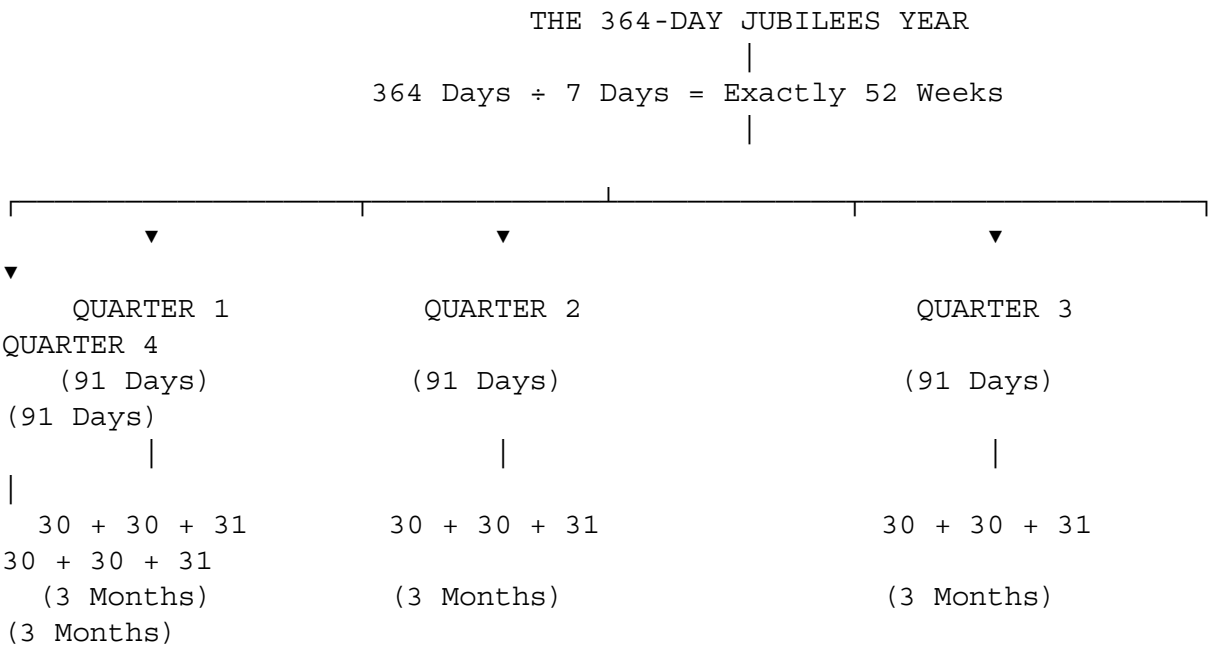


The **364-day solar calendar** in the **Book of Jubilees** (also detailed in the *Book of Enoch* and preserved in the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran) is presented as the pristine, heavenly system of time division established by the Creator at the beginning of the world. In Jubilees, time is not merely a tool for agricultural planning; it is a **sacred, cosmic order**. The central premise of Jubilees is that following the wrong calendar causes humanity to desecrate God's holy feast days, appointing festivals on ordinary workdays and working on divine Sabbaths.

1. The Mathematical Structure of the 364-Day Calendar

The 364-day calendar is built on absolute mathematical symmetry and order, divisible by the sacred number 7:



Key Components of the Jubilees Calendar

- **52 Full Weeks:** Because 364 is cleanly divisible by 7 ($52 \times 7 = 364$), **every single year begins and ends on the exact same day of the week—Wednesday.**
 - *Why Wednesday?* In Genesis 1:14–19, the sun, moon, and stars were created on the **Fourth Day (Wednesday)**. Thus, the Jubilees calendar always starts Day 1 of Month 1 on a Wednesday.
- **4 Quarters of 91 Days:** The year is split into four distinct seasons (Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter). Each quarter consists of **91 days** ($13 \text{ weeks} \times 7 = 91$).
- **3-Month Pattern (30, 30, 31):**
 - Month 1: 30 days
 - Month 2: 30 days
 - Month 3: **31 days** (The 31st day is a special seasonal memorial day marking the turn of the quarter).

