

Beloved of YHVH, every year at this time, everybody says to one another:

“Happy New Year!”

But is it really the **“New Year”** according to our Creator?

Or is it the New Year according to the Vatican?

We are not supposed to adapt ourselves to the culture. We are commanded to be conformed to our Messiah, who is the WORD that became flesh.

**Romans 12:2** *“And be not conformed to this world: but be you transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of Elohiym.”*

If our Creator COMMANDS us to keep the New Year in the Spring, in the Month Abib (**Exodus 12:2 & 13:3-4**), shouldn't we obey Him?

And if we wilfully DISOBEY, shall we not be deemed as LEAST IN THE KINGDOM?

*Our Messiah said it Himself in **Matthew 5:17-19** “...WHOSOEVER SHALL BREAK ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE COMMANDMENTS, HE SHALL BE CALLED LEAST IN THE KINGDOM.”*

January 1<sup>st</sup> is not the New Year, and to go along with the crowd, means that you are inadvertently going along with the Beast of **Revelation 13**, the Papacy!

**Daniel 7:23-25** says that the *“...FOURTH KINGDOM ON EARTH (ROME) IS THE BEAST, AND HE CHANGES TIMES & SEASONS!”*

The Roman Julius Caesar, and the Roman Pope Gregory, have changed our Creator's Calendar (including the New Year) to honour the pagan god named Janus (for which the month of January is named).

## Janus is the two-headed god of the past and future!

It is fine to acknowledge that we are moving from one year to the next. However, the true New Year is when YHVH says it is the New Year.

*In Exodus 12:2 when He brought Israel out of Egypt, He said to them “This shall be unto you the beginning of months, it shall be the first month of the year to you.”*

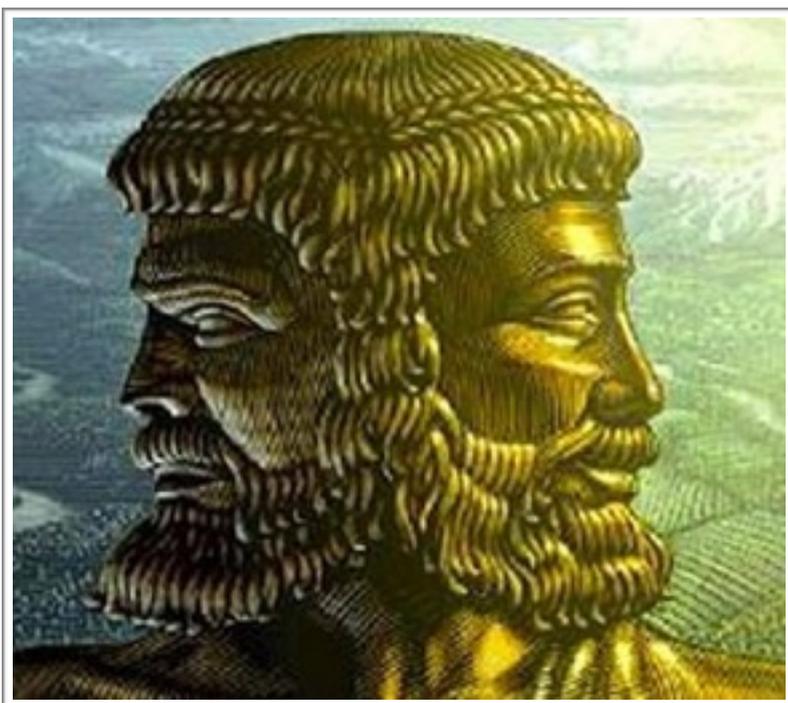
We have to put ourselves in agreement with YHVH's instruction.

The New Year is in the month Abib.

