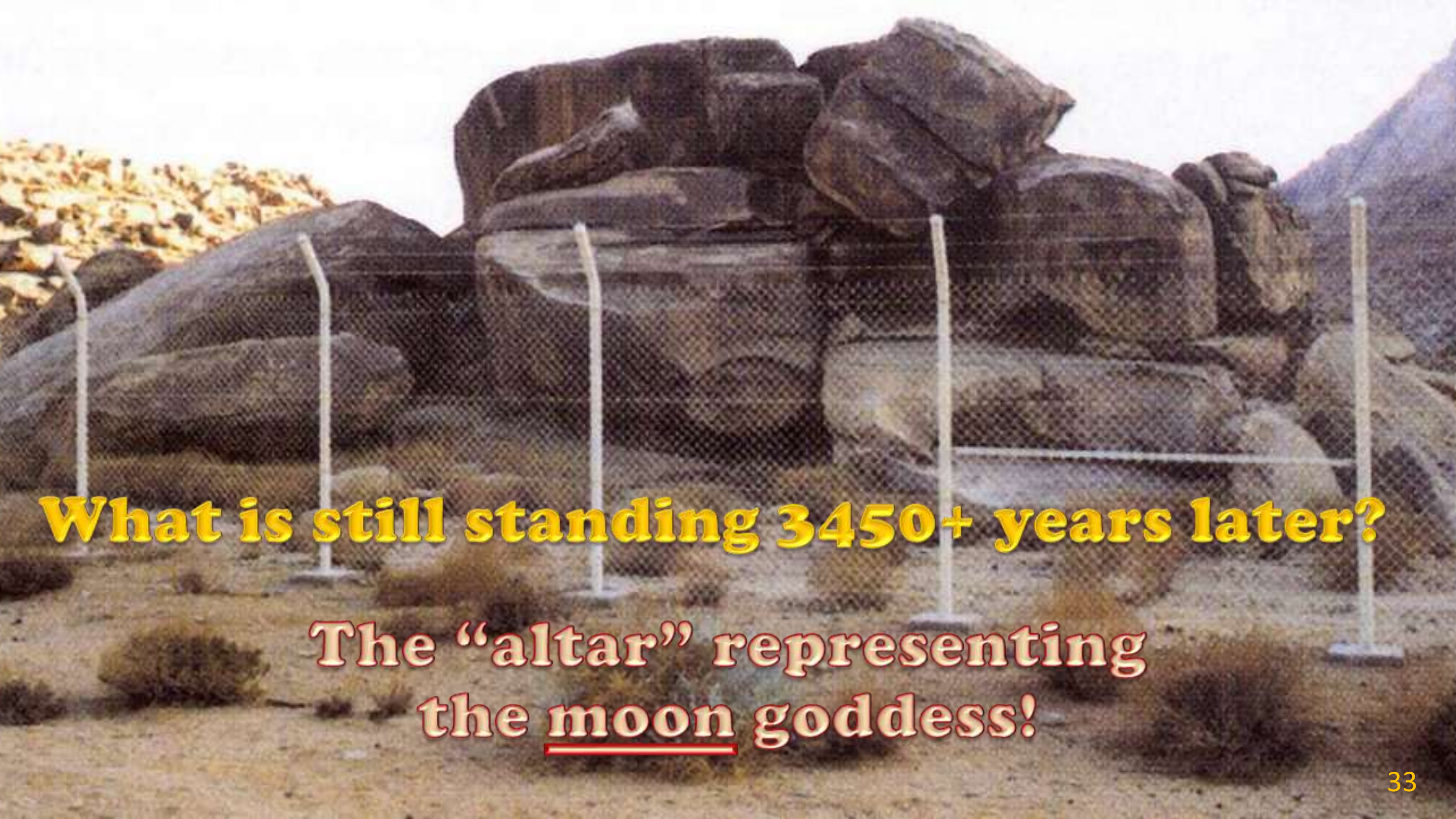


Egypt's Unholy Trinity

- The golden Egyptian calf “god does NOT depict a single “god.”
- The solar disk represents the serpent/sun “god,” as the “father” of the calf “god,” shown on the head of the golden calf.
- The 3rd deity is the female component. It is not part of the golden calf itself, but rather was part of the altar base.
- Upon the stones are petroglyphs depicting the Egyptian “god.”
- These deities were also known as the “sun god,” with the “moon goddess” being his wife. Their son was the false messiah.
- (*Called to Canaan*, Bk 1, Davis & Manfredine.)

In this
image
2 gods
are
seen.





What is still standing 3450+ years later?

**The “altar” representing
the moon goddess!**

Moses' Gives

Strict Commands in Deut 4:15-19; 17:2-5

Moses told
the people not
to follow the
pagan gods.
But, he also
said, after
he dies
that is
exactly what
they will do!

If there be any found among you that:

1. Corrupt yourselves by lifting your eyes unto heaven, seeing the sun, moon, stars and all the host of heaven ...
2. If then you are driven to worship them, serve them, or give them sacred regard for any reason...
3. That person shall be stoned until they die.
4. For Yahuah hath commanded that none should serve or give sacred regard to other gods represented by the sun, moon and stars.

Yahuah's Calendar



- The pagans began their days with looking to the sun.
- They also began their months by looking to the moon.
- Yahuah's calendar commencements do not follow the ways of the pagans by looking to the sun or the moon for calculation of His worship times.
- Therefore, there is nothing more offensive to Yahuah than the mixing of these profane, idolatrous practices with His sacred worship.
- This would be the ultimate blasphemy and an act tantamount to the highest level of spiritual rebellion – it's an abomination.
- It was these pagan roots that were found at the base of Mt Sinai of Yahuah's holy mountain!
- Beware of falling into idolatry while professing to worship your Creator.

What About the Christian Churches Today?

- **Sunday Christians:** all honour their day of worship on "Sunday" – giving homage to the "sun god" from ages past.
- **Sabbath Keepers:** all honour the beginning of their worship days beginning with the sunset the night before Sabbath, paying homage to the "sun god" from ages past.
- **Sabbath Keepers/most Feast Keepers:** In addition to honouring sunset, most also honour the moon for the Biblical month-start, thus paying homage to the "goddess of the moon."



Which of the 3 groups is most deceived?

~1450 BC Joshua Follows Moses' Leadership

- Joshua's 1st campaign before entering the land of Canaan was to **destroy Jericho, a moon worshipping city**.
- ~1430 BC: For 20 years he fought to rid the land of Canaan of pagan people and practices.
- Before Joshua died, he gave them strict warnings NOT to run after and serve other gods. The people promised to be obedient ...
- But, the pagan gods were still a problem!
- ~1425 BC: Josh 24:22-23 appeal is given. "And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen Yahuah, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses. 23 **Now therefore put away**, said he, **the strange gods which are among you**, and incline your heart unto Yahuah Elohim of Israel."

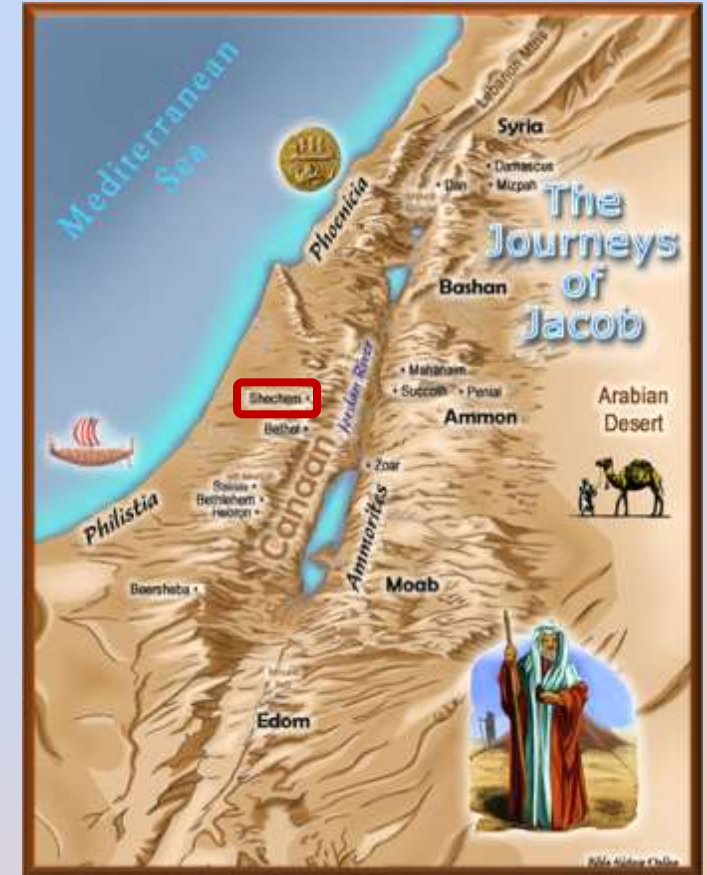


Joshua said
"Shout!
The walls
will come
down!"

So Israel still had "strange gods" among them?

Shechem – Place of Decision for Yahuah

1. **Gen 12:6-7** Abram built an altar to Yahuah at Shechem; the everlasting covenant was confirmed with him there.
 2. **Gen 33:18-20** Jacob's altar was at Shechem, his 1st dwelling place in Canaan.
 3. **Gen 35:4** Jacob hides the family idols under the oak tree at Shechem.
 4. **Josh 24:32** Joseph's tomb is at Shechem.
 5. **Josh 24:1-15** Joshua assembled Israel at Shechem to choose the “Elohim” they are planning to serve.
- **Josh 24:14-15** Now therefore fear Yahuah ... and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt ... 15 ... choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell:
but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahuah.



Josh 24:25 Shechem was the place where Joshua renewed the covenant with the people just before he died.

