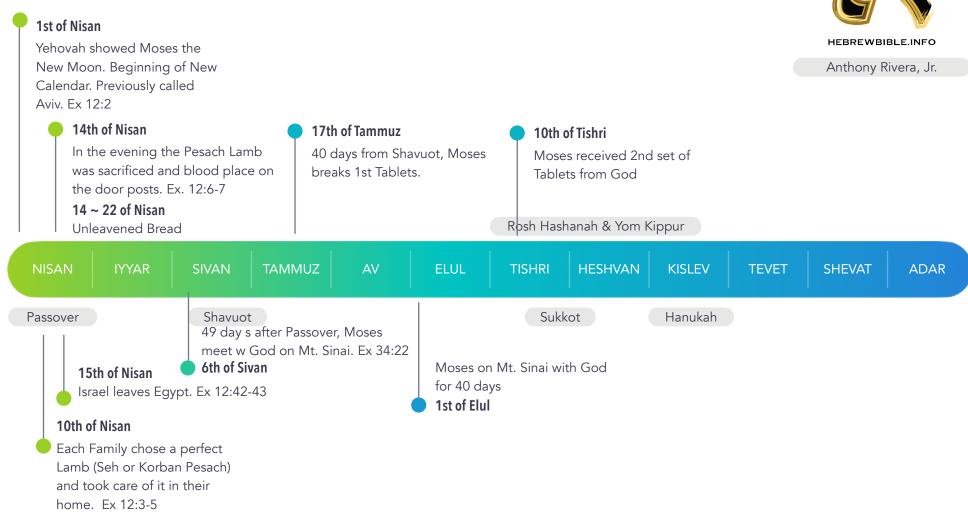
ISRAELITE CALENDAR

All of the Biblical holidays (חגי תורה) begin with the primordial holiday of Passover (חג הפסח) in Exodus 12.



Passover holiday is actually a month-long celebration.

The first Passover feast marked the beginning of the 10th and final plague, which would eclipse all others. It was celebrated on the 14th of Aviv (Abib), the first month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus 12:6). Aviv began about the time of the Spring Equinox on March 21st. The month later became known as *Nisan* on the Jewish calendar. Over and over it is referred to as the "month of spring" (חֶדֶשׁ הָאָבִיב), the "month of redemption," the month of Nisan, and so on. it was customary to obtain the Korban Pesach (קרבן פּסָח) i.e., Passover lamb) four days before Passover so that worshipers could make sure that their lambs had no blemishes which would preclude them from being offered as sacrifices. On the eve of the 14th, the lamb was to be slain and its blood painted on the doorposts.