Understanding the principles of the heavens.
Amanda Buys’ Spiritual Covering

This is a product of Kanaan Ministries, a non-profit ministry under the covering of:

- Roly, Amanda’s husband for more than thirty-five years.
- *River of Life Family Church*
  Pastor Edward Gibbens
  Vanderbijlpark
  South Africa
  Tel: +27 (0) 16 982 3022
  Fax: +27 (0) 16 982 2566
  Email: sharman@rolfc.co.za

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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel:</td>
<td>+27 (0) 21 930 7577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax:</td>
<td>086 681 9458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kanaan@iafrica.com">kanaan@iafrica.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kanaanministries.org">www.kanaanministries.org</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 3 PM

Kanaan International Website

Website: www.eu.kanaanministries.org
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I want to give full acknowledgement to:

Steve Olumuyiwa
West Africa Regional Coordinator
Intercessors For Africa

His book “Understanding and Dealing with the Heavens” opened up so much truth to me and I realized that the Church has not understood God’s times and seasons.

I work with the First People of Southern Africa – the Khoi Peoples and realized that they needed this information to deal with the ancient altars still standing in South Africa and specifically the Cape regions where I am based.

I started to add research to what Steve wrote in his book as the Lord led me to do. After I put it all together, I contacted Steve and asked for his blessing to release this manual with the added research to try and explain the more complicated terminology with the help of many pictures.

I have learned so much from the Africa House of Prayer and I have great appreciation for the work that they are doing in Africa.

Thank you very much for sharing your wisdom and discernment with so many people across the continent!

Steve’s book is available from him:

Engt. Steve Olumuyiwa
E-mail: [steve@stremco.com]
Intercessors for Africa website: www.intercessor.net
CONTENTS:


Calling for the leaders (fathers) and the whole house hold to worship Him  5

How did the Israelites celebrate the New Moon (Rosh Hodesh)?  7

Joshua goes to war  13

God despises a false heart  16

The prophetic significance of Rosh Hodesh (New Moon)  17

SECTION B: THE BELIEVER’S WARFARE IN THE HEAVENLIES

INTRODUCTION  20

PART 1: THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HEAVENS  23

PART 2: MAN HAS THE MANDATE TO CONTROL THE HEAVENLIES  26

• God forbids the worship of the sun, moon and stars
• The sun and moon and blessings
• The sun will not go down nor the moon withdraw itself
• God is in control!!

PART 3: IDOLATRY IN THE HEAVENS  32

PART 4: WHAT IS PROPHETIC PRAYING?  34

• Commandment by the Lord on New Moon days – special worship and blowing of trumpets
• How do we pray?
PART 5: UNDERSTANDING GATES IN THE HEAVENS

• The gate of time
• The gate of seasons
• The tropics
• The elliptic
• The equinoxes
• The solstices – peak summer and peak winter each year

PART 6: WATCHING AT THE GATES OF TIME

• The Biblical concept of watches
• The morning watch
• The evening watch

PART 7: LUNAR ECLIPSES – SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS

PART 8: PERSONAL CHARACTER REQUIREMENTS WHEN DEALING WITH THE HEAVENLIES

PRAYER STRATEGIES

• Does God really want us to keep a monthly appointment with Him at New Moon?
• Why would we do it?
• How would we celebrate it?
• What is the physical and spiritual meaning of this timing?

We know that on the first day God “created” light – the Light of the Messiah, the Word of Yeshua.

John 1:1 “1 IN THE beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

God then makes the rest of creation. We do not worship that which God made, i.e. sun, moon, stars, but we worship the Creator.

It is exactly in this “time” of the first seven days of creation that we find this verse describing the “lights” in the firmament to divide day and night.

Genesis 1:14 “14 And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be \textit{signs and tokens} [of God’s provident care], and [to mark] \textit{seasons, days, and years},

Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day (the warm hours) from the night and let them be for:

• 1) Signs (a twist away from the light) - Hebrew 226 – “oth” – an appearing signal, a flag, a beacon, monument, a token) and

• 2) Seasons - Hebrew 4150 “moêd” – an appointment, a fixed time or festival where we convene for a purpose)

• 3) Days and years (a revolution of time).

God tells us that the sun and the moon are flags wavering at us everyday, declaring His commitment and calling us to meet with Him regularly so that we can be blessed.
We can meet with God anytime of the day or night.

This time (New Moon) as well as the other Appointed Times (Festivals) is a special time when God wants to be with us.

God’s desire is that we are catapulted from one level to another. We need to stop at these times so that our spirit man can be energized by the “vision” of what lies ahead of us.

Somehow or other Joshua and Caleb had connected to the Source of Life:

• when others saw giants, they saw provision;
• when others saw failure, they saw opportunity.

But which day is the Appointed Time?

God sets out a pattern, of how the Israelites were supposed to come before Him at the tabernacle to worship Him.

A time table was laid out – set in place and coupled to the moon (specifically the new moon) so that everyone would know when the time and the season was right.

1 Chronicles 23:31 "31 And to assist in offering all burnt sacrifices to the Lord on Sabbaths, New Moon festivals, and set feast days by number according to the ordinance concerning them, continually before the Lord."

Interestingly we are told that the burnt offering must be by number and in “accordance to the order”.

What would this mean?

The Hebrew word for “order” is Strong 8199 “Mishpat” and means: “a particular right / privilege in order to get / receive favorable justice”

After the Tabernacle had been built, His presence was subject to the fact that we lay down / surrender our wills and willingly begin to walk in obedience to His Commandments.

2 Chronicles 2:4 “4 Behold, I am about to build a house for the Name of the Lord my God, dedicated to Him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before Him, for the continual showbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, New Moons, and on the solemn feasts of the Lord our God, as ordained forever for Israel."
**2 Chronicles 8:13** "13 A certain number every day, offering as Moses commanded for the Sabbaths, the New Moons, and the solemn feast days three times in the year—the Feasts of Unleavened Bread, of Weeks, and of Tabernacles.

**CALLING FOR THE LEADERS (FATHERS) AND THE WHOLE HOUSEHOLD TO WORSHIP HIM**

Most of God’s Appointed Times (Feasts) were dependent to a large degree on the Levites / priests.

In this Appointed Time – the focus is clearly on the fathers / leaders to open the way and to take the family with them to worship God.

(Remember it’s not to worship the moon – but the specific time of that moon’s cycle that sets in place a meeting directly with God)

God calls the **princes** i.e. leaders of the tribe / in today's terms, the father of the household, to bring an offering and to make atonement:

- sin offering
- grain offering
- burnt offering
- peace offering

every month on a specific date for the House of Israel.

**Ezekiel 45:17** “17 And it shall be the prince’s part to furnish [from the contributions of the people] the burnt offerings, meal offerings, and drink offerings at the feasts and on the New Moons and on the Sabbaths, at all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel. He shall prepare and make the sin offering, the meal offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings to make atonement for, bringing forgiveness and reconciliation to, the house of Israel.

¹Note: it is not a date in terms of any calendar but the exact time when the moon is new that matters.
This tells us that we have to be **studying the heavenlies**, we have to be watchmen on the wall to see when the time will be just right.

This calls for the believer to be

- vigilant
- awake (i.e. not sleeping)
- ready to move.

As the witnesses call out – “New Moon!” - we have to be ready to go before God with our offering.

Modern day man structures his life around many things, day off on Sunday, payday, etc.

The believer structures his monthly cycle or path of meetings with God in terms of the New Moon.

The door / gate of the Tabernacle in the inner court is kept shut for six days of the week except for the:

- shabbath
- day of the New Moon.

As soon as the prince / father has made the sacrifice then

“the people of the land will worship there”.

**Ezekiel 46:1-3**

1 THUS SAYS the Lord God: The gate of the inner court that faces east shall be shut during the six working days, **but on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and also on the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.**

2 And the prince shall enter by the porch or vestibule of the gate from without and shall stand by the sidepost of the gate. The priests shall prepare and offer his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate. Then he shall go out, but the gate shall not be shut until evening.

3 **The people of the land shall worship at the entrance of that gate** before the Lord on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.
HOW DID THE ISRAELITES CELEBRATE THE NEW MOON (ROSH HODESH)?

A study of the life and time of the Israelites gives us a number of clues to describe how they celebrated the New Moon festival.

As we study these, we need to be asking ourselves how this can be interpreted in today’s terms – ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you how you should be going about your worship at this time.

1. **We worship God**

   The people stand at the gate of the Tabernacle i.e. in front of God’s Face to worship / praise / sing / declare His glory.

   **Ezekiel 40:44** “44 Then the man [an angel] led me [from without] into the inner court, and behold, there were two chambers in the inner court: one beside the north gate but facing the south, and one beside the south gate but looking toward the north.

   **Ezekiel 46:3** “3 The people of the land shall worship at the entrance of that gate before the Lord on the Sabbaths and on the New Moons.

2. **Fathers Lead**

   The word “prince” is the Hebrew word Strong 5387 and means “King / the exalted one”

   **2 Chronicles 2:4** “4 Behold, I am about to build a house for the Name of the Lord my God, dedicated to Him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before Him, for the continual showbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, New Moons, and on the solemn feasts of the Lord our God, as ordained forever for Israel.

   The prince / father / leaders / people burn incense before God all this time. We (each one of us) are the “Altar of Incense” before God now that the veal has been torn.

   Every prayer, intercession, and petition that we bring, together with the sacrifice of laying down our will to His Commandments, causes the smoke to rise up to God’s nostrils.
3. We bring an offering

The Princes / the fathers / leaders come before God to bring an offering.

We know what has happened this past 28 days, we don’t know what lies ahead, but we do know that God is the Senior Partner in our Covenant and therefore we can give Him an offering of love.

Ezra 3:5 “5 And after that, the continual burnt offering, the offering at the New Moon, and at all the appointed feasts of the Lord, and the offerings of everyone who made a freewill offering to the Lord.

4. We reconcile with one another

It is time to reconcile with one another. One of the greatest needs today, is that we should recognize when we have hurt / harmed someone else, make restitution, ask forgiveness and walk in love with one another.

The worldly spirit of Greco-Roman thinking of superiority / slavery / submission leads to pride and a separation of people.

Nehemiah 10:33 “33 For the showbread; for the continual cereal offerings and burnt offerings; [for the offerings on] the Sabbaths, the New Moons, the set feasts; for the holy things, for the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel; and for all the work of the house of our God.

2 Chronicles 31:3 “3 King Hezekiah’s personal contribution was for the burnt offerings: [those] of morning and evening, for the Sabbaths, for the New Moons, and for the appointed feasts, as written in the Law of the Lord.

Isaiah 1:13 “13 Bring no more offerings of vanity (emptiness, falsity, vainglory, and futility); [your hollow offering of] incense is an abomination to Me; the New Moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot endure—[it is] iniquity and profanation, even the solemn meeting.
5. We have a huge party

It is a time of great joy. Every festival put in place by God was designed as a meeting time of specific importance. In the physical domain we celebrate worldly interactions.

However as we do so, our actions, attitudes, prayers, praise, study, etc. rises up to God in the same way as the angels on Jacobs ladder. God, in the spiritual realm, opens our eyes to see a vision of His world, thereby leaving us with the sustenance for our journey until the next meeting.

Hosea tells a time when our intimacy will removed because of our rebellion and the judgment of bondage that other will have over us until we return to God’s ways.

Hosea 2:11 “11 I will also cause to cease all her mirth, her feasting, her New Moons, her Sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts and appointed festive assemblies.”

Psalm 100:2 “2 Serve the Lord with gladness! Come before His presence with singing!”

6. We blow the Shofar

The Shofar is a symbol of the promise of God to Abraham – it is the sign of God Covenantal goodness. The ram died so that Isaac could live. The Lamb of God died on the Cross so that you and I can live.