History from Judges to Malachi

The history of the apostasy in the Old Testament magnifies considerably after Moses dies.

Beginning with Judges is where the Scriptures FIRST mention Baal and Ashtoreth.



Common Terms in the
Old Testament

Baal = sun god
(or Baalim, plural)


Ashtoreth = moon goddess

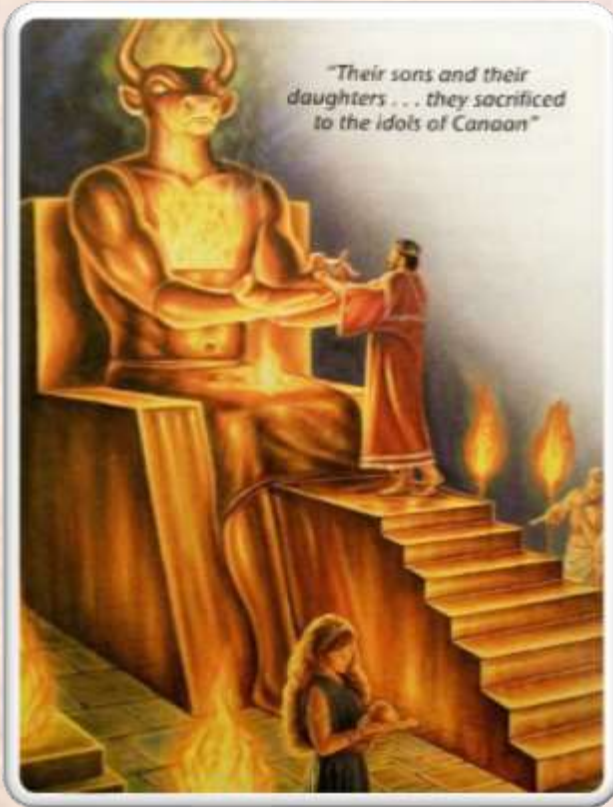
**Will one
of these
pagan gods
be dominant?**



Definitions for this Study

Name	Definition
Baal	The chief male deity of the Phoenicians and Canaanites; Ashtoreth was their principle female deity. <u>The worship of Baal, together with that of Astarte, was common among the Hebrews. Human sacrifices were also offered to Baal by the Jews</u> (Jer 19:5).
Ashtoreth Ashtaroth	A Syrian goddess/idol whose worship was very ancient and common among the Israelites. She is generally mentioned in connection with Baal, and is <u>commonly identified with</u> Astarte, <u>the goddess of the moon.</u>
Queen of Heaven	<u>The moon was called the “queen of heaven.”</u> There are 3 rebukes from Jeremiah to Judah for this abomination (Jer 7:18; 44:7-19, 25).

Name	Definition
Groves	<p>“Tree image(s)” for worship of the goddess Ashtaroth. It was forbidden by Yahuah for “groves” to be established for worship. (11 references in the OT for Israel’s worship of groves.)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isa 40:20 He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved. • 2 Kings 17:16 And they left all the commandments of Yahuah their, and <u>made them molten images</u>, even <u>two calves</u>, and <u>made a grove</u>, and <u>worshipped all the host of heaven</u>, and <u>served Baal</u>.
High Places	<p>A term used to describe places of worship for Yahuah in groves (13 in OT); idolatrous worship (9 in OT); idolatrous high places to be destroyed (5 in OT).</p>



Name	Definition
Chiun	An idol made and worshipped by the Israelites in the wilderness.
Molech Moloch Milcom	An idol of the Ammonites; worshipped by Solomon and his wives. Israel sacrificed their children to Molech's molten arms (12 in OT).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jer 7:31 And they have built the high places of Tophet ... <u>to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire</u>; which I commanded them not, <u>neither came it into my heart.</u>

Please
note
one
more
def.:

[Some] Names	of Scripture	Pagan Gods
1. Adrammelech [sun]	11. Castor/Pollux	21. Nebo
2. Anammelech [moon]	12. Chemosh	22. Nehushtan
3. Ashima	13. Chiun	23. Nergal
4. Ashtoreth [moon goddess]	14. Dagon [sun god]	24. Nibhaz
5. Baal [sun god]	15. Diana [moon goddess]	25. Nisroch
6. Baal-berith	16. Golden Calf [trinity]	26. Queen of heaven [moon]
7. Baal-peor	17. Jupiter	27. Rimmon
8. Baalzebub	18. Mercury	28. Succoth-Benoth
9. Baal-zephon	19. Molech or Milcom	29. Tammuz [also a sun god]
10. Bel [sun god]	20. Merodach	30. Tartak

Haran: A city of the main trade routes between Babylonia and the Mediterranean Sea. Like the Chaldeans, **Haran's inhabitants worshipped Sin, the moon-god from very ancient times.**

It was a natural stopping place for Terah to settle on his departure from Ur. **The cult of moon worship persisted far into the Christian era after the 4th century AD.**

Abundance of Pagan Worship

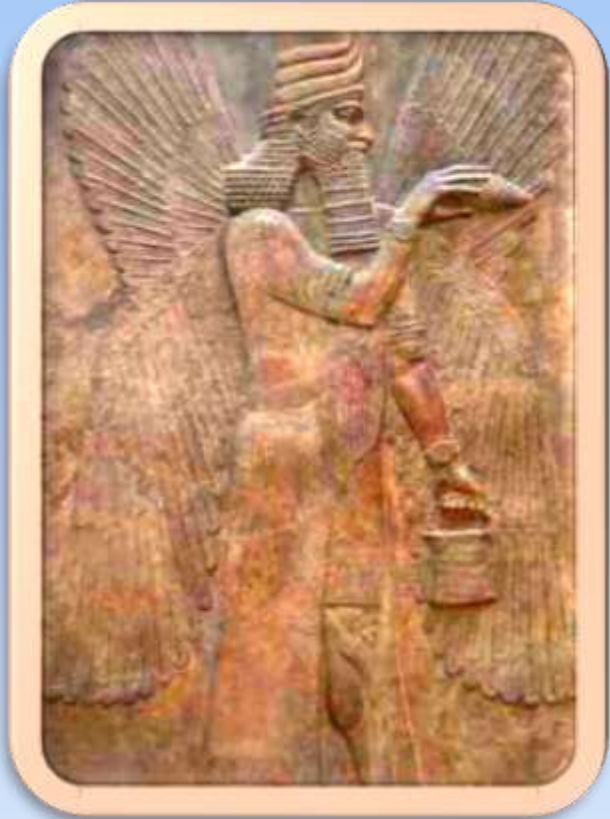
For the listed phrases there are at least 887 Old Testament references linking to pagan worship.

OT history books = 549 chapters!

# in OT	Phrase	# in OT	Phrase
140	Image/Images	80	High Places (moon worship)
46	Graven Image(s)	3	High Places of Baal
23	Molten Image(s)	2	Priest of Baal
5	Carved Image(s)	4	Sun, moon and host of heaven
2	Images of Baal	14	Host of heaven
95	Idol(s)	220	gods (pagan)
62	Baal	6	no gods
18	Baalim	10	thy gods
5	Queen of Heaven	34	their gods
3	Ashtoreth (moon goddess)	52	Altars
10	Molech/Moloch/Chuin	12	Burnt their children in fire
41	Grove(s) (moon worship)	887	References to pagan worship/practices

Average mention of apostasy = 15 times in every 10 chapters!

The Snares of the “no gods”



Right from the Garden of Eden, where “another god” was honoured, the whole Old Testament history is tainted with roots that link to paganism.



Israel (and all pagan nations) worshipped many, many gods. Was every pagan god a snare to Israel, or was something else going on in the background?

The Snares of Baal & Ashtoreth

- This study will show the many times Israel and Judah fell back into apostasy.
- The main gods that were a snare to Israel and keep coming to the forefront are:
1) the sun god (Baal/Baalim) and 2) the moon goddess (Ashtoreth).
- Right from Mt Sinai these are the first two gods that Moses commanded NOT to be worshipped. Moses told the people to not even think about “looking to the sun or moon” as they would soon be enticed to worship them as the pagans do.
- Moses was right! It will become clear, and very obvious, very quickly ... that Israel and Judah were both inflicted with this terrible sickness to seek other gods, even after they were delivered so mightily by Yahuah (from Ur, Egypt & Babylon).
- Judah is most responsible, as Israel was scattered, and did not have anything to do with the reform that was supposed to happen once the Babylonian exile was completed.

Who is Baal?

Do we really know?



Baal the most significant male deity of the Canaanites, with his consort Asherah, were the most alluring deities confronting Israel in the promised land.

Numerous references to Baal in the Old Testament indicate his attractiveness and influence on the Israelites.

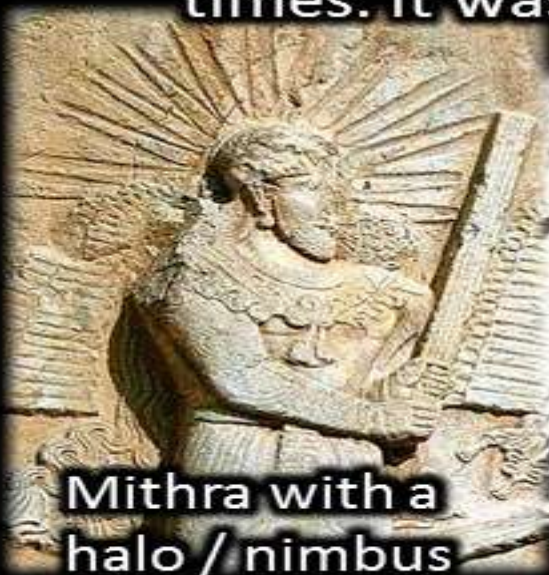
The Book of Judges chronicles the numerous times the people fell to the temptation of Baal worship.

