

Passover 2021 & the Barley Harvest

Determining when Passover Starts

Val Brinkerhoff, 4/4/2021

The barley crop does not appear to be “Aviv” or **ripe** in Israel during the month of March in 2021. This is important because the ripening of barley is one of three witnesses used to determine the first three Holy Days dates on the LORD’s Bible calendar. All three of the witnesses for this date are from **God**. They are necessary so that we choose dates on our Gregorian calendar which line up with the actual dates for these three spring Holy Days, which are (1) **Passover**, (2) **the Feast of Unleavened Bread**, and (3) **Firstfruits**. They symbolically point to the actual days on which our LORD Yeshua was (1) **crucified**, (2) **buried**, and (3) **resurrected**. All who love the LORD want to honor Him on the right days using HIS calendar. And it is He who supplies us the three witnesses – two of them *in heaven* and one more *on the earth* - for when they should occur. The three witnesses are; (1) the **sun** (2) the **moon** and (3) **the ripening of the spring barley harvest in the Holy Land**. Thus the dating of the barley harvest in the Holy Land is one of three witnesses that mark **Passover** on the LORD’s Bible calendar. God tells us in His word that all things are to be established via 2 or 3 witnesses (see 2 Cor. 13:1).

<i>3 Witnesses Marking Passover</i>	<i>3 Witnesses in Heaven</i>	<i>3 Witnesses on Earth</i>
The Sun – <i>seasons</i> : solstices & equinoxes	Father	Water
The Moon – <i>days & weeks</i> – the full moon	Son	Blood
Ripen Barley in Israel – a <i>Firstfruits offering</i>	Holy Ghost	Spirit
<i>2 Corinthians 13:1</i>	<i>1 John 5:7 / Moses 6:59-60</i>	<i>1 John 5:7 / Moses 6:59-60</i>

The Three Spring Holy Days

It was important that the announcement of the Passover date (by the Priests in Jerusalem) be made as early as possible so that those making the pilgrimage to Jerusalem for this Holy Day could prepare for it. The Priests used two signs in the heavens, and one more on the earth to mark Passover. These three witnesses included (1) the **sun** marking the *season* for **Passover**, via the *Spring equinox* (indicated by the sun’s position on the horizon), and (2) the moon for the day of Passover (the **full moon** nearest this *Spring equinox*), along with (3) the sign of ripe barley in the fields of Israel.

God created the **sun** and the **moon** for *signs* and *seasons* (our calendar) as Genesis 1:14 states. He also controls weather on the earth for agriculture. The sign of unripe barley in Israel in March 2021 puts **Passover** a full month later on April 27th (the next **full moon**). The ripening of barley in early Spring is important because is the first of agricultural fruits offered up to the LORD as a “wave offering sheaf” at the 3rd Spring Holy Day known as **Firstfruits** (Lev. 23:9-14; 1 Cor. 15:20-23). This Holy Day marks the day of our LORD’s resurrection, three days after His crucifixion at **Passover**. *Barley* was the early *spring* crop tied to **Passover** and the poor or humble, whereas the *wheat* harvest was tied to **Pentecost** and early *summer*. The final *fruit* harvest of the growing season was tied to **Tabernacles** in the *fall*. These are three Bible feasts all men were to observe as Israelites.

Having **Passover** one month later allows for this important **Firstfruits** offering to actually line up with our LORD’s real **resurrection** date! This also pushes back a 4th Holy Day on God’s calendar - **Shavuot** or **Pentecost**, and all the way out (50 days from **Firstfruits**) to June 20 – the Summer Solstice. This solstice marks the time of greatest light, in the longest day of the year (some 16 hours of sunlight, with only 8 hours of darkness). This is the perfect symbol for the Holy Spirit or “the **endowment of power from on high**” (see Luke 24:49; Acts 1 & 2; D&C 95:8-9, 97:12-18, 105:10-12). This was the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out on those *born again* at Pentecost as described in Acts 1 and 2. Note that a similar outpouring of the Holy Ghost occurred on March 27th of 1836 for Latter-day Saints, at the dedication of the Kirtland, Ohio “House of the LORD”. Then, one week later the LORD personally accepted this “House” on His *resurrection* date (April 3, 1836), which occurred 2000 years earlier. He came then as the Light and Life of the world, overcoming death as part of His last, great miracle.

Barley Inspection in the Holy Land

Three scriptures point out that there should be *harvestable barley fields* for the third spring Holy Day known as “**Firstfruits**”, when the “Wave Sheaf Offering” to LORD was made, an offering representing our LORD’s **resurrection** date. He was “**the firstfruits of them that slept**” (1 Cor. 15:30). An inspection for the ripening of the barley in the Holy Land occurred on March 11-12 in 2021. Fifteen fields of “wild volunteer barley” were inspected in three different regions in Israel. They were (1) the Jordan Valley, where the Children of Israel crossed into the Land, (2) the Lower Galilee in northern Israel (where Christ started His mission), and (3) the northern Negev region in southern Israel (Jerusalem, site of His crucifixion). All three fields had unripe barley in them, planted earlier. This means that **Passover** needs to be delayed another month (to April 27), as marked by the next **full moon**. Scripture does not clearly say that the barley needs to be ripe near the *sacred* New Year’s Day (marked by New Moon nearest the Spring equinox), but it does state that the first month as “*Chodesh Ha-Aviv*” (Hebrew for “*the month of the aviv*” – Hebrew word for “ripe”). In **Deuteronomy 16:1-9** we read that there should be harvestable fields so that the Priest could offer up the “*Yom HaNafat HaOmer*” (Hebrew for “*the day of the wave sheaf offering*”, see **Lev. 23:10**). This date also allows the people to live off the early spring harvest of barley at this time also (see **Josh. 5:10-12**). It is the food offering of both the poor in Israel (to make bread), and “the Wave Sheaf Offering” of ripened barley for the priests. The dates of the first four traditional Holy Days in the LORD’s calendar in 2021 are:

1. **Passover**: April 27 (*full moon*) / 2. **Unleavened Bread**: *the next 7 days* / 3. **Firstfruits**: April 30 / 4. **Pentecost**: June 20