The sound of the Shofar – is therefore also the sound of the Blood of Atonement.

The New Moon Appointed Time, calls us to blow the shofar, so that the sound of Yeshua’s victory can resonate into the physical domain where you live, but also into the Heavenlies.

Psalm 81:3 “3 Blow the trumpet at the New Moon, at the full moon, on our feast day.”

If we are truly watchmen of the walls, we will seek to build a wall with a strong foundation of commitment, Word study and prayer. When we then rise up to join the battle in the spiritual war over our city / land / continent we will be standing on the brink of a miracle.
When Deborah blew the shofar, God released a storm. This flood caused the enemies / chariots to get stuck in the mud.

7. We honor our Covenantal promises

God placed inside of mankind a yearning to search for his Maker. Unfortunately we often look to the physical – the tangible things as evidence, simply because they are there / or “real”.

God therefore gave this promise – a Messianic prophecy. He (God) will reign forever and that we (mankind) can use the very existence of the moon as a sign, until it no longer exists.

Psalm 72:5-7 “5 So that they may revere and fear You while the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations. 6 May he [Solomon as a type of King David’s greater Son] be like rain that comes down upon the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. 7 In His [Christ’s] days shall the [uncompromisingly] righteous flourish and peace abound till there is a moon no longer.

Psalm 89:33-37 "33 Nevertheless, My loving-kindness will I not break off from him, nor allow My faithfulness to fail [to lie and be false to him].
34 My covenant will I not break or profane, nor alter the thing that is gone out of My lips. 35 Once [for all] have I sworn by My holiness, which cannot be violated; I will not lie to David: 36 His Offspring shall endure forever, and his throne [shall continue] as the sun before Me. 37 It shall be established forever as the moon, the faithful witness in the heavens. Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]!

God then goes on to tell us in the Book of Revelation that the moon will only cease to exist when the Messiah Himself provides all of the light that we require.

Revelation 21:23 “23 And the city has no need of the sun nor of the moon to give light to it, for the splendor and radiance (glory) of God illuminate it, and the Lamb is its lamp.
Isaiah 60:19-20 “19 The sun shall no more be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you, but the Lord shall be to you an everlasting light, and your God your glory and your beauty.
20 Your sun shall no more go down, nor shall your moon withdraw itself, for the Lord shall be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.

Not only can we look at the moon as a sign of God’s faithfulness – i.e. a means to build up our trust and confidence that He will be there for us, but He promises us that the very existence of the moon and its continuing reflection of light is the measure of His mercy to us. His mercy endures forever!!

Psalm 136:9 “9 The moon and stars to rule by night, for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever;

Moreover the evidence of the New Moon is a reflection / flag / beacon waving / signaling to us that God has kept His promise to send a Messiah to this earth.

Yeshua (Son of David) came to earth and will return again at the Second Coming.

Psalm 89:34 “34 My covenant will I not break or profane, nor alter the thing that is gone out of My lips.
Psalm 89:37 “37 It shall be established forever as the moon, the faithful witness in the heavens. Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]!

God’s Covenantal promise to protect and provide for the Israelites / Bride of Messiah is evidenced in other examples of Divine intervention.

JOSHUA GOES TO WAR

We read of the story where the Amorites decide to go to war against Joshua.

The Israelites go to battle with the knowledge that God promises full deliverance.

Joshua 10:8 “8 And the Lord said to Joshua, Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hand; there shall not a man of them stand before you.

However the battle continues for the whole day and it appears as if they will not achieve the full victory that day. Joshua asks God to speak into the heavenlies, to the sun and moon and to command time to stand still so that the Israelites could complete their job.
God does this.

**Joshua 10:12-14** “12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord on the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the Israelites, and he said in the sight of Israel, **Sun, be silent and stand still at Gibeon, and you, moon,** in the Valley of Ajalon! 13 **And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed,** until the nation took vengeance upon their enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of the heavens and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. 14 There was no day like it before or since, when the Lord heeded the voice of a man. For the Lord fought for Israel.
Just as God set in place the principle of a Covenant, as He role-modeled and showed us how to live the commitment, we as mankind are required to follow suit.

1. David keeps this covenant with Jonathan –

1 Samuel 20:5 “5 David said to Jonathan, *Tomorrow is the New Moon* [festival], and I should not fail to sit at the table with the king; but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field till the third day at evening.

18 Then Jonathan said to David, *Tomorrow is the New Moon festival*; and you will be missed, for your seat will be empty.

24 So David hid himself in the field, and when the New Moon [festival] came, the king sat down to eat food.

2. The commitment to a pure marriage between a husband and wife.

3. A believer’s walk with God is a Covenant. We are called to walk in obedience, our will submitted to God’s purposes (not legalism).

The Torah tells us that the remnant will keep God’s Commandments, including these Appointed Times (Feasts).

Many men (often ardent church goers) will ridicule you for keeping the Feasts. Paul tells us not to let men judge you for keeping God’s Commandments – these things that we do are a shadow or pattern reflecting the Messiah and the attributes of God.

Colossians 2:16 “16 *Therefore let no one sit in judgment* on you in matters of food and drink, or *with regard to a feast day or a New Moon or a Sabbath.*
GOD DESPISES A FALSE HEART

Mankind, it is said, is a creature of habit; habit can become a ritual without meaning. These acts of nature become legalism, a bondage, and a heavy yoke on those who are forced to take part.

Sometimes this type of ritual is kept up as a pretense for one or other reason. Man’s heart is however not there, and behind the scene, often hidden from his fellowman but clearly discerned by God, man gives his heart to idols, sin and other acts of abomination – such are the people of Sodom.

God tells us that these rituals have no value – in fact He despises them.

Isaiah 1:10-15 “10 Hear [O Jerusalem] the word of the Lord, you rulers or judges of [another] Sodom! Give ear to the law and the teaching of our God, you people of [another] Gomorrah!
11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me [unless they are the offering of the heart]? says the Lord. I have had enough of the burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts [without obedience]; and I do not delight in the blood of bulls or of lambs or of he-goats [without righteousness].
12 When you come to appear before Me, who requires of you that your [unholy feet] trample My courts?
13 Bring no more offerings of vanity (emptiness, falsity, vainglory, and futility); [your hollow offering of] incense is an abomination to Me; the New Moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot endure—[it is] iniquity and profanation, even the solemn meeting.
14 Your New Moon festivals and your [hypocritical] appointed feasts My soul hates. They are an oppressive burden to Me; I am weary of bearing them.
15 And when you spread forth your hands [in prayer, imploring help], I will hide My eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood!

The consequence of this is God’s wrath and judgment.

Isaiah 13:9 “9 Behold, the day of the Lord is coming!—fierce, with wrath and raging anger—to make the land and the [whole] earth a desolation and to destroy out of it its sinners.
10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened at its rising and the moon will not shed its light.

Isaiah 24:23 “23 Then the moon will be confounded and the sun ashamed, when [they compare their ineffectual fire to the light of] the Lord of hosts, Who will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before His elders will show forth His glory.
THE PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE OF ROSH HODESH (NEW MOON)

Those who chose to declare the Lordship of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Yeshua the Messiah and the Holy Spirit in their lives, will submit their will to God and began to walk in obedience to His Commandments.

We will hear (“Sh’ma”) and do (“asah”) His word.

Our lives therefore experience a change in the pattern of our daily walk. We no longer follow the world set pattern but rather that of the God of Israel, namely:

• new calendar
• new schedule of Feasts
• new role of discipleship
• etc.

The world walks in step to the calendar based on the sun – and has 365 ¼ days per annum.

We now start to follow the lunar calendar and our month starts with the New Moon. All of the “Feasts” are timed to begin at one of the phases of the moon.

The New Moon is when the small sliver of white appears and the rest of the moon is in darkness.

The path that the moon follows every month, from this tiny part of light all the way to the full moon when there is the maximum amount of light in the physical, is a pattern which will be replicated in the spiritual.

Hebrews 8:5 “5 [But these offer] service [merely] as a pattern and as a foreshadowing of [what has its true existence and reality in] the heavenly sanctuary. For when Moses was about to erect the tabernacle, he was warned by God, saying, See to it that you make it all [exactly] according to the copy (the model) which was shown to you on the mountain.

God creates light out of darkness.

Genesis 1:2-3 “2 The earth was without form and an empty waste, and darkness was upon the face of the very great deep. The Spirit of God was moving (hovering, brooding) over the face of the waters. 3 And God said, Let there be light; and there was light.

God is showing us that light will always displace darkness, will bring clarity and sight in the place of murkiness, and vision / purpose in the place of a place / time of chaos.
Isaiah 60:2 “2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and dense darkness [all] peoples, but the Lord shall arise upon you [O Jerusalem], and His glory shall be seen on you.

Later in Genesis God teaches us another principle, namely the sequence of what constitutes a day. He defines time as “it was evening and it was day”.

Genesis 1:5 “5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

We are called to grow from Glory to Glory.

2 Corinthians 3:18 “18 And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another; [for this comes] from the Lord [Who is] the Spirit.

This is the spiritual side of the physical manifestation of the Moon.

We all start off in the darkness of this world under the ruleship of Satan. At some point in time we chose to “return” to God and in the process His Light / the Life of the Messiah flows into our spirit man.

This is a picture of the New Moon. The sound of the shofar declares the rising of the New Moon and in our case of the new birth.

Yeshua has poured His Blood out on the Altar in Heaven and therefore we can confidentially stand before God.

Hebrews 9:24 “24 For Christ (the Messiah) has not entered into a sanctuary made with [human] hands, only a copy and pattern and type of the true one, but [He has entered] into heaven itself, now to appear in the [very] presence of God on our behalf.

As we transform our lives to align with the will and plan of God, as we renew our minds through the study of the Torah and as our physical body submits to a life of obedience to God’s Will and Commandments we can also say that our light (a reflection of the Light of the Messiah) becomes fuller and more intensive in strength.
We are the Bride of Messiah – as such we will always reflect His glory and His Light.

We, the reborn, stand in the inner court – this is where we get more and more light.

**Ezekiel 10:3-4** “3 Now the cherubim stood on the south side of the house when the man went in; and the cloud [the Shekinah] filled the inner court. 4 Then the glory of the Lord mounted up from the cherubim to stand over the threshold of the [Lord’s] house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the Lord’s glory.”
SECTION B: THE BELIEVER’S WARFARE IN THE HEAVENLIES

INTRODUCTION

We need to learn to deal with the heavenlies because many, many babies that are born are dedicated in one way or another to the heavenlies.

In some places when children are born, they are placed on the ground, lifted to the heavenlies or bathed with water.

In some places people are named after the day they are born and sorcerers can manipulate these things to affect that child.

Rosicrucian’s are taught to “medifocus” – this means they meditate and focus demonically on every leader in the world based on his birthday.

It is also found generally that during full moon there are more rapes, manic tendencies, pregnancies, wars get started, dogs bay at the moon, etc.

The moon affects the menstrual cycle of every woman. The cycles of life for conception and birth of every child is calculated according to the cycles of the moon and not the conventional Gregorian calendar.

That is why sorcerers are able to exert adverse cyclical events in people’s lives by interfering with the sun, moon and stars especially around their birth date or conception date.

The moon affects the climate, tide, agriculture and productivity.
Islam

The moon and the sun control major religions in Africa and Asia. Five times a day the Moslems pray making pronouncements into the sun, which have to do with the control of politics and even control of prices.

They make a lot of input into the heavenlies and no wonder their religious symbol is the crescent and the star.

The fetish priests decide the day of festivals by examining the moon – for example in Swaziland, major decisions are made in respect of vital aspects of the highly demonic Inkwala festival.