*Exodus 13:3-4 “And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand YHVH brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten. This day came you out in the month Abib.”*

To learn more about when our Creator commands us to celebrate the New Year, see the blog entitled:

## Janus the Beginning & the Ending: A Counterfeit Messiah



Most people do not realise that by honouring January 1<sup>st</sup> as the “**New Year**” they are inadvertently giving honour to a fallen angel named Janus.

The pagan deity Janus is called by the pagans the “god” of beginnings, and this is why the first month of the pagan Roman calendar has been named after him. It is said that the Roman god Janus has two faces. The first face looking to what lies ahead and the second face looking to what is passing. Janus is and was celebrated by the pagans as the representation of all that is passing and is getting old and **“all that is new and yet to come.”** Having the month of January named after him by Julius Caesar, he is in paganism the representative of the year that has passed and the year ahead, as the first month of the Julian & Gregorian calendar.

Janus, the god of two faces is celebrated on the pagan solar calendar in New Year’s Eve celebrations and he is honoured by the heathen in the passing year on December 21<sup>st</sup> (the rebirth of the sun at the winter solstice).

Their rituals of getting drunk and partaking in orgies, are activities that would ordinarily take place on December 31<sup>st</sup>, and this is in part the way that the pagans all pay tribute to Janus.

Many people look at the pagan New Year as a time for reflection, which is why Janus’ face is looking to the past and he is said to be older, weathered and wise, at the end of the year.

The Catholic Church canonised Januarius as a so-called **“saint”** in an attempt to redeem pagan deities and make them appear benign. But they are really calling these demons **“holy”** since the term **“saint”** in Latin is **“santa”** which means **“holy.”**

The ghost of St. Januarius to this day is said to appear to faithful Catholics and his dried blood is said to liquefy three times per year when Catholics make a pilgrimage to his see and touch his relics. One of these pilgrimages takes place on December 16<sup>th</sup> just in time for the month of January when the pagan god Janus is also honoured.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St.\\_Januarius](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Januarius)

Janus is said to be the god honoured daily in the celebration of birthdays with the making of wishes and blowing out candles. The greatest tribute to this pagan god was Julius Caesar naming the month of January in tribute to Janus. But then Pope Gregory followed his lead by making January 1<sup>st</sup> the official date of the Catholic New Year in the year 1582 A.D.

At this website, we read how the Julian calendar went off course by ten days over time, and it became necessary for Pope Gregory to attempt to make corrections to the calendar.

## The Julian Calendar

In 45 B.C., Julius Caesar ordered a calendar consisting of twelve months based on a solar year. This calendar employed a cycle of three years of 365 days, followed by a year of 366 days (leap year). When first implemented, the "**Julian Calendar**" also moved the beginning of the year from March 1 to January 1. However, following the fall of the Roman Empire in the fifth century, the New Year was gradually realigned to coincide with Christian festivals until by the seventh century; Christmas Day marked the beginning of the New Year in many countries.

**By the ninth century, parts of southern Europe began observing first day of the New Year on March 25<sup>th</sup>** to coincide with Annunciation Day (the church holiday nine months prior to Christmas celebrating the Angel Gabriel's revelation to the Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of the Messiah). The last day of the year was March 24<sup>th</sup>. However, England did not adopt this change in the beginning of the New Year until late in the twelfth century.

During the Middle Ages, it became apparent that the Julian leap year formula had overcompensated for the actual length of a solar year, having added an extra day every 128 years. However, no adjustments were made to compensate. By 1582, seasonal equinoxes were falling 10 days "too early," and some church holidays, such as Easter, did not always fall in the proper seasons. In that year, Pope Gregory XIII authorized, and most Roman Catholic countries adopted, the "Gregorian" or "New Style Calendar." As part of the change, ten days were dropped from the month of October, and the formula for determining leap years was revised so that only years divisible by 400 (e.g., 1600, 2000) at the end of a century would be leap years. January 1 was established as the first day of the New Year. Protestant countries, including England and its colonies, not recognizing the authority of the Pope, continued to use the Julian calendar.

