

The *Shemittah*

The Sabbath (shabbat)

- Fourth Commandment: all work and worldly endeavors to cease
- Sabbath was also a year (*shemittah*): Leviticus 25:1-4 (“The land shall keep a Sabbath to the Lord”); Exodus 23:10-11
- Rest for the people and the land

Elul 29

- Last day of the year (civil)
- Deuteronomy 15:1-2
- “At the end of every seven years” refers to the last day of the Sabbath year (the shemitah).
- “grant a release” (Deut. 15:1) = “shemitah” in Hebrew; mentioned four times in Deut. 15:1-2

Elul 29

- Sweeping transformation in nation's financial realm: all credit erased and all debt wiped away
- Hebrew day begins after sunset
- Thus, the moment all debts were wiped away was the sunset of Elul 29.

Elul 29

- The word *shemitah* covers both the seventh year and the last day of that year.
- The Shemitah Year began with releasing of land.
- It ended with the Shemitah Day, Elul 29, when the people would themselves be released.

586 BC: Fall of Judah

- Jeremiah had not kept silent; he sounded the alarm and warned the people of impending judgment, over and over and over again.
- They rejected the warning and the prophet.

586 BC: Fall of Judah

- The Lord revealed to Jeremiah the length of the judgment, the exact number of years: Jeremiah 25:4-11.
- Why the seventy years of exile?

586 BC: Fall of Judah

- Leviticus 26:31-35
- “Then the land shall enjoy its Sabbaths as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies’ land; then the land shall rest and enjoy its Sabbaths. As long as it lies desolate it shall rest — for the time it did not rest on your Sabbaths when you dwelt in it.”

586 BC: Fall of Judah

- 2 Chronicles 36:15-21
- “So the message of the Lord spoken through Jeremiah was fulfilled. The land finally enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years,” v. 21.
- “Sabbaths” here are years — the Shemitahs. They hold the timing of the Lord’s judgment.

A Covenant Sign

- The Shemitah was a sign of the nation's covenant with God.
- Required total trust in God's faithfulness.
- Act of devotion and worship.
- all they had, the land and all its blessings, were dependent on that covenant and their relationship with God.
- trust to provide for their needs while they ceased farming. Canceling all debts owed them was to sacrifice monetary gain and to rely on the Lord.

The Broken Shemitah

- Breaking of the covenant
- Rejection of God's sovereignty
- "Everything we have comes not from God but from the work of our hands; it all belongs to us and not God."
- Rejection of God's sovereignty over the land and lives.
- Unwillingness to sacrifice profit for the sake of pursuing God; allowed nothing to halt or interrupt their pursuits.

The Broken Shemitah

- The people of Israel drove God out of their lives to become masters of their land, world, destiny.
- They could now rewrite the law and redefine what was right and wrong, moral and immoral.
- They could do whatever they wanted with their: land, lives, one another, children (sacrificed in fires of Baal and Molech).
- It was for this last transgression that the judgment finally fell. It began with breaking Shemitah; ended with offering sons and daughters: the sin that would bring nation's destruction.

The Shemitah's Judgment

- Now the Shemitah would return to them.
- What they refused to obey freely would now come upon them by force.
- It would come back at them not in the form of blessing but of judgment.

The Shemitah's Judgment

- By rejecting God's ordinance (the Shemitah), they had worked the land continuously, exploiting it for gain.
- When the Shemitah returned to the land in the form of judgment, all sowing and reaping ceased, as well as all tending of vineyards and groves.

The Shemitah's Judgment

- Thus, in order for the land to rest and keep its missing Sabbaths, the Jewish people *had* to be removed from the land. (Lev. 26:43, “For the land must be abandoned to enjoy its years of Sabbath rest as it lies deserted.”)
- No one worked the land = rest, stillness.
- Through judgment and calamity the ordinance (the Shemitah) was now fulfilled.

The Shemitah's Judgment

- The seventy years of judgment *were* the seventy unkept Shemitahs from Israel's past.
- In 586 BC the nation's financial realm was wiped away. The calamity canceled debt and nullified credit by force.
- As it had always done, the Shemitah had transformed the nation's financial realm, only now by the force of destruction.

The Shemitah

- Could it still be at work in the modern world? Moving, impacting, altering the course of our world? Even in our day?
- If so, what form would it take? How would it manifest?