Ahab and Jezebel made Baal worship the royal religion of the northern kingdom (1 Kings 16:29-31) with a Baal temple in Samaria.

Baal, like Asherah, was also worshipped at high places (also known as “groves”) and required child sacrifices.



The sun-god (Baal, Tammuz, Ra / Horus) was worshiped in ancient times. It was sometimes depicted with one eye (the all-seeing-eye).



Mithra with a halo / nimbus



A sun-god with a halo / nimbus



Apollo with a halo

Baal's Consort ~ Who is it?



- Because of Israel's incomplete conquest of the land of Canaan, the roots of Asherah-worship from Semiramis survived and plagued Israel, starting as soon as Joshua was dead (Judg 2:13).
- Considered as the moon-goddess, Ashtoreth/Asherah was often presented as a consort of Baal, the sun-god.

(See Judg 3:7; 6:28; 10:6;
1 Sam 7:4; 12:10.)



The Groves of Ashtoreth/Asherah

- This moon-goddess was represented by a limbless tree trunk planted in the ground.
- The trunk was usually carved into a symbolic representation of the goddess.
- Because of the association with carved trees, the places of Ashtoreth, or Asherah worship, were commonly called “groves.”



The Hebrew family words of “Asherah” (plural, “asherim”) could refer either to the moon goddess or to a grove of trees.

Asherah Worship Forbidden

- Yahuah, through Moses, forbade the worship of Asherah.
- The Law specified that a grove of trees was NOT to be near the altar of Yahuah (Deut 16:21).
- Despite these clear instructions, Asherah-worship was a perennial problem in Israel.
- As Solomon slipped into idolatry, one of the pagan deities he brought into the kingdom was Asherah, called “the goddess of the Sidonians” (1 Kings 11:5, 33).

History's Vanquished Goddess **ASHERAH**

The worship of Asherah "came to be regarded as much a feature of popular religion in ancient Israel and Judah as the worship of Yahweh."
-Biblical Archaeology Review

Names & Symbols of Ashtoreth



- Ashtoreth, Asheroth, Asherim, Athirat – all are plural forms of the moon goddess name.
- Imaged as a full-breasted earth mother, both symbols speak to regeneration, sustenance and fruitfulness.
- She was the goddess of the woods.
- Groves of trees were her temples.
- This goddess is often referred to as a tree or pole.

The “May Pole” is attributed to this goddess!



Ashtoreth – the Moon Goddess



In Babylon the moon was a god, but after the rise of the solar theology, when the larger number of the Babylonian gods were resolved into forms of the sun-god, their wives also became solar, Ishtar, "the daughter of Sin" the moon-god.

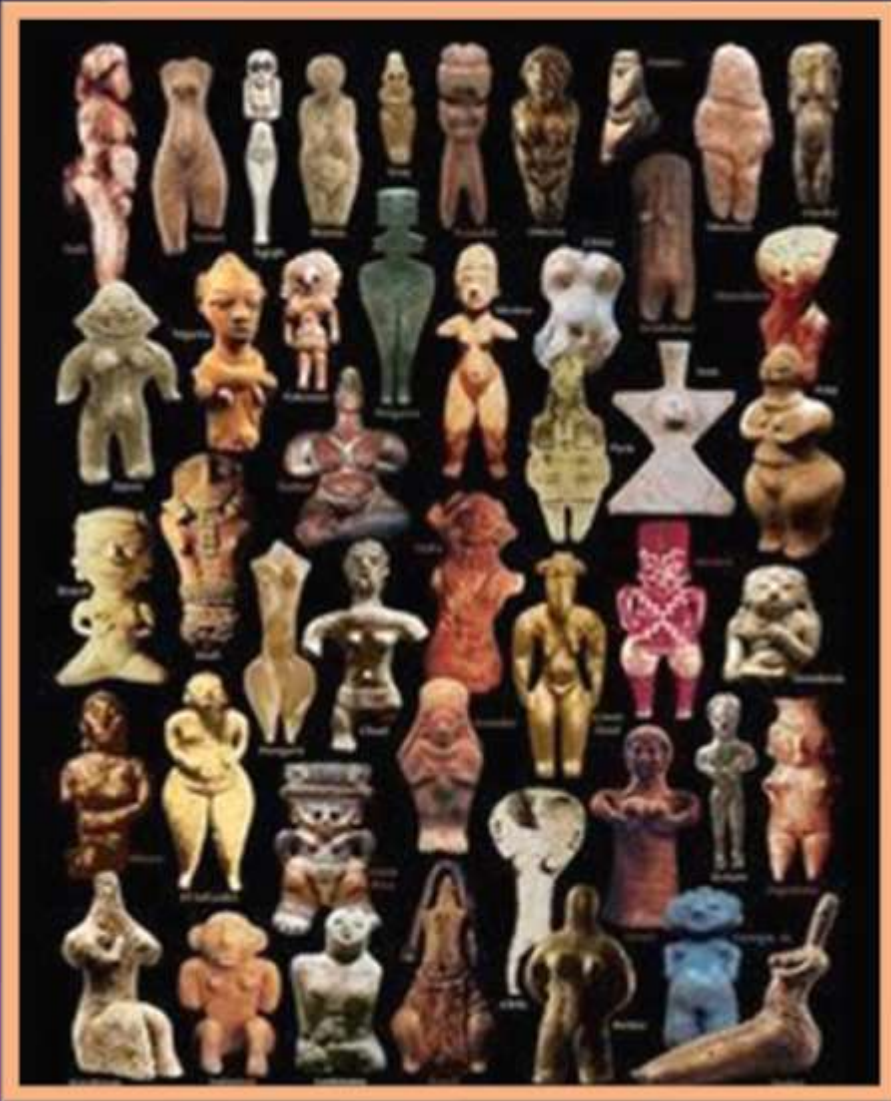
In Canaan, Ashtoreth, as distinguished from the male Ashtar, dropped her warlike attributes and became a moon-goddess.



The “Queen of Heaven”

In Canaan, Baal passed into a sun-god.
The goddess who stood at his side
became the representative of the moon –
or the pale reflection of the sun.

In about 628 BC
Jeremiah refers
to Asherah
when he uses
the title “Queen
of Heaven”
referring to the
moon goddess
(Jer 7:16-18;
44:17-19, 25).



Jezebel & Moon Goddess Worship



Along with Baal, Jezebel made Asherah-worship even more prevalent, with 400 prophets of Asherah on the royal payroll (1 Kings 18:19).

Throughout history the Jews were constantly tempted to worship this pagan goddess and attend her rituals.

It was this forbidden practice which finally led to Judah's captivity and the seventy years in Babylon even though many good kings destroyed the Asherah groves.



Stay Away from the Groves!

Yahuah absolutely detested the worship of His people **to visit the tree poles in the high places and groves - paying tribute to the moon goddess!**

- **Deut 16:21-22** Thou shalt not plant thee a grove of any trees near unto the altar of Yahuah thy Elohim ... **22** Neither shalt thou set thee up any image.
- **1 Kings 11:5** Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.
- **1 Kings 11:33** They have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father.
- **It was an abomination to Yahuah. Why?**

The Groves & The Garden



This is the tree pole of
Ashtoreth moon worship.

Compare the Ashtoreth tree pole
with The Garden Tree Pole.



Did the abomination of worship
“at the tree” start here?

It is now time to review the Old Testament records of
Israel's sacred regard for
pagan gods and what they stand for!

Baal - the sun god



Moon Goddess
Ashtoreth



Groves

**High Places
of Worship**

1425 – 1250 BC Book of Judges

The following tables chart a brief review of the worship of pagan gods and apostasy in the 12 tribes.

Please take special note of the dates, as we travel through Israel's history to 400 BC.

Ref.	Date	Description
Judg 2:3	~1425 BC	Israel did not drive out the pagans. They would be constantly snared by false gods.
Judg 2:11-13 1 st mention	~1425 BC	Israel served Baalim (sun god), the most important god; & Ashtoreth (moon goddess).
Judg 2:17, 19	~1425 BC	Israel would not hearken to judges but whored after other gods bowing down to them.
Judg 3:6, 7	~1405 BC	Intermarried the sons/daughters with pagan nations and served their Baalim gods.
Judg 5:8	~1315 BC	Israel chose new [strange] gods. [Deut 32:16]
Judg 6:10	~1250 BC	Yahuah cautions to not fear the gods of the Amorites.

Remember: 200 years earlier Moses had given very strict commands to Israel so the people would be kept free from the worship of pagan gods.

Question: Did Israel have troubles with running after the sun gods and moon gods in the remainder of the history of the Old Testament?

1250 BC

Gideon as Judge

Ref.	Date	Description
Judg 6:25-33	~1250 BC	Gideon throws down the Baal altar (sun god) that belonged to his father.
Judg 10:6	~1205 BC	The children of Israel did evil again in the sight of Yahuah, and served Baalim [sun god], and Ashtoreth [moon goddess], and the gods of Syria, Zidon, Moab, Ammon, and the Philistines, and forsook Yahuah, and served not him.

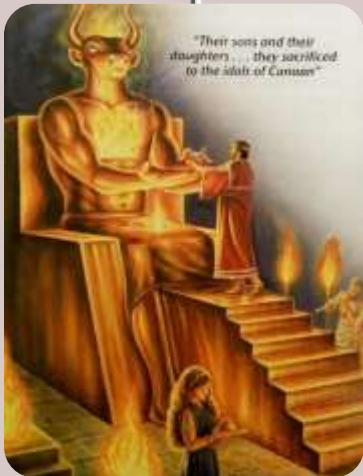
Judges 10:6 “The children of Israel did evil again in the sight of Yahuah.” This apostasy seems to have exceeded every former one in the grossness and universality of the idolatry practiced. **The Hebrews adopted the objects of worship among the several pagan countries contiguous to the district of Palestine in which they lived.** Some scholars feel Israel may have actually erected a **Pantheon**. It’s hard to believe Israel became universal idolaters, adopting every god of the surrounding nations. Baalim and Ashtaroth signify gods and goddesses in general reckoned as:

1. The gods of Syria; Bel and Saturn, or Jupiter and Astarte
2. Gods of Zidon; Ashtoreth, Astarte or Venus
3. The gods of Moab; Chemosh
4. Gods of the children of Ammon; Milcom
5. Gods of the Philistines; Dagon.