No wonder the Lord asked Job some very important questions about how the heavens exercise dominion on the earth!

Job 38:33 “33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule upon the earth?”
PART 1: THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HEAVENS

Gen 1:6-8  "6 And God said, Let there be a firmament [the expanse of the sky] in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters [below] from the waters [above].
7 And God made the firmament [the expanse] and separated the waters which were under the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse. And it was so.
8 And God called the firmament 
Heavens. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day."

The firmament is called sky today.

Gen 1:14-18  "14 And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be 1 signs and tokens [of God's provident care], and [to mark] 2 seasons, days, and years,
15 And let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light upon the earth.
And it was so.
16 And God made the two great lights—the greater light (the sun) to rule the day and the lesser light (the moon) to rule the night. He also made the stars.
17 And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth,
18 To rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good (fitting, pleasant) and He approved it."

From the above verses we see that God created the sun, moon and stars and fixed them in the sky to fulfill certain functions as follows:

- Divide the day from the night
- To be for signs
- To be for seasons
- To be for days
- To be for years
- To give light upon the earth
- To rule over the day
- To rule over the night.

1 Hebrew Strongs 226 – "oth" – an appearing signal, flag, beacon.
2 Hebrew strongs 4150 "mo-êd" – an appointment
The sun, moon and stars have been assigned by God to **exercise dominion and to determine many important matters on earth.**

Giving light was only ONE of those functions.

**The key function was to rule:**

**Ps 136:7-9**  
"7 To Him Who made the great lights, for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever—
8 **The sun to rule over the day,** for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever;
9 **The moon and stars to rule by night,** for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever;"

They served to declare **omens** and **signs** of events on earth – for example, when Jesus was born, His star appeared as an omen by the wise men from the East. (Matthew 2:1-2)

They also determine **seasons**:

**Ecc 3:1-8**  
"1 **TO EVERYTHING there is a season,** and a time for every matter or purpose under heaven:
2 A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted,
3 A time to kill and a time to heal, a time to break down and a time to build up,
4 A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
5 A time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
6 A time to get and a time to lose, a time to keep and a time to cast away,
7 A time to rend and a time to sew, a time to keep silence and a time to speak,
8 A time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."
The Signs of the Times

**Luke 21:25-26** “25 And there will be *signs in the sun and moon and stars*; and upon the earth [there will be] distress (trouble and anguish) of nations in bewilderment and perplexity [without resources, left wanting, embarrassed, in doubt, not knowing which way to turn] at the roaring (the echo) of the tossing of the sea,

26 Men swooning away or expiring with fear and dread and apprehension and expectation of the things that are coming on the world; for the [very] powers of the heavens will be shaken and caused to totter.”

God’s children will be responsible to execute these activities. The nations will be shaken with extraordinary signs and wonders before the return of the Lord.

**Acts 2:18-20** “18 Yes, and on My menservants also and on My maidservants in those days I will pour out of My Spirit, and they shall *prophesy* [telling forth the divine counsels and predicting future events pertaining especially to God’s kingdom].

19 And I will show *wonders in the sky above* and *signs on the earth beneath*, blood and fire and smoking vapor;

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the obvious day of the Lord comes—that great and notable and conspicuous and renowned [day].”

The heavens determine the very nature of each day and night and year.

**Ps 19:1-3** “1 THE HEAVENS declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows and proclaims His handiwork.

2 Day after day pours forth speech, and night after night shows forth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor spoken word [from the stars]; their voice is not heard.”

The Word tells us here that *each day has a speech and each night a certain knowledge to declare.*

The sun, moon and stars described as having lines that go all over the earth to enforce their voice and whatever they intended to declare, but the sun is personified as having a character and nature of a strong man and a bridegroom.

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3 Hebrew Strongs 5046 – “nagged” – to manifest, expose, announce, praise
It is even said to have a house provided for it by God.

Ps 19:4-6  “4 Yet their voice/line [in evidence] goes out through all the earth, their sayings to the end of the world. Of the heavens has God made a tent for the sun,
5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber; and it rejoices as a strong man to run his course.
6 Its going forth is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the ends of it; and nothing [yes, no one] is hidden from the heat of it.”

God has assigned to these heavenly bodies ordinances that they represent.

The way they exercise these ordinances determine a lot regarding the well-being of men and other occupants of the earth, in all their habitations all over the earth.

Ps 19:3  “3 There is no speech nor spoken word [from the stars]; their voice is not heard.”

The sun, moon and stars were created to exercise spiritual control over the earth.

Their ordinances went beyond physical effects such as light and energy provision for the earth, or the mere control of sea tides by the moon.

These bodies regulate the very cycles of nature and therefore directly affect human and other forms of life on the planet. God designed it to be this way.

4 Hebrew Strongs 6957 – “qav” – a connecting cord, especially for measuring, figuratively to rule.
5 Hebrew Strongs 734 “orach” – a well trodden road.
PART 2: MAN HAS THE MANDATE TO CONTROL THE HEAVENLIES

Ps 8:3-6  “3 When I view and consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained and established, 4 What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of [earthborn] man that You care for him? 5 Yet You have made him but a little lower than God [or heavenly beings], and You have crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet:”

Hebrews 2:8  “8 For You have put everything in subjection under his feet. Now in putting everything in subjection to man, He left nothing outside [of man’s] control. But at present we do not yet see all things subjected to him [man].”

Although the sun, moon and stars were to exercise dominion, they were to be directed by man in their exercise of these very strategic roles.

Adam lost this rulership mandate of man to the kingdom of darkness but we who have been born-again have regained it in Yeshua and are now children of the Most High God.

Every redeemed child of God can exercise the mandate of control of the heavens in faith and in accordance with Biblical principles.

GOD FORBIDS THE WORSHIP OF THE SUN, MOON AND STARS

Deut 4:19  “19 And beware lest you lift up your eyes to the heavens, and when you see the sun, moon, and stars, even all the host of the heavens, you be 6 drawn away and worship them and 7 serve them, things which the Lord your God has allotted to all nations under the whole heaven.”

God’s Word tells us that each people group on the earth have their own share of the heavens and the bodies in it.

6 Hebrew Strongs 5080 “nadach” – withdrawn, outcast, banished.
7 This has the connotation that you “work” in such a way that you are enslaved and in bondage.
God describes that the heavens over a particular people could be closed and brassed over while another in the same location enjoys open heavens. This situation, which God brings at times, is in reaction to the sin of the people and it affects the labour of their hands.

The worship of the sun and moon i.e. idol worship, witchcraft and occult practices can bring difficulties into a person’s life; certainly you will not be living in victory.

**Lev 26:18-20**  “18 And if in spite of all this you still will not listen and be obedient to Me, then I will chastise and discipline you seven times more for your sins. 19 And I will break and humble your pride in your power, and I will make your heavens as iron [yielding no answer, no blessing, no rain] and your earth [as sterile] as brass. 20 And your strength shall be spent in vain, for your land shall not yield its increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruit.”

For those who worship the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and here Yeshua the Messiah, they will experience the goodness of God and the blessing of His creation over their lives.

**Ps 121:6**  “6 The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.”
THE SUN AND MOON AND BLESSINGS

Moses blessed the generations of Joseph:

**Deut 33:13-14**  
“And of Joseph he said: Blessed by the Lord be his land, with the precious gifts of heaven from the dew and from the deep that couches beneath, 14 With the precious things of the fruits of the sun and with the precious yield of the months.”

**STARS:**

**Job 38:31-3**  
“31 Can you bind the chains of [the cluster of stars called] Pleiades, or loose the cords of [the constellation] Orion?  
32 Can you lead forth the signs of the zodiac in their season? Or can you guide [the stars of] the Bear with her young?  
33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule upon the earth?”

King James Version:

31 Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?  
32 Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?  
33 Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven?

It appears from these scriptures that some of these stars such as Pleiades have sweet influences on people but others like Orion seem to have bands that enforce bondage or limitations. Arcturus is able to arrange guidance.

**Mazzaroth** is a Hebrew term that refers to the twelve signs of the zodiac.

The Bible show here that the zodiac signs actually exist and that they have a role to play in the determination of seasons.

They are described as coming forth each one in its season to determine certain things on earth.

The question is: What will the Mazzaroth determine over you, your family, your city or your nation in this season?
Dark Heavens

There are times when God punishes the wicked by making their heavens dark over them.

Job 9:7-10  “7 Who commands the sun, and it rises not; Who seals up the stars [from view];
8 Who alone stretches out the heavens and treads upon the waves and high places of the sea;
10 Who does great things past finding out, yes, marvelous things without number.”

Is 13:10-11  “10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened at its rising and the moon will not shed its light.
11 And I, the Lord, will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their guilt and iniquity; I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible and the boasting of the violent and ruthless.”

Ezek 32:7-8  “7 And when I have extinguished you, I will cover (fill up) the heavens [of Egypt] and make their stars dark; I will cover (to conceal) the sun with a cloud and the moon shall not give her light.
8 All the bright lights of the heavens I will make dark over you and set darkness upon your land, says the Lord God.”

These words do not refer to a physical darkening of these bodies even though in some instances a physical actual darkening may happen.

It is a spiritual action that proceeds from these bodies and results in troubles and harassment that is brought into people’s lives when their sun, moon or stars are thus darkened by exercise of the mandate over the heavens.

This is especially so when God is dealing with sorcerers and diviners who tamper with the ordinances of heaven.

Micah 3:6-7  “6 Therefore it shall be night to you, so that you shall have no vision; yes, it shall be dark to you without divination. And the sun shall go down over the false prophets, and the day shall be black over them.
7 And the seers shall be put to shame and the diviners shall blush and be confounded; yes, they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.”

8 Ashy, dark coloured as in mourning.
**THE SUN WILL NOT GO DOWN NOR THE MOON WITHDRAW ITSELF:**

**Is 60:20**  “20 Your sun shall no more go down, nor shall your moon withdraw itself, for the Lord shall be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.”

This verse speaks of a season of sustained favour and victory. Joshua made a prophetic proclamation which physically effected the standing still of the sun and the moon.

**Josh 10:12**  “12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord on the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the Israelites, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, be silent and stand still at Gibeon, and you, moon, in the Valley of Ajalon!”

His season of victory on behalf of the Gibeonites was sustained while the sun and the moon were suspended in their positions of enforcing victory for the army of Joshua.

**Josh 10:12-15**  “12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord on the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the Israelites, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, be silent and stand still at Gibeon, and you, moon, in the Valley of Ajalon!

13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the nation took vengeance upon their enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of the heavens and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.

14 There was no day like it before or since, when the Lord heeded the voice of a man. For the Lord fought for Israel.

15 Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.”

**Deliverance from Gossip:**

**Josh 10:21**  “21 All the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace; none moved his tongue against any of the Israelites.”

**GOD IS IN CONTROL!!**

God Himself is involved in this exercise of controlling the heavens.

When we make proclamations to change the ordinances in the heavens, God sets up a sequence described in His Word:
Hosea 2:21 “21 And in that day I will respond, says the Lord; I will respond to the heavens [which ask for rain to pour on the earth], and they shall respond to the earth [which begs for the rain it needs].”

When the people (Jezreel) cry for food, God commences the process by speaking (responding) to the heavens.

The heavens wait for the “Divine Nod” and then respond to the earth – the earth can now respond with a fruitful harvest of corn, wine and oil for the benefit of God’s people who made the cry.

We must Seek God Alone!!