Beyond 586 BC

- In its first and original context the Shemitah is connected to Israel. It is the only nation commanded to *observe* the Shemitah.
- But we are not dealing here with the Shemitah as an *observance* but as a *prophetic sign*—particularly as a warning or manifestation of national judgment.

Modern Translation

- Such a prophetic sign could be given to any nation as long as that nation in some way matched the description or shared the attributes of ancient Israel in 586 BC.

Modern Translation

- A nation warranting a prophetic warning or manifestation of judgment, a nation in defiance of God's way.
- A nation that had once known God, but had now turned away from Him and rejected His ways.
- A civilization established on the Word of God, dedicated to His purposes, and consecrated to His glory from its very inception.

Modern Translation

- Only two civilizations in human history were established, dedicated, and consecrated to the will, Word, purposes, and the glory of God from the moment of their conceptions.
- The first was Israel; the second was America.

Israel of the New World

- Most would find it surprising to learn that America was consciously, intentionally, and specifically founded and formed after the pattern of ancient Israel. Its founders saw it as a new Israel, the Israel of the New World. (p. 57)
- No nation in the modern world is so deeply linked to ancient Israel as America. Therefore, there is no other nation so well suited for the manifestation of the Shemitah as America.

Fall of the Second Israel

- America's founders prophesied that inasmuch as the new civilization would follow God's ways, it would be blessed with the blessings of Israel. And what they foretold came true. America became the most blessed nation on earth, the most prosperous, secure, revered and powerful.

Fall of the Second Israel

- The “Israel of the New World” would reenact the apostasy and fall of ancient Israel.
- America began removing God from its national life, culture, government and public squares.
- Banned prayer and reading of Scriptures in public schools (1962-63).

Fall of the Second Israel

- America progressively redefined what was right and wrong, adopting a new morality to replace the old.
- American culture grew increasingly carnal, materialistic, coarse, vulgar, and self-indulgent.
- Israel murdered thousands of her children on the altars of its new gods; America has murdered millions of its unborn on altars of its pleasures and convenience.

Fall of the Second Israel

- America, brought into existence and dedicated by its founders to be a vessel of God's purposes, had now transformed into its very opposite: a civilization turned in upon itself, at war against its own foundations, and at war with God.
- Those who founded America not only foretold its future blessings—but also gave warning: if America ever turned away from God, then the same judgments that fell upon ancient Israel would fall upon America.

Timing of Shemitah

- *Tishri*: holiest month on the biblical Hebrew calendar (falls between Sept. and Oct.)
- So sacred that its new moon is itself a high holy day (*Yom Teruah, i.e. Feast of Trumpets*)
- Contains TEN holy days (“*Days of Awe*”, which are “High Holy Days”), plus *Succoth, i.e. Feast of Tabernacles*
- Most Hebrew months contain no sacred appointed days given at Sinai.

Timing

- Tishri is known as a time of judgment, when the nation stands before God and when sin is dealt with.
- Yom Teruah (Tishri 1): sound of the shofar: alarm, warning, harbinger of approaching danger, warning of impending judgment. BE READY!
- Month of repentance. “Ten Days of Awe” also called “Days of *Teshuvah*” —> “repentance”, from “*shuv*” = to turn

Shemitah-Tishri Connection

- Both are linked to nullification, cancellation, and release—one concerning sin (Tishri) and the other concerning debt (Shemitah).
- Shemitah is the seventh year; Tishri is the seventh month.
- Shemitah always begins on Tishri 1 (Yom Teruah), after the sunset of Elul 29 (end of sixth year).
- Shemitah concludes also on Tishri 1, after the sunset of Elul 29 (end of seventh year).

Shemitah-Tishri Connection

- Thus, if the principle of the Shemitah is still in effect, we might expect that there exists a connection between the Hebrew month of Tishri and an event in the nation's financial realm—such as a stock market crash.
- Could such a connection exist? Could an ancient (3,500 years old) ordinance be operating in modern times, even ordaining the fate of world financial markets?

Fingerprints of the Shemitah

- We will now see if there could exist any connection between financial and economic collapses in the modern world (past 40 years) and . . .
- (1) A seven-year cycle
- (2) The specific seven-year cycle of the Biblical Shemitah
- (3) The Hebrew month of Tishri

Fingerprints of the Shemitah

- (4) Financial or economic collapses and the Hebrew month of Tishri converging with the Year of the Shemitah
- (5) Tishri in convergence with the climatic *end* of the Shemitah year
- (6) The Hebrew month of Elul

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- Has there been a 7-year repeating cycle of events that fall on Elul 29/Tishri 1? Must fit pattern and principle of the Shemitah, and happen every 7-years.
- The Crash of 1973 (Shemitah 1972-73)
- The Shemitah began in September 1972 and ended in September 1973. Four months after it began, the stock market collapsed. It coincided with a global economic recession, which began in the Shemitah's wake, autumn 1973.

