

THE BIBLICAL DAY IS FROM EVENING TO EVENING

By Joy Collins Lyle, © December 25, 2022, updated May 21, 2023

All of the days of creation tell us that the Biblical Day, according to Yehovah, is from evening to evening. I have checked the Hebrew text in the following verses and THE HEBREW TEXT ALWAYS PUTS THE EVENING FIRST:

[Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31 KJV] 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. AND THE EVENING AND THE MORNING WERE THE FIRST DAY. ... 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. ... 13 And the evening and the morning were the third day. ... 19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. ... 23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. ... 31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, [it was] very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

[PSALM 104:19 KJV] [Psalm 104:19 KJV] 19 HE APPOINTED THE MOON ("YAREACH") FOR SEASONS ("MOADIYM" which means APPOINTED TIMES, i.e. FEASTS/FESTIVALS); THE SUN KNOWETH HIS GOING DOWN.

PSALM 104:19 tells us the sun's role: "the SUN ("shemesh") knoweth HIS SETTING ("M'VO'O")" speaks of SUNSET.

HEBREW MASORETIC TEXT PSALM 104:19: מְבוֹאוֹ יָדַעַתְּ שֶׁמֶשׁ לְמוֹעֲדֵימָּ יָרַח עֶשֶׂה

SO, THE SUN WAS GIVEN FOR DETERMINING DAYS! BUT IT IS SUNSET THAT MARKS THE END OF ONE DAY AND THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT. ("... Evening to evening was the first Day" Genesis 1:5 KJV states.)

The account of the Resurrection of Yehoshua in Matthew 28:1 needs to be corrected according to the Hebrew text instead of using the Greek text.

HEBREW GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, in all 9 manuscripts of the Shem Tov Hebrew Matthew to which Professor Howard had access, has the following text for Matthew 28:1. "THE SABBATH" is not mentioned in the verse at all. However, the King James Version (KJV) of Matthew has "The Sabbath," being translated from the Greek.

The Hebrew text of the first two phrases is:

וביום הראשון מהשבוע

בהשכמה

Professor Howard translates the Hebrew text of the verse as:

“And on the first day of the week, early in the morning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.”

The Hebrew text is:

“uvayom harishon” - וביום הראשון - “and on the first day”

“Yom Rishon” means “first Day.” “Yom” is “day” and “Rishon” is “first.”

“mehashvu’a” - מהשבוע - means “of the week.”

“bash’camah” - בהשכמה - means “in the early morning, early rising” according to Eliezer Ben Yehudah’s Pocket English-Hebrew/Hebrew-English Dictionary.

But the KJV has:

[Matthew 28:1 KJV] 1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

This would lead one to believe that the Sabbath extended all the way until the morning. However, I believe what came just before the morning of the first day, in this story of the resurrection, was the **EVENING OF THE FIRST DAY**, the first part of the day, just as **ALL** of the days of creation were declared by **YEHOVAH ELOHIM!**

Another example shows **YEHOVAH TOLD MOSES TO TELL THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL THIS ABOUT YOM KIPPUR:**

[Leviticus 23:27, 32 KJV] 27 Also on the TENTH [day] of this seventh month [there shall be] a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD. ... 32 It [shall be] unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: IN THE NINTH day of the month AT EVEN, FROM EVEN TO EVEN, shall ye celebrate your sabbath.

THIS PARTICULAR PASSAGE IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW YEHOVAH SET UP THE ORDER OF THE DAY FROM EVENING TO EVENING. NOTICE THAT YEHOVAH TELLS MOSES CONCERNING YOM KIPPUR SPECIFICALLY THAT THE 10th DAY IS TO BE COUNTED FROM THE EVENING OF THE 9th (which starts the 10th day) UNTIL THE NEXT EVENING (the evening of the 10th, which would start the 11th day). “FROM EVENING TO EVENING” means that **IN THE MIDDLE OF THOSE two evenings IS THE 10TH DAY**. I believe He is very specific to make sure we get this right...because it is so important!