Amos 5:8-9 “8 Seek Him Who made the [cluster of stars called] Pleiades and [the constellation] Orion, Who turns the shadow of death or deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the face of the earth—the Lord is His Name—9 Who causes sudden destruction to flash forth upon the strong so that destruction comes upon the fortress.”
PART 3: IDOLATRY IN THE HEAVENS

God speaks a Commandment in His Word against worshipping the hosts of heaven:

Deut 4:19 “19 And beware lest you lift up your eyes to the heavens, and when you see the sun, moon, and stars, even all the host of the heavens, you be drawn away and worship them and serve them, things which the Lord your God has allotted to all nations under the whole heaven.”

Israel and their kings joined the heathen nations in this wickedness.

They did bizarre things as we see in:

2 Kings 21:3-5 “3 For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as did Ahab king of Israel, and worshiped all the [starry] hosts of the heavens and served them!

4 And he built [heathen] altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord said, In Jerusalem will I put My Name [and the pledge of My presence].

5 And he [good Hezekiah’s son] built altars for all the ⁹ hosts of the heavens in the two courts of the house of the Lord!”

2 Kings 23:11 “11 And he removed the horses that the kings of Judah had devoted to the sun from the entrance of the house of the Lord, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the chamberlain, which was in the area, and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.”

2 Kings 23:4-5 “4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second rank and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Baal, for [the goddess] Asherah, and for all the hosts of the heavens; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel [where Israel’s idolatry began].

⁹ Hebrew Strongs 6635 – “tsaba” – means a mass of persons/figurative things specifically organized for a campaign of war. He brought the emblems of occult to make war inside the Tabernacle.
5 He put away the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in Judah’s cities and round about Jerusalem—also those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun, to the moon, to the constellations [or twelve signs of the zodiac], and to all the hosts of the heavens.”

The consequences:

The heavens became polluted bringing the land and its peoples under satanic control.

Many of these occult practices still go on today in New Age Cults, Masonic Orders and many occult circles.

Jer. 8:1-2  “1 AT THAT time, says the Lord, [the Babylonian army will break open the sepulchers, and] they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, the bones of its princes, the bones of the priests, the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem from their graves. 2 And they will [carelessly] scatter [the corpses] before the sun and the moon and all the host of heaven, which [the dead] have loved and which they have served and after which they have walked and which they have sought, inquired of, and required and which they have worshiped. They shall not be gathered, or be buried; they shall be like dung upon the face of the earth.”

We see from these verses that the people loved, served, walked after, sought and worshipped the sun, moon and stars.

Reading horoscope predictions, hanging these symbols in our homes or cars or on our bodies in the form of jewelry, comes down to worshipping the heavenly bodies.

You subject yourself to the signs of the zodiac and expose yourself to guiding spirits which brings you into demonic bondage – all because you are breaking the Commandment of the Lord.
PART 4: WHAT IS PROPHETIC PRAYING?

Why did God give Commandments to the Jews about the **New Moons and feast days called Holy days in the Bible**.

Jesus said He did not come to destroy the Law but to fulfill it.

We are not to just engage in the meaningless observation of the feast – that is just being religious.

**Matt 5:17-18**  
“17 Do not think that I have come to do away with or undo the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to do away with or undo but to complete and fulfill them.  
18 For truly I tell you, until the sky and earth pass away and perish, not one smallest letter nor one little hook [identifying certain Hebrew letters] will pass from the Law until all things [it foreshadows] are accomplished.”

Commandment by the Lord on New Moon Days – Special worship and Blowing of Trumpets

**2 Chron. 2:4**  
“Behold, I am about to build a house for the Name of the Lord my God, dedicated to Him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before Him, for the continual showbread, and for the burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths, **New Moons**, and on the solemn feasts of the Lord our God, as ordained forever for Israel.”

**Ps 81:1-5**  
“1 SING ALOUD to God our Strength! Shout for joy to the God of Jacob!  
2 Raise a song, sound the timbrel, the sweet lyre with the harp.  
3 **Blow the trumpet** at the **New Moon**, at the **full moon**, on our **feast day**.  
4 For this is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.  
5 This He ordained in Joseph [the savior] for a testimony when He went out over the land of Egypt. The speech of One Whom I knew not did I hear [saying],”
It was usually also the time to seek the prophets and seers of God in the land.

**2 Kings 4:22-23** “22 And she called to her husband and said, Send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, that I may go quickly to the man of God and come back again.

23 And he said, Why go to him today? It is neither the New Moon nor the Sabbath. And she said, It will be all right.”

God wants His people to seek Him more earnestly at the New Moon seasons.

This period represents the start of new lunar activities in the earth.

It is important that our input be recorded in the moon as it commences its new cycle.

The only way to do this effectively is to spend New Moon seasons in prayer and fasting and specifically nighttime praying.

This enables us to determine if the kingdom of darkness has used its rituals to cause curses and other forms of tribulations using their power base of the moon to smite us this month.

We can then engage in spiritual warfare to destroy these platforms.

On such days we should use the scriptures to pray and also take authority over the evil words and legislation that priests of darkness and other sun, moon and star worshippers have sought to bring into our lives, communities and nation via their devotions to the heavenly bodies.

This is WISE INTERCESSION!!

We will deliver ourselves from many things that will otherwise overtake us because we were careless or ignorant!!

As soon as we have cleared the ground from any demonic activities we can then bring our offering to God and can rely on Him to provide precious things for the new season / month.

**Deut 33:13-14** “13 And of Joseph he said: Blessed by the Lord be his land, with the precious gifts of heaven from the dew and from the deep that couches beneath,

14 With the precious things of the fruits of the sun and with the precious yield of the months,”
Deliverance is possible as we deal with the complications that are created in the sun, moon and stars.

We can help people by dealing with the heavens on their behalf when we intercede in prophetic praying to cancel the demonic complications in the records (in the demonic heavens) stored by the ancient priests of your ancestral roots.

This is truly taking the battle to the gates. God promises to give strength to us as we turn the battle to the gates.

**Is 28:5-6** “5 [But] in that [future Messianic] day the Lord of hosts shall become a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty to the [converted] remnant of His people, 6 And a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment and administers the law, and **strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.**”

**Gen 22:17** “17 In blessing I will bless you and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants like the stars of the heavens and like the sand on the seashore. **And your Seed (Heir) will possess the gate of His enemies,**”

God promises to give us the gates of our enemies!!
PART 5: UNDERSTANDING GATES IN THE HEAVENS

The heavens control two main gates – the gate of TIME - the gate of the SEASONS.

1. THE GATE OF TIME

The earth keeps time according to the longitudes - these are imaginary lines that stretch from the North Pole to the South Pole and separated by degrees.

The zero longitude is the gate of TIME.

It is referred to as the Greenwich Meridian.

In October 1884 and following fierce discussions, particularly between the French and British delegations, the International Meridian Conference adopted in Washington the Greenwich meridian as the prime meridian for the measure of Longitude.

Greenwich is situated in the southeast suburbs of London where the Royal Observatory bearing the same name was located until 1946.

The Greenwich meridian marks also the universal time or GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) and the starting point of every time zone in the world. As days last 24 hours, the globe is divided up into 24 time zones which longitudes differ of 15° (one hour).

The centre of each time zone governs to the time of each of them. GMT is mean solar time calculated at midday. The GMT system was adopted at an international level on January 1st, 1885.

However, time zones follow the borders of nation states, and some countries are not in step with universal time. For example, China has adopted a single time for its entire territory, while in India there is a time difference of five and a half hours.

On January 1st, 1982 and following a decision made by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), universal time became UTC (Universal Time Coordinated), to correct universal time in which the duration of the day is not constant throughout the year due to the earth’s rotation on its axis.
By international agreement, UTC time is Greenwich Mean Time, although their measurement differs: GMT is measured from noon whereas UTC is measured from midnight. UTC is the legal basis of time in the world.

UTC itself is derived from International Atomic Time (IAT) from which it differs only by a whole number of seconds, currently 32. These intercalary seconds are added at the initiative of the International Earth Rotation Service to ensure that, on average as the years go by, the sun is at the Greenwich meridian at 12:00:00 UTC to the nearest 0.9 second.

Legal time is that in force in a country. Around 70 countries currently use summer time (more precisely Daylight Saving Time). During certain periods of the year, generally from April to September in the northern hemisphere and from October to March in the southern hemisphere, they add one hour. Japan is the only industrialized country not to use it.

The International Date Line is marked near the Greenwich's opposite meridian. Greenwich was preferred to Paris as prime meridian because of the fact that, among others, its opposite meridian does not cross any land.


It passes through West Africa in the city of Tema Ghana.

It is interesting to note that there is a church built right along this Meridian line in that city whose construction has remarkable New Age features, with two obelisks marking the bit of the meridian that passes through the church grounds.

During the seasons of the year New Age Apostles regularly visit this spot in some sort of pilgrimage.

Even the British Royal family visited this spot at the turn of the Millennium in 1999.

Every day begins at midnight along this line for the earth even though midnight occurs at different time zones of the earth, giving rise to different times depending on where you are on the planet.
These gates of Time require **GATE KEEPING** by us to regulate from the heavens what happens in the forth-coming day.

**Ps 19:2**  “2 Day after day pours forth speech, and night after night shows forth knowledge.”

To determine the type of speech each day utters over you, your family your city or your nation, it is important to regulate the agency that is responsible for ruling the day.

**Ps 136:8**  “8 The sun to rule over the day, for His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever;”

This is done by **GATE KEEPING** – watching in prayer over the midnight hours that constitute the gate of time into each new day.

### 2. THE GATE OF SEASONS

The LATITUDES are imaginary lines that circle around the earth sort of perpendicularly to the longitudes and also separated in degrees as you proceed towards the North and South Poles.

The center longitude is called the **EQUATOR**.

North of the equator is described as the Northern Hemisphere, while south of the equator is called the Southern Hemisphere.

**THE TROPICS**

There are other notable latitudes called the tropics.

The southern one is called the Tropic of Capricorn.
The Northern one is called the Tropic of Cancer.
They are located on alternate sides of the equator towards the South and the North Pole.

The earth keeps seasons according to the latitudes and the lopsided movement of the earth around the sun once a year and as it rotates around its poles once a day.

THE ELLIPTIC

This is the sort of **oblong cyclical pattern** that is created by these Sun Earth and Moon interactions.

The entire scenario described above creates effects on the earth which we call **seasons** and which is basically felt in the **weather patterns** of the earth.

This is caused by the fact that the elliptic pattern of movement results in the sun being directly over different latitudes at different periods of the year.

THE EQINOXES

When the sun is over the Equator, the days and nights are of equal length.

There are two days in a year that this happens:
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

1. The First Equinox – the Vernal or Spring Equinox. This usually happens about March 20\textsuperscript{th} or 21\textsuperscript{st} each year.

2. The Second Equinox – Autumnal Equinox – the beginning of Autumn. This usually happens about the 22\textsuperscript{nd} or 23\textsuperscript{rd} September each year.

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

1. The First Equinox – Autumnal Equinox – the beginning of Autumn. This usually happens about March 20\textsuperscript{th} or 21\textsuperscript{st} each year.

2. The Second Equinox – the Vernal or Spring Equinox. This usually happens about the 22\textsuperscript{nd} or 23\textsuperscript{rd} September each year.

THE SOLSTICES – PEAK SUMMER AND PEAK WINTER EACH YEAR
When the sun is directly over the tropic latitudes towards the Poles, we have at alternate times the longest days/shortest nights towards one Pole while it is shortest day/longest night towards the other Pole and visa versa.

When we have the shortest day and the longest night, we have the winter solstice.
When we have the longest day and the shortest night, we have the Summer solstice.

**NORTHERN HEMISPHERE**

WINTER SOLSTICE - Dates: December 21st or 22nd each year.

SUMMER SOLSTICE - Dates: 21st June every year

**SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

WINTER SOLSTICE - Dates: 21st June every year

SUMMER SOLSTICE – Dates: December 21st or 22nd each year.