**\*\*Note\*\*** as you can see, at one time, the New Year had been celebrated in the spring some time between March 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>. Julius Caesar had changed the New Year to January 1<sup>st</sup> naming the month after the pagan god Janus. But as time went on, Christians began keeping the New Year in the spring because they believed that the Messiah's incarnation was on March 25<sup>th</sup> (Easter) and they believed that his birth was on December 25<sup>th</sup> (just like Nimrod and Tammuz). But as the Julian calendar went off course by ten days, Pope Gregory changed the New Year back to January 1<sup>st</sup> again just like Julius Caesar after the pagan god Janus. Pope Gregory also continued the tradition of honoring the month of January after this so-called Saint Januarius. And thus, Rome continues to display the characteristics of the beast who "changes times and laws."

## Ignorant of the Times & Seasons

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3, we are reminded that we should not be "ignorant" concerning the end-times and concerning the words of the prophets of old. Peter calls them scoffers who choose to remain "willingly ignorant" of the times and the seasons (feasts) which lead us to end-time events that are yet to come:

**2 Peter 3:2-5** *"That you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of YHVH and Saviour. Knowing this first, that **there shall come in the last days scoffers**, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this **they willingly are ignorant of**, that by the word of Elohiym the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water."*

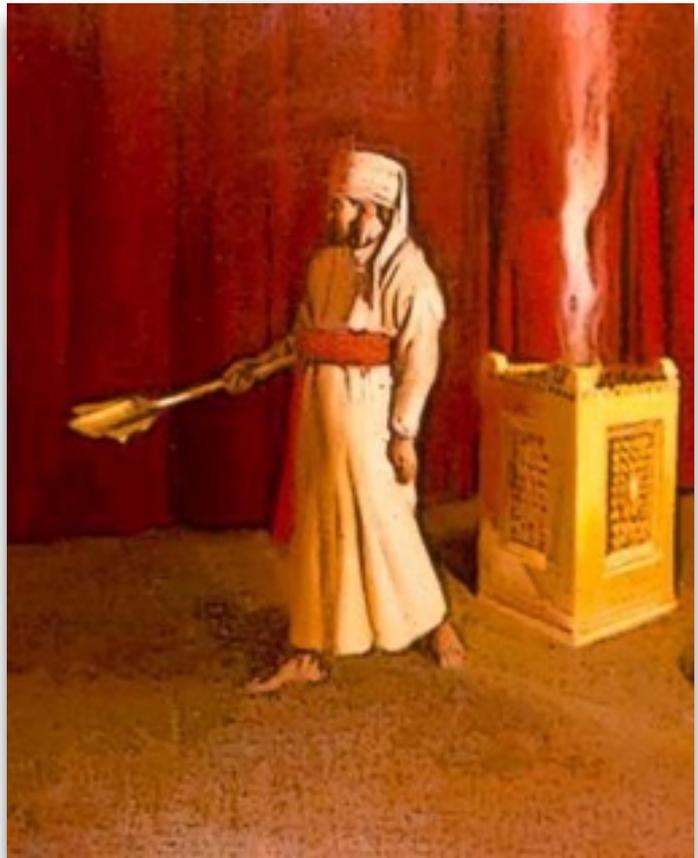
Peter is telling us that all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation, but yet there are those who have conformed to the altered calendar of this world, and they choose to be "**willingly ignorant**" by following the times, seasons, and the calendar rendering of this present world rather than the way that YHVH has established things at creation.

Peter continues to use the word "**ignorant**" one more time in relationship to the fact that we are to understand YHVH's rendering of times and seasons. If we do not follow the times and the seasons laid out for us in scripture, when the Day of YHVH comes, He will come as a "**thief in the night**" for those who are "**ignorant**."

**2 Peter 3:8-10** “But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with YHVH as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. YHVH is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But **the day of YHVH will come as a thief in the night**; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

## The Thief in the Night

In Biblical times, when the Second Jewish Temple was standing in Jerusalem, the priests were given a schedule. Each priest had a shift and a rotation where they were instructed to “**keep watch**” and to make sure that the fire on the altar did not go out.