I believe Yehovah was so specific because the consequences were so drastic. Yehovah said **HE** would destroy the person who does not observe this 10th day the way He prescribes by “afflicting” themselves. I don’t believe it is any different from the way any other day is counted. However, as I previously stated, I believe **HE** is being merciful to be sure people understand Him.

[Leviticus 23:29-30 KJV] 29 For whatsoever soul [it be] that shall not be afflicted in that same day, HE SHALL BE CUT OFF FROM AMONG HIS PEOPLE. 30 And whatsoever soul [it be] that doeth any work in that same day, THE SAME SOUL WILL I DESTROY FROM AMONG HIS PEOPLE.

Notice that Yehovah calls it “that same day.” The 9th of the month at even until the next even is only one day – the 10th day!

Another good example concerns the Passover and the First Day of Unleavened Bread. Deuteronomy 16:1-4 concerns the instructions given to Israel right before they entered the Land of Israel after 40 years:

[Deuteronomy 16:1-4 KJV] 1 Observe the month of Abib, and KEEP THE PASSOVER UNTO THE LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt BY NIGHT. 2 Thou shalt therefore SACRIFICE THE PASSOVER UNTO THE LORD THY GOD, of the flock and the herd, in the place which the LORD shall choose to place his name there. 3 THOU SHALT EAT NO LEAVENED BREAD WITH IT; SEVEN DAYS SHALT THOU EAT UNLEAVENED BREAD THEREWITH, [EVEN] THE BREAD OF AFFLICTION; FOR THOU CAMEST FORTH OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT IN HASTE: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life. 4 And there shall be no leavened bread seen with thee in all thy coast seven days; neither shall there [any thing] of the flesh, WHICH THOU SACRIFICEDST THE FIRST DAY AT EVEN, remain all night until the morning.

The Passover is undisputedly to be sacrificed on the 14th day of the first month. The next day, the 15th of the month, is shown to start at the close of the 14th at sundown, so it would be evening, NIGHT TIME, because that is when God brought Israel out of Egypt in haste! We will see that in the full account of the Exodus story below, along with Yehovah’s instructions for keeping it in the future:

[Exodus 12:1-36 KJV] 1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 2 This month [shall be] unto you the beginning of months: it [shall be] the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth [day] of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of [their] fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take [it] according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take [it] out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 AND YE SHALL KEEP IT UP UNTIL THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE SAME MONTH: AND THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY OF THE CONGREGATION OF ISRAEL SHALL KILL IT IN THE EVENING (“BEYN HAARBAYIM” – TRANSLATES LITERALLY AS “BETWEEN THE EVENINGS”). 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike [it] on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh IN THAT NIGHT, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; [and] with bitter [herbs] they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast [with] fire;

his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. 11 AND THUS SHALL YE EAT IT; [WITH] YOUR LOINS GIRDED, YOUR SHOES ON YOUR FEET, AND YOUR STAFF IN YOUR HAND; AND YE SHALL EAT IT IN HASTE: IT [IS] THE LORD'S PASSOVER. 12 FOR I WILL PASS THROUGH THE LAND OF EGYPT THIS NIGHT, AND WILL SMITE ALL THE FIRSTBORN IN THE LAND OF EGYPT, BOTH MAN AND BEAST; AND AGAINST ALL THE GODS OF EGYPT I WILL EXECUTE JUDGMENT: I [am] the LORD. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye [are]: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy [you], when I smite the land of Egypt. 14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever. 15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. 16 And in the first day [there shall be] an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save [that] which every man must eat, that only may be done of you. 17 AND YE SHALL OBSERVE [THE FEAST OF] UNLEAVENED BREAD; FOR IN THIS SELFSAME DAY HAVE I BROUGHT YOUR ARMIES OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

(Verse 18 below starts telling about the 15th of the month, the First Day of Unleavened bread, which it describes as starting at even, the sundown of the 14th. They were to slaughter the Passover Lamb and cook it in the afternoon of the 14th, and then eat it with unleavened bread in the evening as it went into the 15th, THE NIGHT PART of the First Day of Unleavened Bread. This is the description I have heard from Dr. Nehemia Gordon, a well respected Karaite Hebrew scholar. The end of the 21st of the month, at evening going into the 22nd would then be the end of the seven day feast of unleavened bread.)

