HOW TO COUNT FIFTY

There is much confusion in the world today regarding the counting of the fifty days that leads to the Feast of First Fruits also known as the Feast of Weeks.

Are the fifty days counted from the waving of the wave sheaf or the omer during the Feast of Unleavened Bread? Most would that they are, but is this true?

Or, does the 50 day count begin from the morrow after the 7th Sabbath after the waving of the wave sheaf?

There are many ideas and opinions that people have, but there are two that are more predominantly practiced by those who claim to celebrate this Feast.

First, let’s rule out the obvious fraud; here are the instructions in Leviticus 23;

Lev 23:15-16

15 **And you shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete:**

16 **Until the morrow after the seventh Sabbath you shall number fifty days; and you shall offer a new meat offering unto YEHWEH.**

The first thing that we must do is determine which morrow after the Sabbath that we are to begin counting from. Then we must determine if the count is to be a fifty day count from that day or a seven Sabbath count from that day that leads to a fifty day count.

There are groups that say that we must begin counting 50 from what they call a weekly Sabbath that falls within Unleavened Bread. All of the groups that I have found that make this claim do not understand YEHWEH’s true calendar system and believe in a non-stop, continuous seven day weekly cycle and a weekly Sabbath always landing on Saturday.

I will expose their hypocrisy. One of these groups is led by a man who claims that he and his wife are the two end-time witnesses that stand before Elohiym and the whole world restoring truth.

These groups are using the calendar system that those who call themselves Jewish today use. A calendar system that the Jews of modern times admit themselves was changed in the fourth century.

In these groups method of calculation, whenever the first day of Unleavened Bread lands on a Sunday, as it did in 2008 in their false calendar, they actually must go backwards out of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and choose the day before, which is the Passover as the Sabbath to count from.

They do this because they correctly state that the wave sheaf cannot be waved outside of Unleavened Bread and they know that the following weekly Sabbath in their system would be on the last day of Unleavened Bread, thus the wave sheaf would be on the following Sunday and outside of Unleavened Bread.

In doing so, they are making the first day of Unleavened Bread which is a Sabbath also the wave sheaf offering.

The verse that this group wants to turn to support this idea is Joshua 5;

Josh 5:11-12

11 **And they did eat of the old corn (Strong’s #5669- stored grain) of the land on the morrow after the Passover, unleavened cakes, and parched (# 7033-dried or roasted) corn (Not even in the original text) in the selfsame day.**

12 **And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn (# 5669-stored grain) of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna anymore; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.**

Their argument goes that since they could not eat of the harvest of that year’s new crops until after the wave sheaf offering was waved, that this verse proves that the Passover was on a Saturday in that year and thus the wave sheaf was waved the next day so that they could eat of it which would have been the first day of Unleavened Bread.

Is this really what this verse is saying? It says the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten of the stored grain of the land and eaten parched unleavened cakes, the word corn after parched is not even in the original text.

Leviticus 23 tells us plainly that the first Day of Unleavened Bread is a Sabbath. Manna did not fall on the Sabbath day anyway, how could it cease from falling that day if it did not customarily fall on that day in the first place?

**THERE ARE WORDS THAT DESCRIBE THE NEW GRAIN** that we are not to eat of until the after the wave sheaf is waved that are used elsewhere in the Hebrew Scriptures. One place that describes this forbidden produce is in Leviticus 23:14.

It says that we are not to eat of the “parched corn” or “roasted grain” which is the Hebrew word # 7039 in the Strong’s concordance nor of the “green ears” which is Strong’s # 3759. I wonder why these words are not used here in Joshua 5?

This group’s argument that Joshua 5 is referring roasted corn that was from the green (Abib) crop of that year. I don’t see it saying that.

This verse more accurately reads;

**They consumed the stored grain of the land on the following day after the Passover with roasted unleavened cakes, the self-same day.**

**And the manna ceased on the following day after they had eaten of the stored grain of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna anymore; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.**

The manna ceased on the following day after they had eaten of the stored grain. Which day did they eat the stored grain of the land? It was the day after the Passover which is always the first day of Unleavened Bread, therefore the manna ceased on the next day after the first day of Unleavened Bread. This is always the 16th day of the month in YEHWEH’s calendar system.

It is sick to see what measures man will go to uphold his/her erroneous beliefs.

There is plenty of evidence in history that supports this as well, but we do not need to go to those sources, all that we need to do is believe the word of Elohiym and not put in our own ideas.

He told us that the wave sheaf was waved on the morrow after the Sabbath and He says the first day of Unleavened Bread is the Sabbath and it is, it is both a weekly Sabbath and a High Sabbath.

Like I also said, this group and the many similar groups that hold onto this method of calculation do not believe Elohiym anyway when He said that He gave us the moons to determine His appointed times, or they don’t believe Him that the Sabbaths are appointed time I guess.

They would rather believe in satan’s calendar system and make their calculations from that and reject the truth.