**THE GATES OF SEASONS**
The Equinoxes and the Solstices form the Gates of the Seasons. It is not only the physical seasons that change at these periods of the year.

**SPIRITUAL SEASONS:**

Ecc 3: 1-11 “*TO EVERYTHING there is a season, and a time for every matter or purpose under heaven:* 
2 A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted,  
3 A time to kill and a time to heal, a time to break down and a time to build up,  
4 A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
5 A time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
6 A time to get and a time to lose, a time to keep and a time to cast away,  
7 A time to rend and a time to sew, a time to keep silence and a time to speak,  
8 A time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.  
9 What profit remains for the worker from his toil?  
10 I have seen the painful labor and exertion and miserable business which God has given to the sons of men with which to exercise and busy themselves.  
11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He also has planted eternity in men’s hearts and minds [a divinely implanted sense of a purpose working through the ages which nothing under the sun but God alone can satisfy], yet so that men cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.”

We must be gate keepers as we enter each season of the year through these gates of the seasons.

We do so by watching in prayer over the Time Gates that lead into these seasons.

You need to get up and pray at the appropriate midnight seasons when those dates of the Equinoxes and Solstices come around.

New Agers, occultists and parapsychologists keep these gates by conducting what they call “celebrations”.

These “celebrations” are in fact demonic legislating into the heavens to determine what they will like to see happen in the nations politically and economically.
They even deliberately legislate against the well being of the church and God’s people in the process.

For us to possess this gate of our enemies we need to seek the Lord in fasting and midnight praying as appropriate at the New Moons that govern access into these periods.

May the Lord help us as His watchmen and women to really possess the gates of our enemies in our nation!!
PART 6: WATCHING AT THE GATES OF TIME

The Biblical Concept of Watches

The Biblical morning begins at the hour of 6.00am.

It is frequently referred to as the first hour of the day.

When Jesus was crucified, it was the third hour of the day – which means 9.00am. He hung on the cross for six hours. The Bible says there was darkness from the sixth hour till the ninth hour – in other words – the period of 12 noon to 3.00pm, about which time He died and the veil of the temple was torn.

The Bible speaks of each day consisting of the night watches and the day watches.

Ps 63:6 “6 When I remember You upon my bed and meditate on You in the night watches.”

THE MORNING WATCH

The morning watch is the start of the day watch.

Ex 14:24 “24 And in the morning watch the Lord through the pillar of fire and cloud looked down on the host of the Egyptians and discomfited [them],”

Each watch comprises three hours.

The Day Watches:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 6.00am – 9.00am</td>
<td>The Morning Watch or the First Watch of the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 9.00am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>The Second Watch of the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 12.00pm – 3.00pm</td>
<td>The Third Watch of the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 3.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
<td>The Fourth Watch of the day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Night Watches

The night watches commence at 6.00pm. This hour is called the first hour of the night.

Each of the night watches also comprises three hours as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. 6.00pm – 9.00pm</th>
<th>The First Watch of the night (The Evening Watch)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. 9.00pm – 12.00pm</td>
<td>The Second Watch of the night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. 12.00am – 3.00am</td>
<td>The Third Watch of the night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 3.00am – 6.00am</td>
<td>The Last (Fourth) Watch of the night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

God’s people down the ages interacted spiritually and militarily with their environment according to these watches.

**Mark 6:48**  "48 And having seen that they were troubled and tormented in [their] rowing, for the wind was against them, about the fourth watch of the night [between 3:00–6:00 a.m.] He came to them, walking [directly] on the sea. And He acted as if He meant to pass by them,"

**Acts 23:23**  "23 Then summoning two of the centurions, he said, Have two hundred footmen ready by the third hour of the night (about 9:00 p.m.) to go as far as Caesarea, with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen."

It is therefore appropriate that we watch in prayer in accordance to the Biblical watches.

The sacrifice of Jesus of the cross was scheduled between the second and third watches of the day.

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost was at the third hour of the day – 9.00am.

**Acts 2:15**  "15 For these men are not drunk, as you imagine, for it is [only] the third hour (about 9:00 a.m.) of the day;"

God arranges time in the following order:

- Moments
- Seconds
- Minutes
- Hours
The following special days are commencement days of new seasons in your life:

- **Conception** – when Time Gates are opened and the Books are opened and your purpose and destiny is read over your life by an angel of the Lord.
- **Birthdays**
- **Wedding Anniversaries**
- **Etc.**

It is very important to pray through the Gates of Time leading into these personal seasons that signal a new cycle of activities that are crucial to your well-being.

**Practical Prayer**

Go in the spirit, dressed in the armour of the Lord, to the Gates of Time – there you will see many clocks, hourglasses, sundials, etc, that your forefathers had set up through every demonic covenant that was made with satan throughout your generations.

You need to deal with CHRONOS who is the strongman at these Gates of Time.

You need to unhook yourself from the **Twelve Pillars of the Zodiac** which are the Principalities that rule the heavenlies.

You need to deal with every hour glass, time clock, sundial, etc, of satan and all that is contained within each one, past, present and future.

Ask God to translate you from the kingdom of darkness and the Gates of Time (Greenwich) to the Kingdom of our Lord and Messiah – Yeshua Hammaschiach. Declare the He is the Ruler of all our times and seasons.

Release God's judgment clock against our enemies!
Pray against the demons who will try to pick up the smashed glass pieces and the grains of sand that carried the curses – they will try to put the glass together again and re-establish the cycles over you again. Declare that the destruction is complete and everything is destroyed with God’s Fire!

WHEN DO WE PRAY?

The night watches are singled out for meditation and watching in the Word of God.

Ps 63:6 “6 When I remember You upon my bed and meditate on You in the night watches.”

Jesus spent whole night watches in prayer.

Mark 6:46 “46 And after He had taken leave of them, He went off into the hills to pray.”

Jesus came to the rescue of the endangered disciples on the sea at the fourth watch of the night.

Mark 6:48 “48 And having seen that they were troubled and tormented in [their] rowing, for the wind was against them, about the fourth watch of the night [between 3:00–6:00 a.m.] He came to them, walking [directly] on the sea. And He acted as if He meant to pass by them,”

It is therefore very important for us to watch in God’s Word and pray especially during the night seasons of the Solstices and Equinoxes. The day watches are also very crucial.

Every believer should develop the Biblical concept of regular times of prayer.

Acts 3:1 “1 NOW PETER and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour (three o’clock in the afternoon),”

Prayer times and prayer seasons should be strategic. As you keep regular times of prayer during the day and night watches, you key into heaven’s own arrangements.

John and Peter were able to accomplish the healing at the temple gate because of the strategic timing of their prayers. A revival then broke out following the miracle healing.
The Roman Centurion – Cornelius:

**Acts 10:3**  “3 About the ninth hour (about 3:00 p.m.) of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God entering and saying to him, Cornelius!”

Cornelius kept strategic prayer times and encountered God’s angel who showed him what to do about his eternal salvation.

He was actually fasting as he prayed at that hour (3.00pm).

**Acts 10:30**  “30 And Cornelius said, This is now the fourth day since about this time I was observing the ninth hour (three o’clock in the afternoon) of prayer in my lodging place; [suddenly] a man stood before me in dazzling apparel,”
Peter:

Peter was busy praying about the 6th hour of the day – about 12 noon – when he saw the vision of the sheet from heaven and God’s revelation concerning the need for the Gospel to go to the Gentiles.

Acts 10:9-23  "9 The next day as they were still on their way and were approaching the town, Peter went up to the roof of the house to pray, about the sixth hour (noon).  
10 But he became very hungry, and wanted something to eat; and while the meal was being prepared a trance came over him,  
11 And he saw the sky opened and something like a great sheet lowered by the four corners, descending to the earth.

God is calling His Church to engage in strategic spiritual warfare during the seasons of the New Moon, the full moon, the Equinoxes, the Solstices, conception, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.
PART 7: LUNAR ECLIPSES – SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS AND PRAYER STRATEGY

What is a Lunar Eclipse?

The moon normally receives its light from the sun.

However, during a lunar eclipse, the shadow of the earth temporarily blocks it from receiving that light from the sun.

The result is that the moonlight is blanked out and the moon goes through several stages of partial or total disappearance. This is referred to as an eclipse.
This season is a season of high witchcraft activity.

Usually occultists start their enchantments four days before and end about four days after a full moon.

When it doubles as a total eclipse, it is also a period of high witchcraft in the heavens.

The Christian and the Church is the target of darkness at this time.

Apart from seeking to better their lot and the lot of their supporters at this time, sorcerers use this time for strategic opposition of God’s Kingdom.

They succeed many times because the Church does not engage in strategic praying.

Prayer Strategy:

The whole day should be a day of prayer and fasting.

Our first prayer strategy is to cancel:

- the offerings and sacrifices to their gods,
- their circle movements around a fixed centre,
- all incantations of satanic priesthoods that have been sent into the heavens against:
  - the Church,
  - its leadership,
  - you as a person and
  - God’s purposes for the nations.

Is 44:24-26 “24 Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and He Who formed you from the womb: I am the Lord, Who made all things, Who alone stretched out the heavens, Who spread out the earth by Myself [who was with Me]?—
25 [I am the Lord] Who frustrates the signs and confounds the omens [upon which the false prophets’ forecasts of the future are based] of the [boasting] liars and makes fools of diviners, Who turns the wise backward and makes their knowledge foolishness,
26 [The Lord] Who confirms the word of His servant and performs the counsel of His messengers, Who says of Jerusalem, She shall [again] be inhabited, and of the cities of Judah, They shall [again] be built, and I will raise up their ruins,”

Everyone needs to redeem all that has been stolen from him or her during the eclipses that have taken place since their conception.
This is because when the moon or the earth’s shadow covers the sun, the kingdom of darkness uses that to program darkness and all sorts of satanic exchange into people’s lives.

Let us insist on the plans of God in our lives, the Church and our nations must be built.

**Micah 3:6-7**  
“6 Therefore it shall be night to you, so that you shall have no vision; yes, it shall be dark to you without divination. And the sun shall go down over the false prophets, and the day shall be black over them.  
7 And the seers shall be put to shame and the diviners shall blush and be confounded; yes, they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.”

**Ezek 32:7-8**  
“7 And when I have extinguished you, I will cover the heavens [of Egypt] and make their stars dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud and the moon shall not give her light.  
8 All the bright lights of the heavens I will make dark over you and set darkness upon your land, says the Lord God.”

**Is 13:10-13**  
“10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened at its rising and the moon will not shed its light.  
11 And I, the Lord, will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their guilt and iniquity; I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible and the boasting of the violent and ruthless.  
12 I will make a man more rare than fine gold, and mankind scarcer than the pure gold of Ophir.  
13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble; and the earth shall be shaken out of its place at the wrath of the Lord of hosts in the day of His fierce anger.”

Please note that the New Agers of today and the occultists are spiritually referred to in these verses as Babylonians and Chaldeans.

God wants us to judge the Chaldeans and the Babylonians of today using Isaiah 47 and Revelations 18.

Their cup is full before the Lord.

They are tampering with the ordinances of heaven and yet have no regard for God and for the Lord Jesus Christ.
They must be judged during New Moons, Full Moons and eclipses both Lunar and Solar.

The Lord will want us to pray against the records of darkness stored against us in the shadow of the earth during Lunar Eclipses.

Recall that Lunar eclipses result from the following:

- The moon always receives its light from the sun but the shadow of the earth blocks it from receiving that light from the sun during the Lunar eclipse.

Now we are like the moon and the Lord is our Sun (of Righteousness).

Many people have been buried spiritually in the shadow of the earth during Lunar eclipses.