Yahuah gave up Israel to be in bondage to the Philistines & Ammonites.

1120 - 985 BC Samuel, Saul, Solomon

Ref.	Date	Description
Judg 17:5	~1120 BC	Micah had a house of gods ...
1 Sam 7:3-4	~1110 BC	Samuel told Israel to put away their strange gods & Ashtoreths (moon goddesses). Israel did this for a while under Samuel.
1 Sam 12:10	~1095 BC	Israel serves Baalim & Ashtoreth ... again.
1 Sam 28:13	~1055 BC	Saul meets witch of Endor that called up other gods looking for Samuel.
1 Kings 9:6, 9	~990 BC	Yahuah's warning to Solomon about worshipping other gods.
1 Kings 11:2-10	~985 BC	<p>"But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites -- from the nations of whom Yahuah had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods."</p> <p>Solomon had 700 wives; 300 concubines; they all turned his heart after other gods. Solomon went after Ashtoreth the [moon] goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. (Also see: 1 Kings 11:33.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milcom: or Moloch/Molech was a bronze statue heated with fire into which the victims were thrown – often child sacrifices were placed upon molten hot arms.



905 – 785 BC Ahab, Athaliah, Amaziah

Ref.	Date	Description
1 Kings 18 & 19	~905 BC	King Ahab and Queen Jezebel's "other gods" are no match for Elijah's Elohim.
2 Kings 10:18-28 2 Kings 11:18	~885 BC	King Ahab's worshippers of Baal killed. Sacred pillars in the temple of Baal burned. Again, the house of Baal broken down along with the altars and images.
2 Chr 23:17	~880 BC	King Jehoiada broke down the altars, images and killed the priest of Baal.
2 Chr 24:7	~880 BC	For the sons of Athaliah , that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the dedicated things of the house of Yahuah did they bestow upon Baalim.
2 Chr 25:14	~825 BC	King Amaziah set up Edom gods, worshipped them and burned incense unto them.
Amos 5:21,26	~785 BC	Yahuah despises " <u>their</u> " [Israel's] feast days; tabernacle to Moloch and Chiun images.

785 BC Israel's Pagan Feasts

Ref.	Date	Description
Amos 8:5, 10	~785 BC	Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit? KJV See vs 10: <u>your feasts</u> will be bitter. Israel (10 northern tribes) were NOT following Yah's "months" or honoring His Sabbaths as they should have been. Yes, the phrase "new moon" should be translated as "new month" – but this is the pagan "new month" not Yahuah's "new month." We know this for sure, because of the rebellion against them not honoring the Sabbath, and the apostasy that had gone on for a very long time already.
Hosea 2:11	~785 BC	I will also cause all her mirth to cease, <u>her</u> feast days, <u>her</u> new moons, and <u>her</u> sabbaths, and all <u>her</u> solemn feasts. KJV <u>her</u> = the pagan feast days, pagan new moons, pagan Sabbaths!
Hosea 2:8-17	~785 BC	Israel's offerings were prepared for Baal with the burning of incense.
Hosea 3:1	~785 BC	Children of Israel look to other gods and love the raisin cakes of the pagans.

There will be a closer look at Israel's pagan feast-keeping later on.

760 - 740 BC Abominations of Ahaz

Ref.	Date	Description
Isa 1:13-14	~760 BC	<p>Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. 14 <u>Your</u> new moons and <u>your</u> appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. KJV</p> <p><u>Note: 25 years later the 10 northern tribes are being warned by Isaiah to get rid of the pagan worship – he specifically mentions (again) <u>your new moons and appointed feasts</u>. These are the pagan celebrations, not Yah’s “new months” or Yah’s feasts.</u></p>
Mic 1:7	~750 BC	Transgressions of Samaria & Jerusalem: <u>graven images, idols</u> .
2 Chr 28:2 2 Chr 28:23	~740 BC	<p>Judah’s King Ahaz made molten images for Baalim [<u>sun gods</u>], burnt incense in the high places, (hills and under every green tree), burnt his children in the fire as the heathen do.</p> <p>King Ahaz sacrificed to the <u>gods of Damascus</u>; made <u>altars and high places to burn incense to other gods</u>.</p>
Hos 10:1-2 Hos 11:2	~740 BC	<p>Israel’s goodly images and altars.</p> <p>Sacrificed to <u>Baalim [sun gods]</u>; <u>burned incense to graven images</u>.</p>

The Old Testament is filled with pagan abominations!

725 – 710 BC Hezekiah, Hosea, Manasseh

Ref.	Date	Description
2 Chr 31:1	~725 BC	Hezekiah's kingdom reformed: images were broken to pieces; groves cut down; high places and altars utterly destroyed.
Hos 13:1-2	~725 BC	Ephraim sinned with molten images of silver, many idols.
2 Kings 17:10, 16, 41	~721 BC	King Hosea set up images, groves, high places and served idols, made 2 molten calves, worshipped all the host of heaven, and the whole kingdom served Baal [sun god].
2 Kings 17:7, 16	~720 BC	10 northern tribes of Israel scattered by Assyria because they feared other gods, made molten images, two calves and groves to worship all the host of heaven & served Baal.
1 Chr 5:25	~715 BC	Manasseh plays the harlot and follows the gods of the people of the land.
Isa 10:10-11	~715 BC	Prophecy to Isaiah that Jerusalem is worse than Samaria with her idols, graven images.
2 Kings 18:4	~710 BC	King Hezekiah cleans up all the idols, groves, and images.
Micah 5:13	~710 BC	Israel's graven images will be destroyed; they will not worship the work of their hands.

Approximately 700 years before, both Moses and Joshua had given very firm, strict counsel to Israel to NOT be enticed by the pagans and their gods for sun worship and moon worship.

Israel did NOT heed the counsel. This is basically their sad history with rounds of pagan bondage and cries for deliverance throughout the whole Old Testament. Next, Yahuah steps in with two signs to see if He can't move His people to follow His ways for the next 700 years.

About 701 BC Hezekiah's Sundial Event

2 Kings 20:9-11

2 Chron 32:24

Isa 38:7-8

Sent by Yahuah to Correct Israel's
Apostasy with the "moon goddess."

An Important Announcement



There were two signs given to King Hezekiah around 701 BC:

1. The sign for the approaching Jubilee year in Isaiah 37
2. The sundial miracle in Isaiah 38.

❖ One commentary says this: The extra fifteen years given to Hezekiah ended with the deliverance of Jerusalem, **marking the completion of the third year of the 3rd-year sign ...**

The sundial miracle and other events around Hezekiah connect to:

1. The Jubilee Calendar used to calculate every 50 years of the 120 allotted;
2. The Covenant Calendar used from month to month each year.

❖ Hezekiah's testimony is the only marker in the Old Testament and the pivotal point that challenges the pagan "moon" calendar, AND, also establishes the exact year for the years 49, 50 and the 1st year of the Jubilee calendar.

1st Sign: Jubilee Calendar Marker

Isa 37:30 And this shall be a sign unto thee,
Ye shall eat **this year** [49th yr] such as groweth of itself;
and **the second year** [50th yr] that which springeth of the same:
and in **the third** [1st yr] year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards,
and eat the fruit thereof.



Assuming the sundial miracle of Isaiah 38 is about 701 BC, then:

- a) **this year** [49th yr] = 701 BC
- b) **the second year** [50th yr] = 700 BC (Some say this is about the 66th Jubilee.)
- c) **the third** [1st yr] = 699 BC

This information is part of a Jubilee Calendar study.
Today's study is examining the
“moon” component of the Covenant Calendar.

2nd Sign: Calendar Adjustment

There are 3 Scriptures for confirmation of this spectacular event.

- 1) **Isa 38:7-8** And this shall be a sign unto thee from Yahuah, that Yahuah will do this thing that he hath spoken; **8** Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.
- 2) **2 Chron 32:24** In those days Hezekiah was sick to the death, and prayed unto Yahuah: and he spake unto him, and he gave him a sign.
- 3) **2 Kings 20:9-11** And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of Yahuah, that Yahuah will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forth ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?
10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.
11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto Yahuah: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.
12 At that time Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.



Later, this study will show why/how the sundial miracle has a direct connection to the moon and Israel's worship of the pagan moon goddess. 69

Hezekiah Used in a Mighty Way



- Hezekiah was a very good king and cleaned up the land from paganism in a grand way.
- That all went to pieces when his son Manasseh came to the throne for 55 years.
- As wicked as King Manasseh was, he did repent before he died.
- Unfortunately, the seeds of pagan worship (sun gods and moon gods) were sown deep and lasted to the end of the Old Testament historical account – as will be shown.