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- The Crash of 1980 (Shemitah 1979-80)
- Four months after the Shemitah began (in the Fall of 1979), the economy began its descent.
- The recession of 1980 began in the midst of the Shemitah. The stock market collapsed in the wake of the Shemitah (November 28, 1980).

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- The Crash of 1987 (Shemitah 1986-87)
- Remember: only one month of Elul in seven years can complete the Shemitah.
- S&P peaked August 25, 1987; Elul 1 began on August 26, exactly when the stock market changed its momentum and began to collapse. The Shemitah was about to come to an end (Shemitah year was 1986-87).
- As the Hebrew month progressed, the stock market grew increasingly unstable.
- The crash took place in the one month of Tishri in seven years that begins at the Shemitah's moment of financial nullification. It is the month of Tishri that manifests the Shemitah's repercussions.
- Oct. 19, 1987 was the greatest stock market percentage crash in Wall Street history—"Black Monday".

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- 1990s: The Exception—or Not Quite (Shemitah 1993-94)
- No stock market collapse, but a clear financial event. Remember: once a Shemitah and its repercussions are finished, the next phase of buildup or recovery begins.
- However, the growth at the beginning of the 90s was mild, if not strained.
- Then came a noticeable turning point: Suddenly the stock market began a markedly upward turn.
- The expansion was dramatic and remarkable.
- When was this turning point and upward boom which would continue until the the next crash? It began at the end of 1994, right at the end of the Shemitah's wake.
- Even without a crash the subsequent phase of buildup in the financial world still followed the same cycle of the Shemitah: Shemitah can be a blessing!
- Oslo Accords: Clinton, Arafat, Yitzak Rabin, September 13; Elul 29 was Sept. 15.

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- The Crash of 2001 (Shemitah 2000-2001)
- In 2000, the American economy had been undergoing the longest period of economic expansion in its history.
- In the spring, the stock market boom reached its peak and began a long descent. The year 2000 is also the year the Shemitah began (9/30).
- In March 2001 the economy changed direction and fell into recession: this was the center point of the Shemitah, where BOTH the financial and economic realms are collapsing together.
- The 9/11 attacks paralyzed the world's financial markets, forcing NYSE to close down that entire week. (It never opened on 9/11.) It reopened Monday, Sept. 17. Wall Street collapsed: greatest stock market crash in history up to that day.
- What day did that take place? *Elul 29, the biblical Day of the Shemitah, the Day of Nullification: the very day given in the Bible to wipe away the financial accounts of the nation (Deut. 15:1-3).*
- It fell not just on Elul 29, but the one Elul 29 that comes around only once in seven years and is appointed to cause mass nullification in a nation's financial realm.

The Elul 29 Sunset

- It happened not only on the exact day, but down to the exact hours.
- The ancient command (Deut. 15) ordains that financial accounts be wiped clean “at the end of the seventh year”; that is, Elul 29, at sunset (when Hebrew days ended). By the time the sun went down on Elul 29, all accounts of debt and credit had to be annulled. At the moment of sunset they were reckoned as nullified.
- Without the calamity of 9/11 happening when it did, the Shemitah could not have been fulfilled on the exact day of Elul 29, “at the end of seven years”. Thus, even the timing of 9/11 had to do with the Shemitah.
- And then, in the late afternoon of 9/11, it was all over: The Day of Shemitah was finished, the Year of Shemitah complete, the seven-year cycle had come to a close. The greatest financial collapse in Wall Street history was also finished, just in time for the sunset closing of the seventh year.
- Thus, the Shemitah had its way, after all. It’s manifestation in September 2001 was astonishingly precise, stunning and world-changing. But there will come a second shaking.