The enemy makes proclamations that as the moon is buried in the shadow of the earth during the eclipse, for example, let:

- the blessings,
- inheritance
- etc of “so and so” be buried in the shadow of the earth.

This is how they have operated and the Lord wants us to reverse all of that and to stop them from causing further havoc.

The Lord is our **SHADOW**:

**Ps 91:1-16** “HE WHO dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand].

2 I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust!

3 For [then] He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

4 [Then] He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings shall you trust and find refuge; His truth and His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler.

5 You shall not be afraid of the terror of the night, nor of the arrow (the evil plots and slanders of the wicked) that flies by day,
6 Nor of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the destruction and sudden death that surprise and lay waste at noonday.
7 A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not come near you.
8 Only a spectator shall you be [yourself inaccessible in the secret place of the Most High] as you witness the reward of the wicked.
9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your dwelling place,
10 There shall no evil befall you, nor any plague or calamity come near your tent.
11 For He will give His angels [especial] charge over you to accompany and defend and preserve you in all your ways [of obedience and service].
12 They shall bear you up on their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; the young lion and the serpent shall you trample underfoot.
14 Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him; I will set him on high, because he knows and understands My name [has a personal knowledge of My mercy, love, and kindness—trusts and relies on Me, knowing I will never forsake him, no, never].
15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.
16 With long life will I satisfy him and show him My salvation.”

The Lord is faithful to His children and as we pray this way, He will redeem all the years in which our inheritances have been hidden in the shadow of the earth.

Is 30:26 “26 Moreover, the light of the moon will be like the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, like the light of seven days [concentrated in one], in the day that the Lord binds up the hurt of His people, and heals their wound [inflicted by Him because of their sins].”

When the Lord heals us, He makes the light of the moon like the light of the sun and the light of the sun is sevenfold, in Jesus Name!!
PART 8: PERSONAL CHARACTER REQUIREMENTS WHEN DEALING WITH THE HEAVENLIES

There are certain requirements before we can affect the foundations and events in the earth as described in:

**Is 51:15**  “15 For I am the Lord your God, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar and Who by rebuke restrains it—the Lord of hosts is His name.”

What do we learn from this passage?

1. God introduces Himself here as the Lord of Hosts. The believer has to have the **character of a soldier** ready for war!
2. The believer must have a **relationship of intimacy** with God Almighty that results in us being covered in the Shadow of God’s Hand. We need to love the Lord with all of our being.
3. The Word of God placed by God Himself in our mouths. **We need to KNOW His Word!!**

Moses and Joshua used the heavens extensively to determine things on earth:

**Moses:**

**Deut 32:1-3**  “1 GIVE EAR, O heavens, and I [Moses] will speak; and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. 2 My message shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the light rain upon the tender grass, and as the showers upon the herb. 3 For I will proclaim the name [and presence] of the Lord. Concede and ascribe greatness to our God.”

Moses used the heavens to enforce his mandate on the children of Israel through both doctrine and speech, which were distilled as rain and dew on both the people and the land.

The reason he succeeded was because he was committed to publishing the Name of the Lord alone.

What did God say about Moses?

**Num 12:3**  “3 Now the man Moses was very meek (gentle, kind, and humble) or above all the men on the face of the earth.”
Ex 33:10-11  “10 And all the people saw the pillar of cloud stand at the tent door, and all the people rose up and worshiped, every man at his tent door.  
11 And the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. Moses returned to the camp, but his minister Joshua son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the [temporary prayer] tent.”

He was the meekest man on earth in his generation and God spoke to him face to face as a friend.

God showed Moses His ways but Israel only saw the acts of God.

Ps 103:7  “7 He made known His ways [of righteousness and justice] to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.”

Joshua:

In Chapter 5 of the Book of Joshua we see Joshua using the heavens extensively in the battle against the five Amorite kings who invaded the Gibeonites.

Joshua 10:5-14  “5 Then the five kings of the Amorites—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon—gathered their forces and went up with all their armies and encamped before Gibeon to fight against it.  
6 And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal, saying, Do not relax your hand from your servants; come up to us quickly and save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the hill country are gathered against us.  
7 So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the warriors with him and all the mighty men of valor.  
8 And the Lord said to Joshua, Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hand; there shall not a man of them stand before you.  
9 So Joshua came upon them suddenly, having gone up from Gilgal all night.  
10 And the Lord caused [the enemies] to panic before Israel, who slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon and chased them along the way that goes up to Beth-horon and smote them as far as Azekah and Makkedah.  
11 As they fled before Israel, while they were descending [the pass] to Beth-horon, the Lord cast great stones from the heavens on them as far as Azekah, killing them. More died because of the hailstones than the Israelites slew with the sword.  
12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord on the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the Israelites, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, be silent and stand still at Gibeon, and you, moon, in the Valley of Ajalon!”
13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the nation took vengeance upon their enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of the heavens and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.

14 There was no day like it before or since, when the Lord heeded the voice of a man. For the Lord fought for Israel.

15 Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

16 Those five kings fled and hid themselves in the cave of Makkedah.

18 Joshua said, Roll great stones to the cave’s mouth, and set men to guard them.

19 But do not stay. Pursue your enemies and fall upon their rear; do not allow them to enter their cities, for the Lord your God has given them into your hand. Open the mouth of the cave and bring out those five kings to me from the cave.

23 They brought the five kings out of the cave to him—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon.

24 Come, put your feet on the necks of these kings. And they came and put their feet on the [kings’] necks.

25 Joshua said to them, Fear not nor be dismayed; be strong and of good courage. For thus shall the Lord do to all your enemies against whom you fight.

1. Spirit of oppression – king of Jerusalem – injustice, confusion, defeat, fear and worry


4. Spirit of blindness - king of Lachish - lose vision and ability to receive revelation from God, to bring a feeling of bondage, and to rob of joy.

5. Spirit of accusation – king of Eglon - cutting off of the Word of God, prevent God’s war cry arising, to bring discredit to leaders.
Deborah

Deborah was an intercessor and understood how to do warfare in the heavenslies.

Sisera was an enemy of God and His people.

He was obviously using the sun, moon and stars as his power source to fight against Israel.

Deborah did warfare and dismantled the demonic structures in the heavenslies.

She proclaimed to the stars to worship their Maker!

Ps 148  “PRAISE THE Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights!
2 Praise Him, all His angels, praise Him, all His hosts!
3 Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you stars of light!
4 Praise Him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!
5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created.
6 He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away”

She commanded the stars to fight for the God of Israel against Sisera.

Judges 5:20  “From the heavens the stars fought, from their courses they fought against Sisera
Only then could Jael smote Sisera:

**Judges 5:24**  "Blessed above women shall Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, be; blessed shall she be above women in the tent.  
25 [Sisera] asked for water, and she gave [him] milk; she brought him curds in a lordly dish.  
26 She put her [left] hand to the tent pin, and her right hand to the workmen’s hammer. And with the wooden hammer she smote Sisera, she smote his head, yes, she struck and pierced his temple.  
27 He sank, he fell, he lay still at her feet. At her feet he sank, he fell; where he sank, there he fell—dead!"
CONCLUSION: What we have learnt so far:

We can speak spiritually to the heavens and they have the ability to hear us and obey our instructions.

Ps 148

"1 PRAISE THE Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights!
2 Praise Him, all His angels, praise Him, all His hosts!
3 Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you stars of light!
4 Praise Him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens!
5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created.
6 He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away [He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed over].
7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps!
8 You lightning, hail, fog, and frost, you stormy wind fulfilling His orders!
9 Mountains and all hills, fruitful trees and all cedars!
10 Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!
11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers and judges of the earth!
12 Both young men and maidens, old men and children!
13 Let them praise and exalt the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted and supreme! His glory and majesty are above earth and heaven!
14 He has lifted up a horn for His people [giving them power, prosperity, dignity, and preeminence], a song of praise for all His godly ones, for the people of Israel, who are near to Him. Praise the Lord! (Hallelujah)"

Isaiah:

The details of his spiritual preparation for this type of ministry:

Is 6:1-7  "IN THE year that King Uzziah died, [in a vision] I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the skirts of His train filled the [most holy part of the] temple. [John 12:41.]
2 Above Him stood the seraphim; each had six wings: with two [each] covered his [own] face, and with two [each] covered his feet, and with two [each] flew.
3 And one cried to another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!
4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who cried, and the house was filled with smoke."
5 Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone and ruined, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!
6 Then flew one of the seraphim [heavenly beings] to me, having a live coal in his hand which he had taken with tongs from off the altar;
7 And with it he touched my mouth and said, Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity and guilt are taken away, and your sin is completely atoned for and forgiven.
8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.”

Jeremiah:

Jer. 15:19 “19 Therefore thus says the Lord [to Jeremiah]: If you return [and give up this mistaken tone of distrust and despair], then I will give you again a settled place of quiet and safety, and you will be My minister; and if you separate the precious from the vile [cleansing your own heart from unworthy and unwarranted suspicions concerning God’s faithfulness], you shall be My mouthpiece. [But do not yield to them.] Let them return to you—not you to [the people].”

We need to learn from the saints that went ahead of us!

We must live a life of intimacy with God.

We must walk in integrity and purity before men.

This will compel the heavens and the earth to hear our words!!
PRAYER STRATEGIES

Excerpts from notes given by: Steve Olumuyiwa, West Africa Coordinator – Intercessors For Africa

Winter solstice (Occurs on Dec 21)
WINTER SOLSTICE is the longest and darkest night of the year. On this shortest day of the year, the sun is at its lowest and weakest, a pivot point from which the light will grow stronger and brighter. (The opposite for the Southern Hemisphere.) This is a turning point of the year. At a point, the Sun looks like it is about to die, all of a sudden, it arises again leading us to the spring season. The Romans called it Dies Natalis Invicti Solis, the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun.

For witches, it is the time of the celebration of the first lesser Sabbath in their new year (which started on Oct 31, the Halloween season). This lesser Sabbath is called Yule.

Unfortunately, it is from this Wicca word YULE that modern day Christianity coined the word YULETIDE. It is common to find Christmas cards bearing captions YULETIDE greetings. So-called Christmas speeches by heads of governments are also labelled YULETIDE messages, etc. YULE means “yoke of the year” or “wheel.”

Although the “rebirth” of the sun is celebrated, the winter solstice season is still considered a time of deep darkness. Being the darkest time of the year, it is also a time when supernatural forces were thought to roam free, and the spirits of the dead would return to their families. In short, from Halloween to Yule, witches engage in deep necromancy sorcery.

Fire always has been the key element in ritual celebrations of the winter solstice. Heath fires, bonfires, burning candles and lanterns and electricity are used to symbolize the power of the sun.

During winter solstice, the Yule log, an evergreen tree such as pine, fig, oak, or mistletoe is lit for twelve hours for “good luck;” then, the ash of the log is kept in the house or sprinkled around for protection, healing, fruitfulness, and invocation for an ever-green life in the coming year.

In recent times, the pine tree is the most favoured of these ever-green trees because its cone (the pine cone) is used for other diabolic purposes such as mind control.

The pine tree is our “Christmas Tree” in Christian circles. The pine cone has the same shape as our “Pineal gland,” a pea-sized gland in the centre of the brain, which is referred to as the “third eye” in occultic circles.
Pine cones are used to work sorceries that tap into the pineal gland. When the enemy gains control of the pineal gland, a victim becomes a blinded robot that can be manipulated at any time.

The enemy has encroached upon the Church so much with these evil tokens. This manipulation has caused us to succumb to witchcraft language, calling Christmas YULETIDE season.

When winter solstice coincides with the last new moon, it is also a time for releasing deep darkness into the earth—this is the YULE “Yoke of the year,” programmed into others lives. This is the case because the new moon is labelled ‘dark moon’ by the devil and his evil empire.