18 IN THE FIRST [MONTH], ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH AT EVEN, YE SHALL EAT UNLEAVENED BREAD, UNTIL THE ONE AND TWENTIETH DAY OF THE MONTH AT EVEN. 19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land. 20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread. 21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. 22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip [it] in the blood that [is] in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that [is] in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. 23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite [you]. 24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. 25 And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath

promised, that ye shall keep this service. 26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? 27 That ye shall say, It [is] the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. 28 And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. 29 And it came to pass, that AT MIDNIGHT THE LORD SMOTE ALL THE FIRSTBORN IN THE LAND OF EGYPT, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that [was] in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for [there was] not a house where [there was] not one dead. 31 AND HE CALLED FOR MOSES AND AARON BY NIGHT, AND SAID, RISE UP, [AND] GET YOU FORTH FROM AMONG MY PEOPLE, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said. 32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also. 33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, THAT THEY MIGHT SEND THEM OUT OF THE LAND IN HASTE; for they said, We [be] all dead [men]. 34 AND THE PEOPLE TOOK THEIR DOUGH BEFORE IT WAS LEAVENED, THEIR KNEADINGTROUGHES BEING BOUND UP IN THEIR CLOTHES UPON THEIR SHOULDERS. 35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: 36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them [such things as they required]. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

Now, Numbers 33:3 confirms that THE NIGHT they left was already counted as the 15th of the month! Remember they left in haste that same night! Jehovah had prepared them to eat in haste fully clothed with their staff in their hand because He was going to kill all the firstborn at midnight. We see in verse 31 that Pharaoh summons Moses and Aaron by night and sends them out right then!

[Numbers 33:3 KJV] 3 AND THEY DEPARTED FROM RAMESES IN THE FIRST MONTH, ON THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH; ON THE MORROW AFTER THE PASSOVER THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WENT OUT WITH AN HIGH HAND IN THE SIGHT OF ALL THE EGYPTIANS.

This confirms for me that the sundown of the 14th started the 15th day, which was the evening (THE NIGHT) part of the day that the Israelites left Egypt in haste.

One last example is:

[Nehemiah 13:19-22 KJV] 19 And it came to pass, that WHEN THE GATES OF JERUSALEM BEGAN TO BE DARK BEFORE THE SABBATH, I COMMANDED THAT THE GATES SHOULD BE SHUT, AND CHARGED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE OPENED TILL AFTER THE SABBATH: and [some] of my servants set I at the gates, [that] there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day. 20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice. 21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do [so] again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no [more] on the sabbath. 22

And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and [that] they should come [and] keep the gates, TO SANCTIFY THE SABBATH DAY. Remember me, O my God, [concerning] this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

THIS STATES THAT DARKNESS WAS THE SIGN THAT THE SABBATH WAS STARTING...EVENING STARTED THE SABBATH DAY.

Since SANCTIFYING THE CORRECT “DAY” OF THE SABBATH is so important, making a prayerful and wise decision on this is incumbent on each of us. It is the Fourth Commandment, and Yehovah placed a death penalty on the sin of breaking its holiness/sanctity in the Written Torah (Exodus 16:11-36, Exodus 20:8-11, Exodus 31:12-18, Numbers 15:32-36).

Yehoshua never spoke against the timing of the day of the Sabbath that was being kept by the Jews of His day. He even went to the synagogue on the Sabbath, which was His custom, and healed there (Matthew 12:9-13).

All of these examples together confirm to me that the Day is comprised of Evening and then Morning, just as Yehovah Elohim declared at the First Day of Creation, as well as five more times for the other days He created:

[Genesis 1:5 KJV] 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. AND THE EVENING AND THE MORNING WERE THE FIRST DAY.

SOURCES:

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