Group #2;

The largest group of people who claim to celebrate the Feast of Weeks or First Fruits is those who understand that the wave sheaf offering occurs on the correct day, the 16th of Abib.

Their error is they also want to use the pagan roman calendar system instead of their Creator’s calendar.

With their calculation system, depending if the months that our involved in this count are 29 or 30 days long, the 50th day would always land on the 5th, 6th or 7th day of Sivan which is the 3rd month, but most of them manipulate the number of days in these months so that it always lands on the 6th day.

The problem with this system is, if they think that this is the day that 50 should be counted from, this means that the 50th day does not land on the morrow after the Sabbath as Leviticus 23 says it should if you count 50 from the wave sheaf, unless the 15th just happens to be on a Saturday since they claim that Saturday is the Sabbath.

So therefore they claim that there is a discrepancy on whether Leviticus 23:15 reads;

15 **And you shall count unto you from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete:**

Or whether it reads, as some old texts say;

Lev 23:15

15 **And you shall count unto you from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven weeks shall be complete:**

With their counting system they want to claim it is the latter, thus it does not need to fall directly after the weekly Sabbath, it can land on any day of the week.

The beautiful thing about the truth is it does not matter which of these two translations is accurate; both fit in the truth.

Knowing what makes a week complete tells us how to count, it is the Sabbath that completes a week, not a 7th day of a seven day cycle that can conveniently begin on whatever day you want it to, therefore end whenever.

Our Creator’s calendar system is pure. All of His annual Holy days and Feasts are listed by date except this Feast. Passover is on the 14th day of the 1st month, Unleavened Bread is from the 15th and the 21st of the 1st month, The New Moon day of Trumpets is on the 1st day of the 7th month, the Day of Atonement on the 10th day of the 7th month and the Feast of Tabernacles is from the 15th day of the 7th month until the 21st and the next day is a Sabbath, as it always is because it is the 22nd day of the month.

Clear cut and easy to follow, but why not give us the date for the Feasts of First Fruits?

One reason is to teach us and to remind us the importance of counting weeks the way He gave us to count them, to teach us not to rely on our own understanding. This also teaches us and reminds us that everything revolves around His calendar and His appointed times.

This true calculation system has been all but lost, few even know about it, less more follow it.

The crazy thing is, those who call themselves the Jewish people today and observe the Feasts according to their calculation all know that the new moons determine these appointed times.

They also know that the weekly Sabbaths are also appointed times. So why would they use the New Moons to determine some of our Creator’s appointed times and not others?

This question should be a marvel. It is called willful ignorance.

The next part of analyzing this subject is Jewish tradition says that the Law was given to Israel through Moses on the Feast of First Fruits.

Does history support that this was on the 6th of Sivan? On the surface it appears so because the book of Jasher records that the law was given to Israel on the 6th day of the 3rd month.

I have myself quoted the book of Jasher before and Joshua quoted it once and so did the author of Jude, but is it without error or could it have been tampered with? It certainly is not recognized by most as divine scripture.

Again, let’s simply believe the Holy Scriptures;

When did Moses say the law was given?

Ex 19:1-2

19:1 **In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day they came to the wilderness of Sinai.**

2 **For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.**

However you slice it up, the language used by Moses tells us that Israel came to the wilderness of **Sinai the night of the 15th in the 3rd month because it was the same day that they departed from Egypt and this is clearly recorded as the night of the** 15th in the 1st month. They certainly would have been traveling by night in the third month in the desert, after all, they had fire leading them and it would have been cooler.

They had earlier departed Rephidim which is the place in the desert that there was no water and the people murmured against Moses.

I know that it is Jewish tradition today that the law was given on the 6th day of Sivan but did this get perverted after the calendar system was perverted and after they claimed that the Feast of First Fruits now lands on this day according to the “new” calendar system?

You tell me, I choose to believe the word of Elohiym and His servant Moses over the customs of men.

We read on in Exodus 19 and in verse 10 we read;

Ex 19:10-11

10 **And YEHWEH said unto Moses, Go to the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes,**

11 **And be ready against the third day: for the third day YEHWEH will come down in the sight of all the people upon Mount Sinai.**

Today would have been the 16th, tomorrow would have been the 17th and the 3rd day would have been the 18th.

Of course this is not when He brought the written commandments down from the mountain, this was 40 days later. Moses did however bring down the 10 commandments verbally that day, which was the 18th day according to Holy Scripture. If you want to deny this, that is your choice.

The primary purpose of the Feast of First Fruits is to point us to three things, one, as a reminder that we can depend on Him for everything because He is our source.

Secondly, to teach us to be thankful for His provision and rejoice in His provision and thirdly, it is a fore shadow of the completion of the early harvest of those who learned to rely on His provision becoming the first fruits into His family.

Yehshua will return on this day in 2012 to harvest the remainder of His Father’s first fruits, of which, He was the first.

I will continue with a part two and discuss the actual timing on how the date of this feast is determined.

He is restoring His truth to a people who will turn from the lies that they have embraced and simply believe Him and trust Him.