However, we know the truth (John 14:6) and we walk in the light (John 8:12, Ps. 119:105).

As God’s word teaches us, the new moon is a time of divine appointment; a time of rest; a time of trumpet blowing; a time of joy and rejoicing; a time of deliverance (Ps 81: 1-7a). Therefore please pray against the evil agenda of satan and his army.

Cleansing and release of negative energies.

Just as the last quarter moon wanes and expires, so invocations and enchantments are made to remove ills and negativities from witches’ lives, families, covens, etc.

They also use the opportunity to transfer these ills to their enemies.

Fasten these scriptures (Is. 11, Jer 23:5, Jer 33:15, Zech 3:8, etc) and the Blood of Jesus by prophetic proclamation into the heavens during these events.

Proclaim Rev 4, 5, and 11:15. 9.

PRAYER ACTION FOR WINTER SOLSTICE

1. Praise God for His faithfulness in ordaining the seasons (Gen 8:22, Ecc 3:1).

God created light and darkness (Gen 1:3-5, Is 45:7a). Let us thank the Lord for the winter. The winter is a time of rest, a type of Sabbath.

See Mt 24:20 where the Lord groups winter and Sabbath together. If we look at nature, we will see that winter is indeed a time of rest: trees shed their leaves, animals hibernate; in olden times, there is no planting because harvest time is over and everyone is looking forward to the end of winter, etc. We have longer nights during winter because it is not supposed to be a time for hard labour.
Consequently, it is a time to seek God more, especially in the nights. We need to seek Him through His word and prayers (Ps. 63:6, Ps 119:48). Even during the day, everything done during the Sabbath should be done: reading God's word, praying and blowing of the trumpet (Num. 10). Let us ask the Lord to strengthen us to watch and pray on a daily basis. Let us blow the trumpet to the Lord.

2. Possess the gates of the winter / Winter solstice (Ps 24, Is 26:2) and secure the season with the Blood of Jesus Christ (Col 1:20).

Proclaim Ps. 24: 1, Is 9:6-7, Rev 11:15. Let us fasten these scriptures into the Winter solstice.

Let us shut the gates and door of the winter solstice with the key of David against gate-crashers who may want to gate-crash into the heavens.

3. Repentance.

Bring repentance of personal sins, especially rebellion/disobedience, which is like the sin of witchcraft. (Ps. 15, Ps. 19:12-14, etc.)

Bring repentance of family sins (Eph 5:21-25, 6:1-9, etc.) Repent on behalf of the Church (Is 56:9-12 etc.)

Repent in behalf of the society (Deut.4:15-19, etc.) Ask the Lord for forgiveness and mercy. Bring atonement by the Blood of Jesus Christ (Ps. 51, Heb. 9:12-14, etc.)

4. SPEAK THE BLOOD OF JESUS

Speak the Blood of Jesus on the sun and its features

- its heat,
- its rising in the east,
- going forth on the equator,
- its setting in the west,
- its interplanetary magnetic field that sends heat to all creation,
- its light which is derived from Jesus Christ the Light of the world.

Command the sun to declare the Glory of the Lord (Ps 19:1-6).

Ask the sun to arise with the anointing of the Sun of righteousness on yourself, family, nation, Africa, the Church, etc. (Mal.4:2).

Take all the elements of heavens one by one (e.g., the Sun, Moon, Venus, the Pleiades, other stars) and seal them with the Blood of Jesus.

Command these stars to declare the Glory of the Lord (Ps. 19:1-6).
Let us pray that the counsel of the Lord will stand and that the kingdom of darkness will not hijack these events to their advantage.

Let us insist that our God who makes the seven stars and Orion will overturn the sentences of the sorcerers against our families, businesses, nations, Africa and the church.

**Amos 5:7-9** “7 You who turn justice into [the bitterness of] wormwood and cast righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God) down to the ground,
8 Seek Him Who made the [cluster of stars called] Pleiades and [the constellation] Orion, Who turns the shadow of death or deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the face of the earth—the Lord is His name—
9 Who causes sudden destruction to flash forth upon the strong so that destruction comes upon the fortress.”

Let the Lord turn the shadow of death situations in our lives and circumstances into the morning. Let Him strengthen us against the army of satan and their strong networks.

6. Use your superior priestly authority to break all satanic covenants which your family, the ancients, satanic prince, satanic watchmen, politicians, religious leaders, occultists, etc have made over you life, family, business/job, state, nation, Africa, the Church, etc. (1Pet. 2:9, Is. 28:14-18, etc.)

7. Renounce the invocation made around coven circles. Cancel the sorcery invoked using the four elements: wind, fire, earth and water. Command these elements to rebel against witches and wizards.

**Proclaim Jer 10:11** “11 Thus shall you say to them: The gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens.”

Command the elements to praise Yahweh Elohim, the Creator of Heaven and earth Gen 1, Ps. 148.

8. Pray against witchcraft activities. The Lord is shaking the kingdom of darkness. Their major structures are daily destroyed by the Hand of God.

Pray against any activity by witches to heal themselves through afflictions sent to the Church.

The Word of God says witches and other sorcerers cannot be healed of their wounds.
Let us enforce God’s Word during the winter solstice (Nahum 3, especially verse 19).

They cannot renew their strength either because it is only by waiting on the Lord that one’s strength is renewed (Isa 40:31).

They cannot be healed by the satanically-charged medicine of the virgin daughter of Egypt (Jer 46:11).

God in fact says we must not allow them to live (Ex 22:18).

Ask the Lord to break the “yule yoke of the year,” a programming of negativity and evil.

Let the anointing of the Lord destroy this yoke in our lives and situation (Isa 10:27).

Let us pray that the human blood which they want to use to renew their strength will become a snare and a trap for them (Ps 69:22-25).

Let us ask the Lord to frustrate the tokens of witches (pine tree for evergreen life, pine cone for mind manipulation, pine ash for protection, fire for light, moonstones and sunstone for vision, magical oils for drawing strength, etc) (Is 44:24-25).

Pray that there shall be no vision for the army of satan.

Micah 3:6-7 “6 Therefore it shall be night to you, so that you shall have no vision; yes, it shall be dark to you without divination. And the sun shall go down over the false prophets, and the day shall be black over them. 7 And the seers shall be put to shame and the diviners shall blush and be confounded; yes, they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.”

9. As mentioned before, winter solstice is a time for high level necromancy, i.e., communication with the dead.

These things are carried out using:
   (1) The Book of shadows and
   (2) the Book of the dead.

Use the Blood of Jesus Christ to blot out the handwriting of ordinances recorded against you, your family, business, nation, Africa, the Church etc. using these dangerous books (Col 2:14).

As many as indulge in graveyard consultation, ask the Lord to make their case like that of Saul (1Sam 28:5ff).
10. Ask the whole of creation to revolt against the army of satan.

In the heavens, ask the following to rebel against satan and his army:
- Sun and the solar winds,
- Moon and its silver rays,
- mountains,
- craters,
- seas and
- bay of rainbow,
- the earthshine,
- the Stars,
- Planets,
- Constellations,
- Comets,
- Asteroids,
- Meteoroids,
- clouds,
- lightening,
- thunder,
- rain,
- the Magnetic fields in the heavens,
- the Pleiades,
- Arcturus, the 4th brightest star in the sky
- Orion,
- Mazzaroth, The Constellations of the Zodiac.
- chambers of the South,
- the ecliptic path and
- all other paths in the heavens

In the earth, ask the following to revolt against satan and his agents:
- the land,
- waters and water creatures,
- hills,
- mountains,
- valleys,
- magnetic fields of the earth and their alignment with the magnetic fields of the heavens,
- ancient trees,
- animals,
- birds,
- creeping things,
- insects,
- people,
- all things visible and
- invisible.
Use **Is. 47** to pray against the activities of:
- water spirits,
- witches and the
- queen of heaven.

**They must come down from their throne and sit in silence and darkness in Jesus Name.**

11. The winter is a vulnerable in time (**Mt 24:20**).

That is why the kingdom of darkness tries to take advantage of this time. Thus, we need to pray against all works of darkness (**Eph 5:11**).

What are the works of darkness? The works of darkness are all manners of sin and wickedness done under covering of darkness.

For example,
- a. the works of those who rebel against God (**Job 24: 13-17**)
- b. terror and pestilence (**Ps. 91:6**)
- c. blindness (**I John 1:11**)
- d. satanic exchange (**I Kings 3: 16-22**)
- e. perpetual sleep/death (**Acts 20: 7-9**)
- f. destroyer (**Ex 12:12**)

Note, we are not supposed to work in the dark/night John 9:4, but workers of darkness like to work in the night because they have stubbornly set themselves against God, hence, they cannot enter into God's rest (**Heb 3-4:8**).

That is why they parade themselves day and night working evil (**Job 24:13-17**).

Pray against all the evil highlighted above.

12. **Let us pray that:**

a. **we are in Christ and there is no darkness in Him** (**I John 1:5**), therefore we are not of darkness (**I Thess 5:5**).

Darkness can never overcome the light of Christ (**John 1:5**). The night will always be light about us (**Ps 139:11**). Therefore, we will not stumble. We will not be **blindfolded**.

b. we will seek the Lord more at night in this season (**Ps. 63:6, Ps. 119:48**).
Ask Him for understanding concerning the **Laws of Leaven** and how to implement them on earth.

As His knowledge is revealed, we will praise Him like the wise men from the East who saw the star of Jesus/ the shepherds who gave glory to God and worshipped Christ.

Let the Lord blindfold the likes of **Herod** (wicked ones) who will like to **abort** the plan of God (**Matt 2**).

d. ask the Lord to give us songs in the night (**Job 35:10, Ps 42:8**).

e. pray for our children (**Lam 2:19**).

f. Pray for God’s mercy, protection, provision, guidance, restoration, etc (**Ps. 121, 125, 126, Deut. 28:1-14, etc.**)

g. Receive the precious things released by the heavens (**Deut 33:14**). Proclaim **John 14:6, Rev 11:15**.

13. **Remember to pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps 122)**.
THE FIRST QUARTER AND LAST QUARTER MOON PERIODS.

This teaching is about the significance of the quarter moon periods on the first quarter and last quarter moons of every lunar month. This is to help you know how to pray at these periods of each lunar month.

WHEN COSMIC BODIES ECLIPSE, THE OCCULTISTS BELIEVE THAT THESE TWO BODIES ARE CONSUMMATING AS THEY PASS EACH OTHER AND MUCH POWER IS RELEASED THROUGH SEX MAGIC.

THE MOON LUNAR ECLIPSE:

When a lunar eclipse occurs, the Moon passes through the shadow of the earth cast into space. At the point of total eclipse, the Moon will stand midway in the penumbral shadow of the earth. There is intense SHADOW SORCERY done during such an event.

At such a time, one can liken the passage of the moon in the shadow of the earth to someone passing through the valley of the shadow of death.

We need to begin to pray now into this event so that the shepherding wings of the Lord will overshadow us (Ps 23, 91). Plead the Blood of Jesus on the moon and command it to declare the glory of God (Ps 19).

- 33RD HOUR OF THE MOON.

When the new moon is 33 hours old it can be seen with the naked eye as a thin crescent moon.

At this point, Satanists will commence 33 degree-based occult enchantments using the new moon. This is a powerful global enchantment fashioned to counter the outcome of the 33 years of our Lord Jesus Christ First Advent on earth.

It is our duty to counter this satanic onslaught on the work of redemption by enforcing the truth that at 33 years, the Lord was lifted up through the cross in order to draw all men to Himself.