698 – 625 BC Manasseh & Josiah

Ref.	Date	Description
2 Chr 33:3-6 Vs 15 Vs 21-25	~698 BC	King Manasseh built the high places, altars for Baalim and all the groves to worship all the host of heaven. He caused children to pass through the fire; used witch craft and dealt with familiar spirits & wizards; he set up carved idols in Yah's house; (see 2 Kings 21:3). Manasseh repented and took away the strange gods, idols, altars & repaired Yah's house. In 2 years King Amon brought back all the evil that Manasseh had finally done away with.
2 Kings 22:17	~640 BC	King Josiah reads the consequences for burning incense to other gods if there is no repentance.
2 Chr 34:3-7	~640 BC	King Josiah cleans up all the idols, groves, and images.
Jer 1:16	~630 BC	Jeremiah utters judgments against Judah for burning incense to other gods.
Jer 2:5, 8, 20	~630 BC	Judah has followed idols; prophesied by Baal [sun god]; played the harlot.
Zeph 1:4, 5	~630 BC	Yahuah will punish Judah for worshipping Baal [sun god] and all the host of heaven.
2 Kings 23:5, 13 14, 24	~625 BC	King Josiah <u>again</u> cleans up all the idols, groves, and images that were worshipped to all the host of heaven. He also put away consulted mediums, household gods and idols and all the idolatrous priests that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.

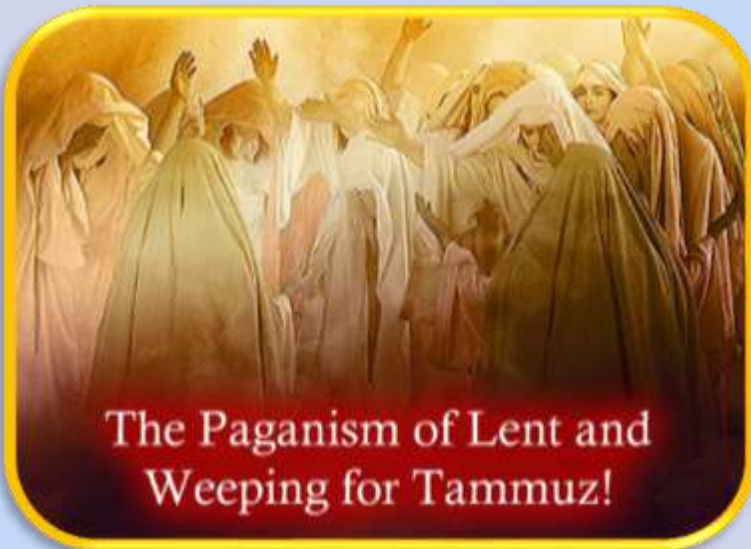
610 – 600 BC False Shepherds of Judah

Ref.	Date	Description
Jer 12:16	~610 BC	False shepherds taught Yahuah's people to swear by Baal
Jer 19:4, 5, 13	~605 BC	High places of Baal [sun god] built to pass their children through the fire to Molech.
Jer 7:9, 18, 31	~600 BC	Judah worships other gods, burns incense to Baal; makes cakes to the queen of heaven [the moon goddess]; build high places; burn their children in the fire.
Jer 8:1-5	~600 BC	Jerusalem has loved to worship the sun, moon, all the host of heaven.
Jer 8:2	~600 BC	The bones of Judah's leaders shall be spread before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven, which they have loved and served; have walked after and sought; which they have worshipped.
Vs 19		Jerusalem has provoked Yahuah to anger with her carved images and foreign idols.
Jer 9:14	~600 BC	Judah has walked according to the imagination of their own heart and followed the Baals [sun gods] as their fathers taught them.
Jer 11:10, 13,17; 16:11	~600 BC	Both the house of Israel and Judah have gone after other gods to serve them and worship them. (Question: Want to guess which ones they were?)
Jer 23:13, 27	~600 BC	Prophets in Samaria prophesied in Baal and caused Yahuah's people to sin.

Apostasy has a severe increase as time marches on!

595 - 593 BC Judah Weeping for Tammuz

Ref.	Date	Description
Ezekiel	Review	Most of the book of Ezekiel is a warning to get rid of pagan worship. Ezekiel is exiled to Babylon; those left in Jerusalem are still worshipping pagan gods in pagan ways.
Eze 8:14 Eze 8:16	~595 BC	Women weeping for Tammuz [son of Nimrod, the sun god]. Priest's backs facing the temple, their faces toward the east, worshipping the sun!
Eze 20:26	~593 BC	Caused their firstborn to pass through the fire [sacrifices to Molech].



More than 800 years earlier Moses had warned Israel to not seek out other gods. Because they refused to listen, things just got worse!

590 – 397 BC Pleas for Judah

Ref.	Date	Description
Jeremiah	Review	Jeremiah also confirms what was happening in Jerusalem after Babylon's attack.
Jer 32:29-30,35	~590 BC	Both Israel & Judah built high places of Baal [sun god]; caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire to Molech.
Jer 44:3-8		Babylon will burn Judah's houses that have offered incense to Baal and poured out drink offerings to other gods, and have done only evil from their youth.
Lam 4:10	~590 BC	Judah has cooked her own children for their food.
Jer 44:17-25	~585 BC	Judah has burned incense to the queen of heaven [moon goddess].
		400 BC there are still warnings about pagan feasts, most certainly connected to the worship of many pagan gods.
Mal 2:3	~397 BC	Yahuah will take away the dung of Judah's solemn feasts; <u>these are pagan feasts.</u>

The very last record verifies how deep this apostasy went, burning and eating their children, seeking the pagan feasts and the moon goddess.

- We have just reviewed a portion of Israel's history and what happens when the sun and moon [gods] are followed. Israel eventually sought the pagan feasts over Yahuah's worship statutes.
- It was their sacred regard for the moon [goddess] that affected their feast calendar the most.
- The moon goddess is still given sacred regard today, by having the authority to appoint the moon as the commencement of the Biblical month or a weekly Sabbath.

That's nothing new under the sun!

- As the day closes on the 4000 years of history for Israel and Judah - it is a sad commentary to find them very unrepentant, continuing even faster on their path of abomination.
- As Yahuah's calendar is being restored, He can be worshipped on His terms, not pagan terms.
- This historical piece of history is evidence of what not to do, and of where not to go.
- The next piece of this investigation will be a very specific study on the moon, and whether or not it deserves any sacred regard.
- Will the study reveal if we are dealing with a:
 - 1) Lunar Deception (or a)
 - 2) Lunatic Authority?

Introduction: True or False?

77

Truth does not fight to have a place in the heart of man. It simply presents itself - take it or leave it.

On the other hand, error - especially pagan errors that specifically counter Yahuah's truths, resist at all costs of being replaced by truth.

What is the truth about the moon?

Is it really in charge of determining when Yahuah's Biblical month begins?





There's a lot of
Feast Calendars
to choose from.

Which one
will it be?

This study will
be motivated
from Scripture.

The rest of this presentation
proves from Scripture
the moon has absolutely
nothing to do
with the start of
Yahuah's Biblical month.

The truth is actually
so easy a child can
understand it.



Phases of the Moon

So, when
does the
Biblical
month
begin?

It depends on who you ask!



Some claim that the Biblical month begins with:

- 1. The first sliver of the moon!**
- 2. At the full moon!**
- 3. At the combination of the first sliver of the moon and the ripening of the barley!**
- 4. The moon closest to the spring equinox, either before or after that event.**



How many would be surprised to know the moon has absolutely nothing to do with the start of the Biblical month?



Can you explain this with a solid Scriptural teaching?

If you are following the lunar cycles
to mark appointed times of worship,
perhaps this study will
challenge your beliefs to see
**if they really are
based in the Torah.**
Look for the Blessings!

Here is something that
concerned me personally.
I have been reading several
warnings in the Bible saying
“NOT TO WORSHIP
THE MOON.”

There are two commands
in the Torah stating
this with clarity!



#1 Deut 4:19

“And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the **MOON**, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which Yahuah thy Elohim hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.” *KJV*

#2 Deut 17:3

“And hath gone and served other gods,
and worshipped them,
either the sun, or **MOON**,
or any of the host of heaven,
which I have not commanded.” KJV

Before Moses died, he specifically gave
these two commands in Deut.
as a safeguard from
the pagan ways of worship.

#3 2 Kings 23:5

“And he put down the idolatrous priests,
whom the kings of Judah had ordained to
burn incense in the high places
in the cities of Judah,
and in the places round about Jerusalem;
them also that burned incense unto Baal,
to the sun, and to the **MOON**,
and to the planets,
and to all the host of heaven.” *KJV*

#4 Job 31:26-28



“If I beheld the sun when it shined,
or the **MOON** walking in brightness;
27 **And my heart hath been secretly enticed**
... 28 This also were [would be] an iniquity
to be punished by the Judge [Yahuah]:
for I should have denied
the God [Elohim] that is above.” *KJV*

Note: These verses are talking about giving
more regard to the sun and moon
than what was ever allowed by Yahuah.
There are many other Scriptures
giving the same warning.

Jeremiah's Wisdom in Chapter 8:1 & 2

“At that time,” declares **יהוה** (YHVH), “they shall bring the bones of the sovereigns of Yehudah (Judah), and the bones of its heads, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Yerushalayim, out of their graves,
2 and shall spread them **before the sun and the moon and all the host of the heavens,** which they have loved and which they have served and after which they have walked, which they have sought, and to which they have bowed themselves.

They shall not be gathered nor buried, they shall be for dung on the face of the earth.”

The Scriptures



Yahuah tells us explicitly that the moon is **NOT** TO BE FOLLOWED! He destroyed **Jericho** and placed a curse on the one who rebuilds it.

The Hebrew language reveals a deeper understanding that the curse is placed upon the one who

REBUILDS THE WORSHIP PRACTICES OF THE MOON!

That is why the moon of Revelation 12 is placed **UNDER** the feet of the Bride! What does this mean?



Jericho, the city of the Moon!

Rev 12:1 “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.”

**The Bride is illuminated by
the LIGHT of the sun!**
The LIGHT of the sun provides the glory.
The moon has been trampled under foot.
**It is no longer of value
because the Bride of Y'shua has
RISEN ABOVE and TRAMPLED the
FALSE DECEPTION of the 'MOON
DETERMINED' Feasts and Festivals
BELOW HER FEET!**



Why is the moon, which has been deemed by man as the identity for determining time, located **under the feet** of the woman of Revelation 12?