The High Priest would come around in the middle of the night to make sure that the priests were doing their job by not allowing the fire on the brazen altar to go out. But if the priest on duty as the “**watchman**” fell asleep on the job, and he allowed the fire to go out, the High Priest would take hot burning coals and using a shovel, he would scoop up some of the coals and dump them onto the garment of the priest who had

fallen asleep! As soon as the garment began to catch on fire, the sleeping servant would immediately wake up from his slumber and he began removing the burning garment from his body to prevent from being burned to death.

When the shift was over for all the priests, the one who had fallen asleep was “**caught naked**” and all of the other priests would know that he had fallen asleep on the job thus causing him to be embarrassed and humiliated. The nick-name given to the High Priest was called “**the thief in the night!**”

And so now we can read this verse in **Revelation 16** with better understanding ...

***Revelation 16:15 "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."***

YHVH is our High Priest after the Order of Melchizedek (**Hebrews 7**) who will come to us as a thief in the night only if we are sleeping on the job! But if we are doing our job as a **"watch-man"** by not allowing the fire to go out in our temples, and we are keeping our garments clean, we will not be found naked and ashamed at his second coming!

Now that we understand this Hebrew Idiom of what the **"thief in the night"** is, we can get a better understanding of what our beloved Apostle Paul was speaking about to the Congregation at Thessalonica.

Paul knew that the believers were not ignorant of the "times and seasons," because they were being taught about YHVH's rendering of times and seasons from the *Torah (Mosaic Law)*.

Paul knew that keeping the *Feasts of YHVH* and following His rendering of the appointed times, would keep the Body of Messiah **"in the light"** so that they would not be caught off guard on the **"Day of YHVH."** Those who are of the **"night"** are in darkness and they do not know the time and seasons of His coming.

YHVH will return as **"a thief in the night"** only for those who are in darkness. But for the children of light, He will not come to us as **"a thief in the night."** The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Thessalonians uses the term **"times & seasons"** which pertains to the *Holy Feast Days of YHVH*. In the *Strong's Hebrew Concordance*, the word for **"times & seasons"** is as follows:

**#4150 mow`ed; moweadah (2 Chronicles 8:13);** an appointment, i.e. a **fixed time or season**; specifically, a festival; conventionally a year; an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the congregation; by extension, the place of meeting; also a signal as **appointed before-hand** ... appointed (sign, time), (place of, solemn) assembly, congregation, (set, solemn) **feast**, (appointed, due) solemnity, synagogue, a set time (appointed).



This word is a singular word for “**time**” but the plural for this word is “**mowediym.**”

Paul explained that it was not needful to write to these New Covenant believers in Thessalonica about the “**times & seasons**” or the *Feasts of YHVH* because they were already keeping them!

Each of the seven Feasts that we are commanded to keep are represented by “**lights**” on the menorah, as the

Hebrew word for “**day**” is yowm which means “**light.**” And thus, when we are keeping the appointed *Feast Days of YHVH*, we are “**walking in light!**” There are also “**seven spirits**” of YHVH spoken of in **Isaiah 11:2, Revelation 1:4, 3:1, 4:5, & 5:6.**

These seven spirits also correlate to these seven feasts: *The spirit of YHVH, the spirit of wisdom, the spirit of understand-ing, the spirit of counsel, the spirit of might, the spirit of knowledge, the spirit of the fear of YHVH.*

In **Zechariah 3:9 & Revelation 5:6**, these seven spirits are also called the “**seven eyes**” of YHVH.

Aha! Now we know why the Apostle Paul wrote to these believers in Thessalonica and he told them that they are “**children of the light, & of the day,**” because they were already observing these seven annual Feast days!