This enchantment enjoys great success largely because it has been unchallenged by the praying church of God and its targeted especially at weakening the work of the Kingdom of God in the nations.
It is a major source of strength for occultism. Let’s continue to proclaim and enforce the Word in **Heb 2:14-15** and put the records straight in the spirit.

![Box](box.png)

**Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”**

Let us enforce this finished destruction of the devil and his works at the cross as we pray. This is the true effect of the figure 33, and NOT some silly 33 degree Masonic sorcery – AMEN!!

- **First crescent phase**

This called **Diana’s bow** used to shoot moon arrows to afflict and kill. Ask the Lord to break the bows of the wicked in the heavens. Ask the Lord to rescue you and be your covering (**Ps 18**).

- **The perigee of the moon**

This means the moon is closest to earth and brings about high water tides (pray against moon-water based afflictions **Ez 29**: 2-5, **Ps. 29**, etc).

- **Venus is in alignment with the crescent moon;**

Please pray against **Islamic witchcraft** and the activities of **women freemasons** who like to use this alignment for sorcery. Command the heavens to declare the glory of God (**Ps. 19**) and pray that the Lord will frustrate all the tokens of liars enchanted into this event.

![Box](box.png)

**Is 44:24-25** “24 Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and He Who formed you from the womb: I am the Lord, Who made all things, Who alone stretched out the heavens, Who spread out the earth by Myself [who was with Me]?—

25 [I am the Lord] Who frustrates the signs and confounds the omens [upon which the false prophets’ forecasts of the future are based] of the [boasting] liars and makes fools of diviners, Who turns the wise backward and makes their knowledge foolishness,”
- **The Moon in eclipse with the bright open cluster, the Pleiades.**

Pray that the Lord will shower you and your loved ones with the precious things of the heavens

**Deut 33: 13-17** “13 And of Joseph he said: Blessed by the Lord be his land, with the precious gifts of heaven from the dew and from the deep that couches beneath,
14 With the precious things of the fruits of the sun and with the precious yield of the months,
15 With the chief products of the ancient mountains and with the precious things of the everlasting hills,
16 With the precious things of the earth and its fullness and the favor and goodwill of Him Who dwelt in the bush. Let these blessings come upon the head of Joseph, upon the crown of the head of him who was separate and prince among his brothers.
17 Like a firstling young bull his majesty is, and his horns like the horns of the wild ox; with them he shall push the peoples, all of them, to the ends of the earth. And they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.”

- **First Quarter Moon**

The following describes the nature of the first (and last) quarter moon and the events associated with it. Note that the **quarter moon is called half moon** because it looks like a half circle in the sky:

In many ancient cultures, the half moon was used for fortification in cities with water outlets (for example, Edinburgh, UK). At the formal entrance of such cities there is usually a half moon or half circle battery or brick curved out toward the water.

Two things are usually built directly behind the half-moon: the **city watch tower and the armoury (for warfare).**

Visitors are viewed from the watch towers and enemies that are spotted are deal with instantly because the armoury is handy.

Many cities and homes around the world now have the **half moon configuration either on the lawn** (front yard or backyard) or as **architectural designs.** If you have any of these designs, you need to use the Blood of Jesus to **cut off the ley lines between that structure and the half moon so that the enemy will not take advantage of you.**

In summary, the satanists use these quarter moon periods to fortify themselves spiritually through enchantments done with the quarter moon. We must counter this every month at the first and last quarter moons.
Nahum 1-3.

**Micah 5:10-15** “10 And in that day, says the Lord, I will cut off your horses [on which you depend] from among you and will destroy your chariots. 11 And I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds. 12 And I will cut off witchcrafts and sorceries from your hand, and you shall have no more soothsayers. 13 Your carved images also I will cut off and your statues or pillars out of your midst, and you shall no more worship the work of your hands. 14 And I will root out your Asherim [symbols of the goddess Asherah] and I will destroy your cities [the seats of false worship]. 15 And in anger and wrath I will execute vengeance upon the nations which would not obey [vengeance such as they have not heard of before].”

Pray that all the fortifications, strongholds and towers of satan and his army **fastened into the half moon** will collapse completely. **Use Ps 18** to pray and thank the LORD for being your fortification.

The half moon also speaks of the **division between day and night** because half of the moon is dark (the part that we don’t often see) and the other half is lit (the part we can see). This speaks of the first day of creation (Gen 1:1-5).

- **The principle of precedence:**

Pray that the Lord Jesus, the Light of the world, will enlighten all aspects of your life (family, nation, etc) the enemy seeks to engulf in darkness. Proclaim “let there be light” according to the Word of Creation in Gen. 1.

**VERY IMPORTANT!** Cancel the programming of the army of satan who claim that darkness precedes light in Gen 1: 2 and that they can use the **principle of precedence** to make darkness overcome light (John 1:1-5)

- **The Terminator**

Finally, the division between the two portions of the quarter moon is set by the terminator, a lunar feature that enables scientists and sorcerers to monitor events on the earth on a 24 hour basis.

Please fasten the Blood of Jesus in the terminator. **Refuse demonic termination of God’s plans and purposes in your life** and command it to vomit/terminate the rituals and the sacrifices of the wicked, which are an abomination in the eyes of God.

- **A Maximum Lunar Libration** (wobbly shaky movement) of the moon:
Pray against all manners of demonically-charged instability.

**Prayer Strategy:**

1. Praise, worship and thank the Lord: Gen. 1, Ps. 8, 136, 148, etc. It is by the Lord’s mercy that we are not consumed.

2. Repentance (Ps. 51, 103): repent of all sins (personal, family, community, nation, etc). Take time to repent on any sin especially pertaining to rebellion which is like the spirit of witchcraft. God hates this. Let us genuinely repent so that the witch in us will not consume us. Remember, God is not a respecter of persons. Ask for mercy and cleansing by the Blood of Jesus (Heb 9:12ff).

3. Bind all demonic spirits and satanic princes (Matt 12:28, 18:18): bind occultic princes, witchcraft spirit, unclean spirits, spirit of rebellion, etc.

Renounce and break all satanic covenants operating in your life and situation (Isa 28:14-18). Cancel all satanic transactions and trafficking in your life, family, nation, the Church, etc.

4. *Speak to the gates of time/season with the voice of the Blood of Jesus.*

Ask Elohim, the Creator of all things to reign and rule. Ask the Lord Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega to be the first and the last of this time/season (Ps. 24).

5. **Plead the Blood of Jesus on the moon.**

- the darkness and shadows in the moon,
- silver rays,
- the seas of the moon,
- moon mountains,
- bay of rainbow,
- rocking and shaking movement of the moon,
- the terminator of the moon which is prominent in the first and last quarter phase of the moon

**Use the Blood of Jesus to cancel all manners of crisis and shaking that the enemies may want to program into your life and that pertains to you.**

Command the Moon to declare the Glory of the Lord (Ps. 19:1-6).

Command the **terminator of the moon** to **TERMINATE** all satanic activities in the winter solstice season.
Seal your life and everything God has given you with the Blood of Jesus.

Seal the gates of your life with the Blood of Jesus: eyes, mouth, ears, nose, pineal gland, spinal cord, umbilical cord, etc.

Ask the Lord to be your Passover. Ask the Lord stand to watch over you and everyone that is named by the Name of Christ in this season (Ex 12:13).

We shall not die but live to declare the works of the Lord (Ps 118:17).

Take all the elements of heavens one by one (e.g., the Sun, Moon, Venus, the Pleiades, other stars) and seal them with the Blood of Jesus.

Command these stars to declare the Glory of the Lord (Ps. 19:1-6).

Let us pray that the counsel of the Lord will stand and that the kingdom of darkness will not hijack these events to their advantage.

Let us insist that our God who makes the seven stars and Orion will overturn the sentences of the sorcerers against our families, businesses, nations, Africa and the church.

**Amos 5:7-9** "7 You who turn justice into [the bitterness of] wormwood and cast righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God) down to the ground, 8 Seek Him Who made the [cluster of stars called] Pleiades and [the constellation] Orion, Who turns the shadow of death or deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the face of the earth—the Lord is His name— 9 Who causes sudden destruction to flash forth upon the strong so that destruction comes upon the fortress.”

- Let the Lord turn the shadow of death situations in our lives and circumstances into the morning. Let Him strengthen us against the army of satan and their strong networks.

Speak the Blood of Jesus on the connection between the moon, the Sun and all waters (including the water in our bodies). Release the Blood of Jesus on all paths to the Moon.

**Command the earth not to listen to the army of satan** (Jer 22:29-30). Ask the Lord to pass through the waters and drain the anointing of water spirits (Ps. 29, Zech 10:11).

With the Blood of Jesus, disconnect the moon from all satanic ley lines and ley routes. Blot out handwriting of ordinances (death, destruction, kidnapping, sickness, diseases, loss, trauma, etc) that was against us with the Blood of Jesus (Col 2:14).
6. Ask the Lord to remember **Israel** at this time. Let there be peace in Jerusalem **Ps.122**.

7. **Rev 4, 5, 11:15**. Proclaim that the kingdoms of your life, family, business, Africa, etc have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever.

**AMEN!!!**
Every month, the Kanaan Team puts together a New Moon prayer/report, based on the principles discussed in this book. The prayers/reports are posted up on our website at the following link:

http://www.kanaanministries.org/downloads/?category=6

Archived months are also available for download.

We encourage prayer warriors/intercessors to use these monthly New Moon prayers/reports, to keep watch and for focused prayer-points, for the specific month ahead.

Many blessings and as you watch and pray!!
The Priestly Blessing ...

Numbers 6:24-26

“24 The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: 25 The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: 26 The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.”
The Priestly Blessing ...

Hebraic Translation

"YHVH will kneel before you presenting gifts, and He will guard you with a hedge of protection, YHVH will illuminate the wholeness of His Being toward you, bringing order, and He will provide you with love, sustenance, and friendship, YHVH will lift up the wholeness of His Being and look upon you, and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete."

*Translation by Jeff A. Benner, for more information, please see [http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12_blessing.html](http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12_blessing.html)*
The Priestly Blessing

This blessing is (ritually) recited (by the kohanim) during synagogue services during Nesiat Kapayim ("the Raising of the Hands"), though it is also recited over children on Friday night before the start of the Shabbat meal or as a bedtime blessing.

The name YHVH (יהוה) represents God's attributes of love and mercy (יהוה סבלא), in contradistinction to the name Elohim ( אלהים), which represents God's attributes of justice and power as our Creator.

Jewish tradition considers this both material and spiritual prosperity. Pirkei Avot 3:15 says, "If there is no flour, there is no Torah," by which is meant that material benefits are intended to help you pursue study of Torah. The first occurrence of the word "blessing" in the Scriptures pertains to pru urvu (ברעועה), "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen. 1:22).

The hiphil verb (ライירא) comes from the word "light" (ライא), and is thought to refer to God's wisdom. "May God enlighten you" with His wisdom, i.e., the Divine Light that preceded the work of creation (Gen. 1:3).

May God grant you grace or favor (depart), i.e., to understand the "breadth and length and height and depth" of God's love (Eph. 3:18). Grace refers to the bestowal of an undeserved gift. The blessing is bestowed even though unearned or unmerited.

Since one's face is an indication of the heart's attitude, Rashi says that this means God will suppress His anger by "looking at you" (if God is angry at you, He "turns His face away" and refuses to admit your presence). The "lifting of face" also pictures God lifting you up as a father might lift up his child in joy. The "showing of face" indicates spiritual intimacy.

All of the other blessings are useless without the establishment of inner peace, and therefore it is the seal of the blessing. Shalom (שלום) is not simply the absence of strife, but a balance and harmony between the finite and infinite, the temporal and the eternal, the material and the spiritual realms. Shalom is a gift from Sar Shalom (שלום סרו), the Prince of Peace.