For the answer of what this means, we need to look at some Bible verses:

Gen 24:2 "And Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, "Please, put your hand **under my thigh**." *The Scriptures*

Gen 47:29 And the time for Yisra'ěl *[Israel]* to die drew near, and he called his son Yosëph *[Joseph]* and said to him, "Now if I have found favour in your eyes, please put your hand under my thigh, and show kindness and truth to me. Please do not bury me in Mitzrayim *[Egypt]*."

The Scriptures



These “under” positions are not of power and strength. They are positions of submission to superior authority.

More Scriptures about being “under the feet.”

2 Kings 9:33 “And he said, ‘Throw her down.’ And they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses, and he trampled her under foot.” *The Scriptures*



Lamentations 1:15 “Yahuah hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men: Yahuah hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.” *KJV*

Matthew 5:13 “Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.” *KJV*

These are some very clear indications of the authority of being - under the feet. Under the feet is **NOT** a position of power and authority as man has taught pertaining to the moon being located under the feet of the Bride of Y'shua in Revelation 12.

Quite the contrary!

Being under the feet is a sign of non volunteered relinquishment of power and authority.



Again, the moon in Revelation 12:1 has no authority whatsoever.

It is interesting that the Scriptures never mention “crescent” or “sliver” in regard to sighting the Moon in the sky. There is not one place in the original Hebrew Scriptures where Yahuah points directly to the **moon** as an authority over Biblical Time.

**If a teaching is not found in Scripture,
why should it be practiced as if it were there?**



One source claims that certain sects
developed a procedure that involved
the sighting by two witnesses.
This is believed to be correct
by many today.



Today this sect is called the
“Karaites.”

The source of this practice is from the Mishna,
NOT THE TORAH!

THE KARAITE CONNECTION

- Anan Ben Daud is widely believed to be the founder of the Karaite Sect.
- **In the mid-8th century CE under Islamic rule**, he started a movement which broke away from Rabbinical Judaism.
- It was Anan's hope to become the head Rabbi, but he was passed-over by his younger brother who held more closely to the Torah and "oral law," the traditions of the fathers.
- Still, Anan's followers installed him in the position of "exilarch."
- The Caliph Al-Mansur viewed this argument as rebellion, arrested Anan in 767, and set his execution date.
- While in prison, Anan met an Islamic teacher who gave him advice that saved his life. **Anan was to establish a new religious sect.**

<http://www.fossilizedcustoms.com/sightedmoonorigins.html>

The pre-Islamic moon deity called Allah is symbolized by a crescent moon and star. The origin comes from the Hindu culture and the worship on Shiva. The crescent moon was also venerated in the Egyptian culture with the moon below a solar disc. Because Christianity sprang from Alexandria Egypt, these objects in the sky were also adopted for veneration. *(Emphasis supplied.)*

<http://www.fossilizedcustoms.com/sightedmoonorigins.html>



Islam's most prominent symbol is the crescent moon, Shiva's symbol.

The pre-Islamic Arabs worshipped 360 sky-deities, one of which was the “greatest” called “Allah.” Allah is represented by the crescent moon and was the most favored of all deities by Muhammad’s clan.

The 360 deities means the Kaaba was originally a Hindu shrine dedicated to the worship of the host of heaven.

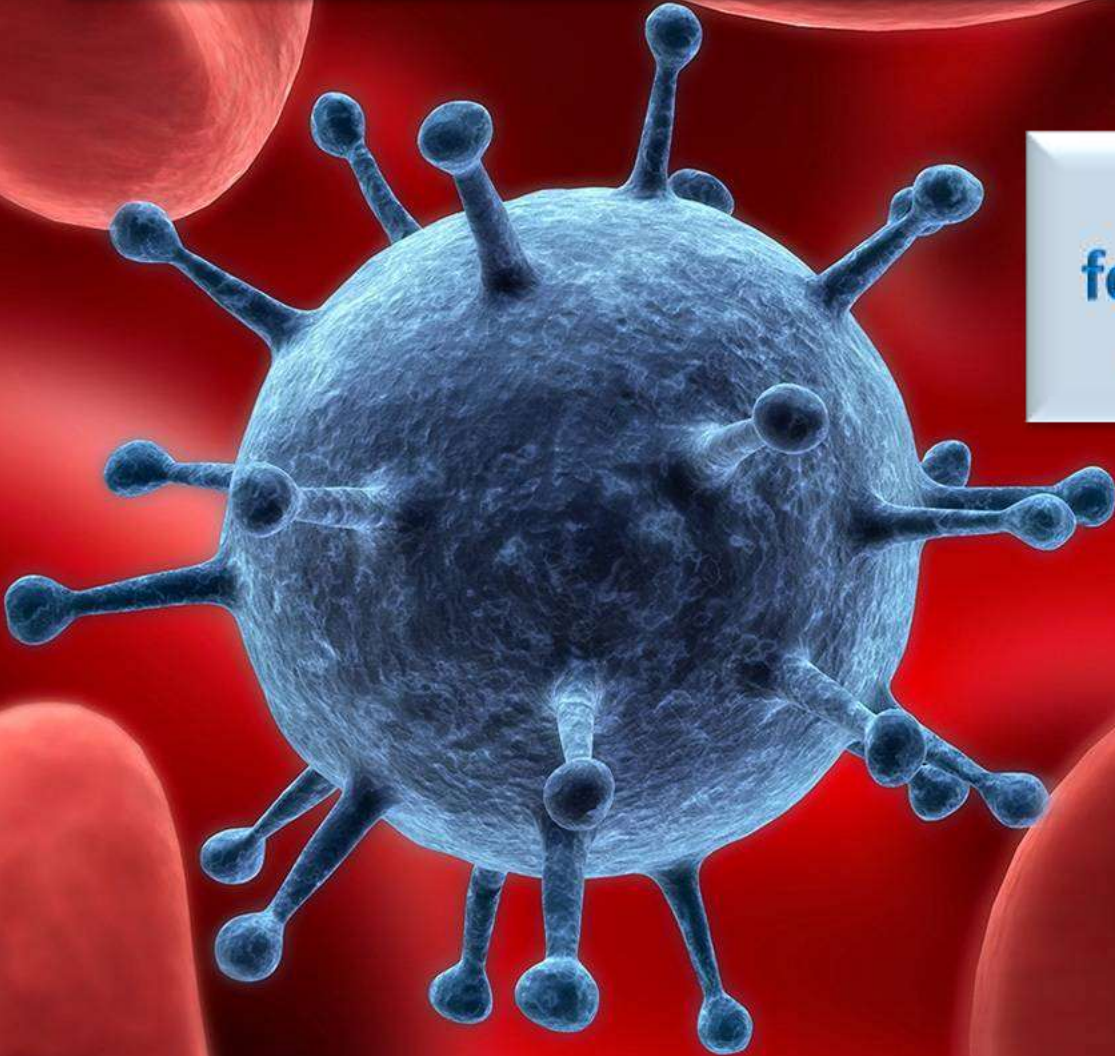


Yahuah is not represented by any kind of symbol.
AND ... certainly He is not using the objects seen in the sky to determine His appointed times!

We are Yahuah's body.

Tradition is like an infection in the body.
Once established and untreated, it spreads to infect the whole body.

**Rather than
following tradition,
we need Truth!**



Rightly Dividing the Truth

102



2 Tim 2:15

Study/research to
show thyself approved.

1. By the Scriptures
2. **By Secular History** (Why?)
 - Pagan errors recorded in history are found to wrestle for prominence above Torah truth.
 - It's easier to make a good decision with an abundance of evidence.
(Scriptures will be provided as the study progresses.)

Rightly Dividing the Facts (10 Points)

103

1. There is **no indication** in any Old Testament Scriptures **for a lunar month of 28-29.5 days**, or 13 months in a year approximately every 3rd year, or seven times in a 19 year cycle.
2. At **creation**, the **12 months** had **30 days** each.
The year had **360 days**.
3. There are **no Torah instructions for beginning any month with any phase of the moon**.
The Torah books date to approximately 1450 BC.
This is 2550 years **after creation**.
The covenant calendar in Exodus documents the 30 day month very well.

Rightly Dividing the Facts

104

4. Yahuah's divine calendar was compromised by His people when, in Canaan, they began to mix pagan worship practices with divine commands.
5. Yahuah's people were commanded many times not to look to the sun, moon, stars, planets or any heavenly host lest they worship them as the pagans do.
6. Of all the heavenly hosts, today's lunar cycle is closest to the Biblical 30 day month. The pagans were moon worshippers with their own feasts and festivals.



**THE PIVOTAL
POINT IN THIS
PUZZLE IS
HEZEKIAH'S
SUNDIAL
AROUND 701 BC.**

Rightly Dividing the Facts

105

7. Hezekiah's sundial miracle happened about 3300 years AFTER creation. It's seems as though Yahuah used the sundial event to change the lunar cycle significantly to draw the attention of His people away from the moon taking them back to the creation order for the annual count of the Festival Sabbaths according to His "month."
8. In a study of the Scriptural facts, with their dates, we will see: the sundial event was intended to permanently separate Yahuah's feast worship times from the pagan lunar cycle calculations.
However, one event did not change when the yearly cycle changed from 360 to $365\frac{1}{4}$ days/year.

THAT EVENT IS THE EQUINOX!

Rightly Dividing the Facts

106

9. The flood account ushered in the earth's agricultural seasons.
The moon is agriculturally involved with these seasons.
10. The **equinox is the "one day" focal point each year that plays a part in marking the last day of Yahuah's Biblical year**
(or the last day of winter in the northern hemisphere).

The first day of the new year will be determined after the equinox is verified by a visual sign.

The moon has absolutely no involvement in the equinox event the way the earth, sun and stars do.