And it is because they were already observing these feasts that he said to them ***“of the times and seasons, you have no need that I write to you.”***

Beloved, those who are not keeping the appointed Feasts are going to be caught off guard by the thief in the night!

***1 Thessalonians 5:1-7 “But of the times and the seasons (feasts, mowediym), brethren, you have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of YHVH so comes as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. You are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.”***

## **When Does YHVH's New Year Begin?**



We are now going to learn that there were two calendars instituted by our Creator.

The first calendar measures linear time, and it runs its course for 12 months. This calendar was instituted at creation.

The second calendar was instituted at the Exodus out of Egypt and this calendar runs its course for seven months and it is for measuring the seven annual *Feasts of YHVH*.

From the beginning of creation, linear time itself was measured starting on Yom Kippur in the 7th Hebrew month known as Tishri (Deuteronomy 15:1). That usually falls around September or October on our Gregorian solar calendar today.

How can we be sure that the New Year used to begin in the seventh Hebrew month of Tishri before the first Exodus out of Egypt? We have the record of the Torah that tells us that the end of the year is at the *Feast of Tabernacles*:

**Exodus 23:16** “And the *Feast of Harvest*, the firstfruits of your labours, which you have sown in the field: and the **Feast of Ingathering**, which is in the **end of the year**, when you have gathered in your labours out of the field.”

**Exodus 34:22** “And you shall observe the **Feast of Weeks**, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year’s end.”

**Deuteronomy 31:10** “And Mosheh (Moses) commanded them, saying, At the **end of every seven years**, in the solemnity of the year of release, **in the Feast of Tabernacles.**”

As you can see, every seventh year (called a shmitta in Hebrew) cycles around on the *Feast of Tabernacles*.

That is why Rabbinic Jews call the 1st day of the 7th month of Tishri “**Rosh ha’Shanah**” meaning “head” (Rosh) and “the year”(ha’Shanah).

They call this the “**Civil New Year**” because it is based on a 12-month cycle of measuring the “**sabbatical years and Jubilee Cycles**” (**Leviticus 25**). And then there is the agricultural and spiritual New Year according to **Exodus 12:1 & 13:4**. This is a 7-month year of accounting “**seed time and harvest.**”

And so there is a 7-month year for measuring 7 feasts & the 3 harvests of agriculture (from Abib through Tishri).

And then there is also a 12-month year whereby we measure every 7<sup>th</sup> year and we let the land rest as a sabbatical year.

We are also commanded to hallow every 50<sup>th</sup> year on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month by sounding the trumpet, and declaring national debt cancellation and freedom for slaves etc.

This is to take place on the “**Day of Atonement**” or “**Yom Kippur.**” And so while linear time itself is measured in the 7<sup>th</sup> month of Tishri, YHVH commands us to celebrate “**the first month of the year**” in the month called Abib (Aviv) to commemorate the time when He delivered the children of Yisra’el out of Mitzrayim (Egypt).

As you can see, according to scripture, the New Year is described in **Exodus 12:2 & 13:3-4** as the time when we are commanded to remember our deliverance out of bondage from Egypt and our deliverance from sin at Messiah's sacrifice as the Passover Lamb.

This is 14 days before Passover (Pesach) which usually falls around March or April on the Gregorian calendar.

In **Leviticus 23:24**, we are commanded on the **"first day of the seventh month"** to have a memorial of blowing trumpets, called **"Yom Teruah"** which means **"Day of Blowing"** aka the **Feast of Trumpets**. No place in scripture is this feast referred to as **"Rosh Ha'Shanah."** The reason why in Judaism they refer to the 1st day of the 7th month of Tishri as **"Head of the Year,"** is because the **Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles)** is referred to as the **"end of the year"** (**Exodus 23:16 & 34:22**).

Thus the period of **"seed time and harvest"** cycles around at this time of year when Noah's Ark rested in the 7<sup>th</sup> month of Tishri (**Genesis 8:22**).