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- *The Harbinger* reveals an ancient template of national judgment now replaying in modern America. This template reveals specific progression from the moment of the nation's first shaking in the form of an enemy strike (9/11), to the day of its destruction.
- Two of the keys involved in this progression are:
- (1) If the nation rejects the first shaking and warning of judgment, there will come another, and another, until the nation either returns to God or descends into the full end of judgment.
- (2) "The Isaiah 9:10 Effect"—The attempt of a nation to defy the course of its judgment, apart from repentance, will, instead, set in motion a chain of events to bring about the very calamity it sought to avert. (See *Harbinger*, p. 136)
- In the days following 9/11, Americans flocked to house of worship to implore God's blessing on the nation. It looked like the beginning of a national revival, a massive return to God. But it lasted about three weeks. There was no revival. No repentance.
- In the years after 9/11 America's moral and spiritual apostasy only increased in intensity, depth, and speed.



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ON THIS SITE IN FEDERAL HALL
APRIL 30 1789

GEORGE WASHINGTON
TOOK THE OATH AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA









Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- In the wake of 9/11 America attempted, as did ancient Israel, to defy the calamity, to beat back its effects, to rebuild, and to come back stronger than before.
- The first act of this attempt took place in the financial realm: in an effort to avoid economic catastrophe and induce recovery, the Federal Reserve began a progressive series of extreme slashings of the nation's target interest rate.
- This would set off a chain reaction of financial and economic repercussions that would alter the American and global economies. It would help create or spur on an explosion of credit and debt, a mortgage market boom, a housing market boom, and a stock market boom.
- But the Isaiah 9:10 Effect was set in motion. The nation's attempt to defy one calamity would end up bringing about the next: it would all lead to the greatest financial collapse since the Great Depression.
- When did it begin? September 17, 2001, with the first of the series of the post-9/11 slashings of the nation's interest rates. *That day was Elul 29, the Day of the Shemitah.*

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- The stock market had been on a continuous and massive rise since reaching bottom in autumn 2002.
- The first concrete sign and foreshadowing of what would soon engulf the American and global financial markets took place in Sept. 2007 in Britain, yet it was triggered by what was happening in America.
- Britain's 5th-largest mortgage lender, Northern Rock, collapsed. The collapse has been called a "harbinger" of the global financial collapse. Many timelines of the global implosion begin with this day.
- When did this first collapse take place? September 13, 2007: Tishri 1 on the Biblical calendar—the first day of the Shemitah (2007-08).
- Was there any sign in the financial realm that the Shemitah had come? After rising steadily for years, the stock market reversed its momentum and began to collapse on October 10 (month of Tishri). Not long after the economy fell into recession.

Modern Collapses (Past Forty Years)

- The Crash of 2008
- The global financial collapse reached its peak on September 29, 2008. That morning the opening bell was struck to begin the trading day at the NYSE—but the bell refused to ring. Observers took it as an omen. What followed the “omen” would surpass even the crash of 2001. It surpassed *every* crash in Wall Street history in magnitude: *the greatest stock market point crash in American history*.
- The greatest crash in world history took place not only in the year of a Shemitah, but on *Elul 29, the Day of the Shemitah—the Day of Nullification*.
- Net change in the market of -777.7%; percent change: 7%

Dow Jones Industrial Average: Top 10 Largest Daily Point Losses



MONEY MORNING

YOUR DAILY MAP TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Rank	Date	Close	Net Change	% Change
1	09-29-2008	10,365.45	-777.68	-6.98
2	10-15-2008	8,577.91	-733.08	-7.87
3	09-17-2001	8,920.70	-684.81	-7.13
4	12-01-2008	8,149.09	-679.95	-7.70
5	10-09-2008	8,579.19	-678.91	-7.33
6	08-08-2011	10,809.85	-634.76	-5.55
7	04-14-2000	10,305.78	-617.77	-5.66
8	10-27-1997	7,161.14	-554.26	-7.18
9	08-10-2011	10,719.94	-519.83	-4.62
10	10-22-2008	8,519.21	-514.45	-5.69

- When one takes in the magnitude of the phenomenon, it become *beyond stunning*.
- The timing of the two greatest crashes was amazingly precise: they both not only took place on Elul 29, but on Elul 29 exactly seven biblical year apart, down to the day, and not just in any year, but in the year of the Shemitah.
- As we have seen, the Shemitah determined not only the exact timing of the two greatest stock market crashes in world history, but also the timing of 9/11 itself.
- We have also seen that if it were not for the *exact timing* of 9/11, the timing of the stock market crash of 2001 would not have happened when it did: at the time and in the exact hours of the Shemitah's climactic conclusion.