Light is also involved in the equinox, of which the moon has nothing to offer.

3300 Years: Creation to Hezekiah

107

- The moon's cycle for 3300 years was disrupted by the **sundial miracle** (701 BC).
- This was a **permanent heavenly demarcation** (or a SIGN to Yahuah's people) that the moon is not associated with the commencement of His months.
- Unfortunately, the **apostasy** of Yahuah's people, with regards to worship, was **so deep and severe that:**
 - a. The **northern 10 tribes were completely scattered by Assyria** (721 BC just 5 years after Hezekiah's reformation);
 - b. About **100 years later** (606 BC) the **southern kingdom** tribes were **exiled to Babylon** for 70 years.

Yahuah's People & Pagan Worship

Upon return to Jerusalem (536 BC), Judah was to leave the pagan ways behind.

Did they? The “so called Jews” of today (Orthodox/Messianic/Kzar, etc.) **are still gazing at the moon** just as Babylon, Egypt and other pagan nations have been practicing for eons of time.

Rabbi's attempting to sight the moon through an astronomical telescope.

Again, if a person researches into THE HEBREW TEXT, the words – “**new moon**,” as found in our present “received text” Scriptures, **CANNOT BE FOUND.** The words “**new moon**,” promoting allegiance given to the moon, **simply do not exist in the ORIGINAL Hebrew script.**

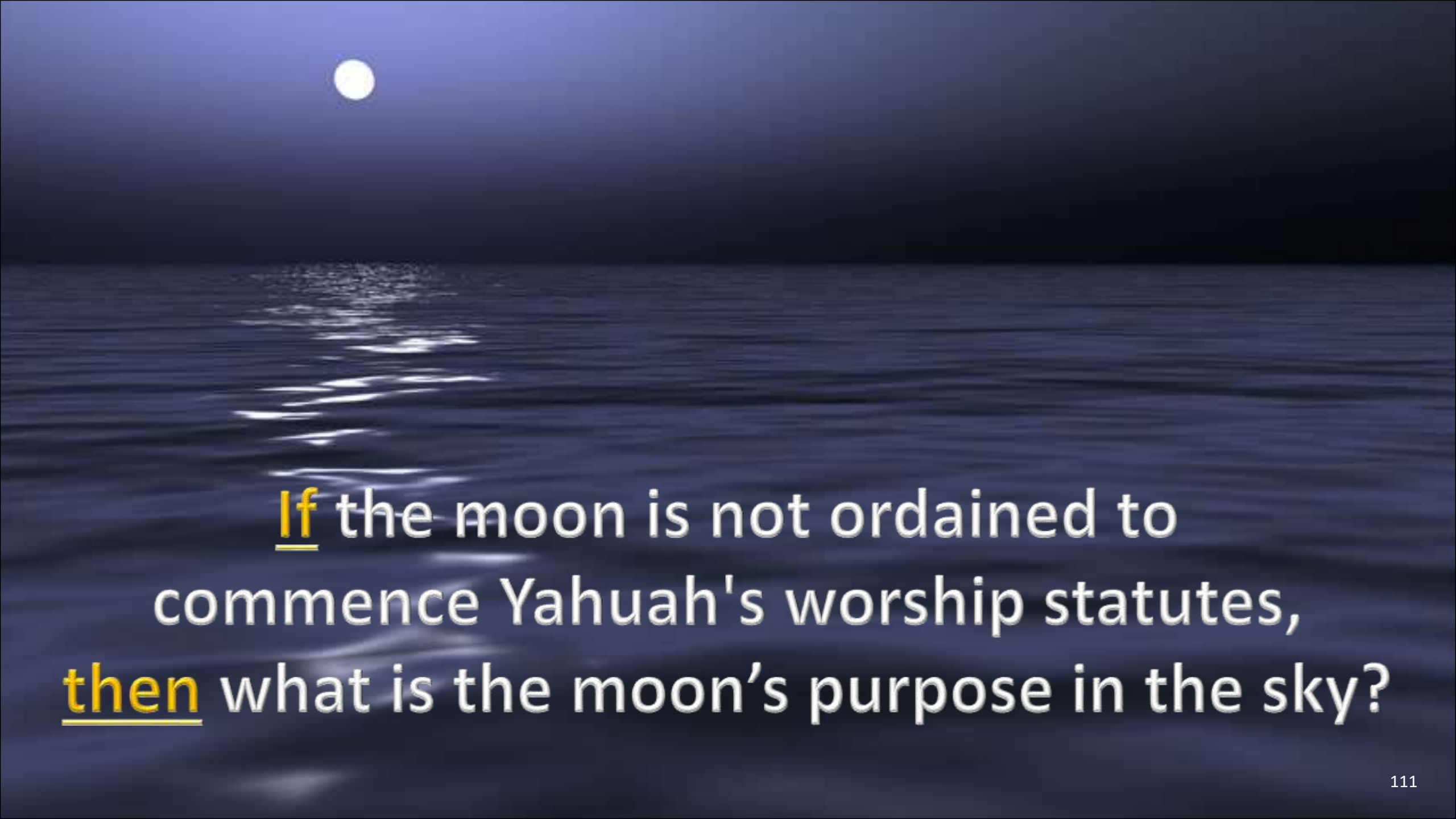
The words “**NEW MOON**” have been infused into our modern Scriptures. The Masoretic Rabbis saturated their belief patterns into their version of the Scriptures which is where we have received **many editions** of the Scriptures today.



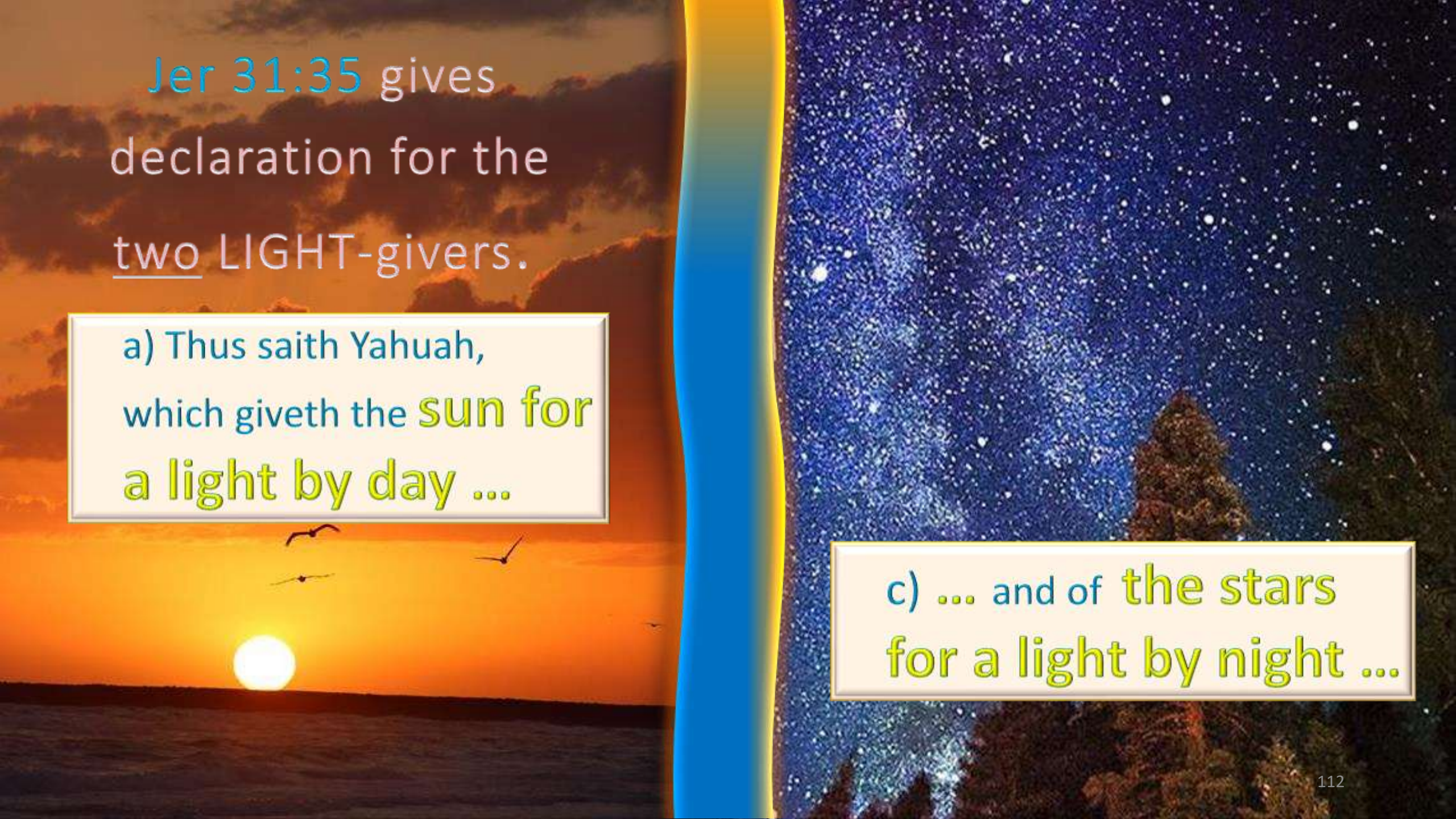
Main Point of This Study

110

- Pagan **moon worship crept in early** amongst Yahuah's people after Moses died.
- Yahuah gave them a sign. **Would they recognize the sign** was for them?
- Question: **Will we follow** their moon apostasy, or will we heed the Torah worship guidelines for the Biblical month?
- Challenge: If you are following the lunar cycles to mark "any type of worship" perhaps this study will test your belief system.

A full moon is visible in the upper left portion of a dark, deep blue sky. The moon's light creates a shimmering, wavy reflection that extends down the center of the frame towards a dark, calm body of water. The overall scene is serene and nocturnal.