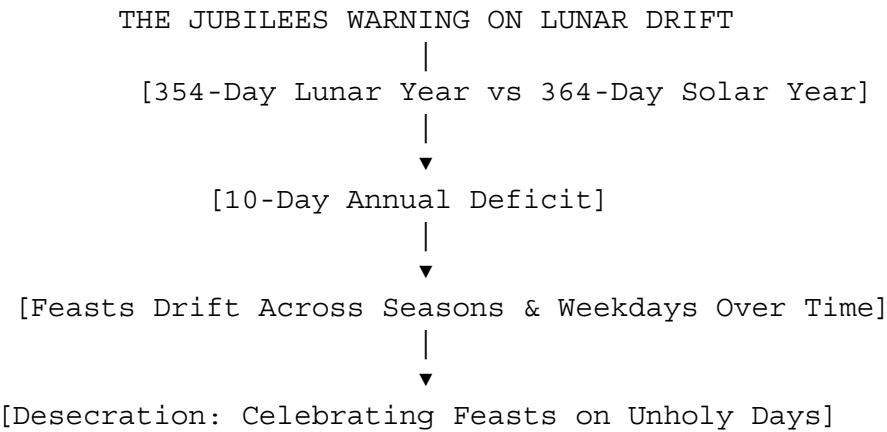
2. Jubilees Solar Calendar vs. Rabbinic Lunar Calendar

The major theological conflict between the writers of Jubilees (and the Qumran Essene community) and the mainstream Pharisaic/Rabbinic authorities in Jerusalem centered on whether time should be governed by the **Sun** or the **Moon**.

Feature	The Jubilees Solar Calendar	The Standard Lunar / Luni-Solar Calendar
Governing Celestial Body	The Sun (Genesis 1:14–19)	The Moon (New Moon phases / <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>)
Length of Year	364 Days	354 Days (Lacks ~11 days compared to solar year)
Day Count per Month	Fixed: 30, 30, and 31 days	Variable: 29 or 30 days depending on moon sightings
Day of the Week Consistency	Fixed permanently. Dates fall on the same weekday every year.	Floating. Dates shift to different weekdays every year.
Intercalation (Leap Adjustments)	Calculated via quarterly solar marker days.	Adds a 13th "leap month" (<i>Adar II</i>) every few years to resync.
View of the Moon	Viewed with suspicion as a distorter of sacred time (Jubilees 6:36).	Viewed as the primary indicator for determining months and feasts.

3. The Theological Warning in Jubilees

In **Jubilees 6:32–38**, the Angel of the Presence issues a stern warning to Moses regarding those who abandon the 364-day solar count in favor of watching the moon:
*"For I know and from henceforth will I declare it unto thee... **they will forget the feasts of the covenant and walk in the feasts of the Gentiles...** For there will be those who will assuredly **make observations of the moon—how it disturbs the seasons and comes in from year to year ten days too soon.**" — Jubilees 6:32, 36*



Why the Jubilees Authors Rejected the Lunar Calendar

1. **Consistency of Sacred Feasts:** In the 364-day solar calendar, because every date is fixed to a set day of the week:
 - **Passover (14th day of Month 1):** Always falls on a **Tuesday evening / Wednesday**.
 - **Feast of Firstfruits / Shavuot:** Always falls on a **Sunday** (the 15th of Month 3).
 - **Day of Atonement (10th day of Month 7):** Always falls on a **Friday** (never conflicting with or doubling up on the Sabbath).
2. **Avoiding Chaos in Worship:** Under a floating lunar calendar, holy feast days like the Day of Atonement can land on a Friday or Sunday, creating conflicts with the weekly Sabbath rules. Jubilees claimed that this floating system was an invention of fallen human reasoning that disrupted the fixed harmony of heaven.

4. Modern Astronomical Note

A physical solar year is actually **365.2422 days**. A strict 364-day calendar loses roughly 1.25 days per solar year.

Scholars debate how the ancient Qumran/Jubilees community corrected for this over centuries. Many believe they added a priestly "leap week" every 7 or 28 years (during a Sabbatical or Jubilee cycle) to keep the 364-day weekly cadence perfectly aligned with the spring equinox without ever breaking the 7-day Sabbath cycle.