If the moon is not ordained to
commence Yahuah's worship statutes,
then what is the moon's purpose in the sky?



Jer 31:35 gives
declaration for the
two LIGHT-givers.

a) Thus saith Yahuah,
which giveth the **sun for
a light by day ...**

c) ... and of **the stars
for a light by night ...**

Thus saith Yahuah, which giveth ... b) the ordinances of the moon ... d) which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; Yahuah of hosts is his name:

Jer 31:35 Also Declares the
Mandate for the Moon



Yahuah declares the moon
is given for ordinances!

Note: The “tides of the sea”
are only one of the
moon’s ordinances.

What are the job descriptions of the moon?

Has “mankind” added job descriptions to the moon outside of what the Creator has given?

Does the moon have a prominent position which it does not deserve when it comes to observance of holy feasts and festivals?

Does an “Ordinance” of the Moon
determine the commencement of
appointed Feasts & Festivals (mo`eds)?
Let’s examine Ps 104:19.



“He appointed the moon for seasons [H4150] ...”

This verse is often used to place the moon in a position
to commence the months and related appointed worship
times. Why? Let’s examine the definition of “seasons.”

1st Definition in Strong's H4150 (seasons): Gen 1:14

117

Seasons – Strong's H4150; **moed`**; ... properly, [1st def.] an **appointment**, i.e. a fixed time **or** [2nd def.] **season**; specifically, [more 1st defs.] **a festival**; conventionally a year; by implication, **an assembly** (as convened for a definite purpose); **technically the congregation**; by extension, **the place of meeting**; **also a signal** (as appointed beforehand).

- The term **moed`**, [1st defined as] **appointment, a festival; an assembly, technically the congregation; the place of meeting**, are rightly understood in the context of appointed festivals in Gen 1:14.
- **However, the moon does not appoint these festival seasons.**



2nd Definition in Strong's H4150 (season): Psalm 104:19

- The 2nd definition for H4150 is a season; rightly understood in the context **of the four seasons of the year**. These seasons are fixed; they do not vary.
- One of the ordinances of the moon is to **maintain these fixed seasons for agricultural purposes** that happen to coincide with the harvests of the appointed festivals.



The Two Definitions of H4150 are NOT Interchangeable!

- When the moon is used to appoint the Biblical month commencement, the festivals are NEVER fixed, as they vary between 1-5 weeks dependent on the arrival of the crescent moon before/after the equinox.
- Lets remember Ps 104:19 is not a Torah verse. Yahuah appointed the moon for H4150 agricultural seasons from spring to winter.
- These seasons are only one ordinance of the moon.

Ordinance of the Harvest Moon



Deut 33:14 ... and for the precious things
[H4022] put forth by the moon [H3391].

[H4022] - something valuable; precious fruit

[H3391] - lunation of the moon

Ordinance of the Tides

- The gravitational pull of the moon influences the rise and fall of the tides.
- It also affects soil moisture, plant sap and the water table.

JOB'S ILLUSTRATION:

Job 38:8, 10, 11

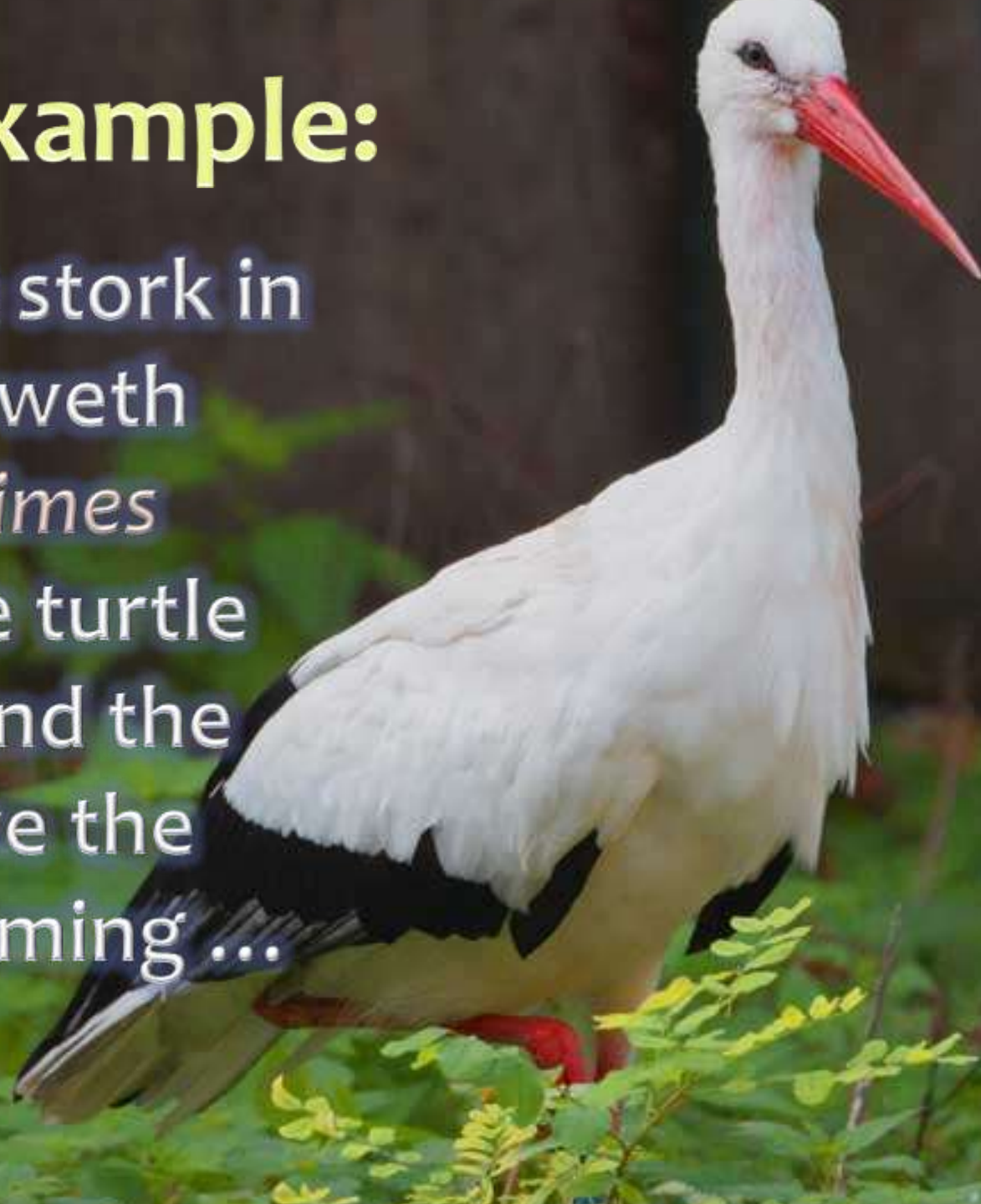
- 8 Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?
- 10 ... and set bars and doors,
- 11 And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed?



- *This word “season” must not be defined as pertaining to only festival seasons.*

Here's one example:

- Jer 8:7 Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her *appointed times* [H4150]; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming ...



Ordinances of the Moon

- This word “seasons” can mean:
 - 1) festival appointments
 - 2) agricultural seasons and
 - 3) the stork’s “appointed times.”
- The moon is not allotted to define the timing of the appointed mo-ed` festivals through Moses in the Torah.
- However, remember: the “appointed seasons” do align with the agricultural harvests appointed by the moon.

Ordinances of the Moon [H3394] Bless the Earth

126

Some Ordinances are:

- i. The Moon Stabilizes the Tidal Activity and Sustains Life in the Ocean:

The gravitational pull causes the tidal flow in the ocean waters establishing a fresh supply of oxygen to the ocean plants and animals.

- ii. The Moon Stabilizes the Earth's Seasons:

For the advancement of life to plants, animals and mankind, regular stable seasons are absolutely necessary.

Ordinances of the Moon [H3394] Bless Mankind

127

Some Ordinances are:

1. **The Moon is for Agricultural Seasons:** This gives mankind yearly harvests of precious produce at the agricultural appointed time.
2. **The Moon is given for Prophetic Utterances:** Eclipses, for instance, are like mileposts in human history, marking off certain dates. We can study events in ancient history because the eclipses have been recorded. The moon is involved in signs for great miracles and prophecy. (Note: the first use of "moon" in the Torah was Joseph's dream - the moon being part of prophecy, not month-start.)
3. **The Moon is given for Warnings Against "moon" worship:**
See Deut 4:19; 17:3; 2 Kings 23:5; Jer 8:2.
4. **The Moon is given as a Reminder of Creation and our Creator:**
See Ps 8:3; Ps 136:9; Ps 148:3.



END OF PART 1

In Part 2 we are going to investigate the Hebrew meaning of every word number attached to “moon” to see which number commences each “new month.”

A person with blonde hair, seen from behind, is sitting on a dark wooden bench in a park. The ground is covered with fallen yellow and orange leaves. Large trees with vibrant autumn foliage frame the scene, with sunlight filtering through the leaves. In the background, a body of water and more trees are visible under a bright sky.

Numbers 6:24-26

YHVVH bless you and keep you;
YHVVH make His face shine upon
you, and be gracious unto you;
YHVVH lift up His countenance
upon you, and give you peace

In the name of Y'shua,
the Messiah, the Prince of Peace!

A photograph of a forest path. The path is covered in fallen leaves and leads into the distance. Large trees with thick trunks line the path, and their green leaves are illuminated by sunlight, creating a dappled light effect on the ground and foliage.

THE END OF PART ONE

Supreme Provider
Y'shua Ha Mashiach

Prepared by permission from a Power
Point Presentation arranged
by Charlene Fortsch
and recorded by Walter Tschoepe.