- Remember that the Shemitah, in Scripture, manifests as a sign of national judgment.
- Our first question must be this: What has happened to America in the time of these last two cycles (of Shemitahs)?
- Revival never came to America post 9/11; instead, a spiritual and moral apostasy that was unprecedented in its scope and accelerating pace.
- Increasing talk of the end of “Christian America”; growing departure from biblical ethics and values, especially among the younger generation.
- ***THE DEEPENING OF IMMORALITY:*** Like ancient Israel, America decided it could rewrite morality and change what was good and evil, sin and righteousness. What was once recognized as right was now attacked as evil; sin now celebrated as a virtue. Morals, standards and values that had undergirded not only the nation’s foundation, but also the foundation of Western civilization and civilization itself, were increasingly overturned, overruled, and discarded.

- And those who would not go along with the change—who merely continued to uphold that which had once been universally upheld—were now increasingly marginalized, vilified, condemned by the culture and the state, and persecuted.
- The blood of unborn children continued to flow, as it did in ancient Israel, but the number was not merely in the thousands, but in the millions: 50 million, a population of many Israels.
- America was in moral and spiritual collapse and rapidly transforming into the dark opposite of the “city on a hill” it had been founded to be. It now entered the territory of ancient Israel’s apostasy—a nation to which the prophets cried out, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness.” – Isaiah 5:20; Proverbs 17:15

- And this was the point: America, having been formed after the pattern of ancient Israel, was now following in the course of Israel's apostasy. Thus, it could be no accident that the same harbingers that appeared in the last days of ancient Israel were now reappearing in America. Each harbinger was a warning of coming judgment.
- Worse than that, America was responding to those warnings with the same defiance as had ancient Israel before judgment fell.
- ***THE TIPPING POINT:*** If one begins to tip over an object, a clear point is reached when one no longer needs to expend more energy or effort. The object is on the edge, and the slightest push will send it over. The edge of its falling is the tipping point.
- Once the tipping point is reached, the object will fall by itself with accelerating force. So it is with a nation. Before God brings judgment, He warns; our nation's apostasy from the ways of God has not lessened but has dramatically accelerated.

The Coming Shemitah

- We are in the midst of a Shemitah year, ending on September 13, 2015.
- Since the stock markets are closed, this would preclude the beginning of a market collapse that day (for America).
- There are other possibilities. Nothing has to take place on or around that time; it could take place within the larger Elul-Tishri period surrounding Elul 29. (see pg. 239 for further discussion)
- It is worthy to note—the last day the market will be open before Elul 29, the Day of Nullification, will be September 11.

- During 2015 there will be two solar eclipses. Both of them will bear significance with regard to the Shemitah's timing.
- One will mark the Shemitah's exact center point; the other (partial solar eclipse on Sept. 13) will mark its climactic last day, Elul 29.
- The last time a solar eclipse fell on Elul 29 of a Shemitah year was September 1987: it ushered in the greatest stock market percentage crash in American history that same month.
- REMEMBER: We can not expect prophetic happenings to show up on a regular schedule or to perform on cue. Nothing significant has to happen within the Shemitah of 2014-2015. The phenomenon of the Shemitah may manifest in one cycle, and not in another; and then again in the next.
- The focus of the message is not date-setting, but the call of God to repentance and return.
- However, something of significance could take place, and it is WISE to note the times. ("sign of the times": Matthew 16:2-3 [Jesus], "You know the saying, 'Red sky at night means fair weather tomorrow; red sky in the morning means foul weather all day.' You know how to interpret the weather signs in the sky, but you don't know how to interpret the signs of the times!")

162 AD - 163 AD Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule

						
8 Mar 161 Marcus Aurelius	17 Apr 162 Jewish Passover	11 Oct 162 Feast of Tabernacle	100-200 AD Colosseum Martyrdom	06 Apr 163 Jewish Passover	30 Sep 163 Feast of Tabernacle	165-180 AD Antonine Plague

1493 - 1494 Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule

				
01 Aug 1492 Spanish Inquisition	02 Apr 1493 Jewish Passover	25 Sep 1493 Feast of Trumpets	22 Mar 1494 Jewish Passover	15 Sep 1494 Feast of Trumpets

795 AD - 796 AD Jewish Holiday Eclipse Timeline

						
795 - 800 AD Charlemagne defeats Islam	09 Apr 795 Jewish Passover	03 Oct 795 Yom Kippur	25 Dec 795 Pope Leo 3rd	28 Mar 796 Jewish Passover	21 Sep 796 Yom Kippur	25 Dec 800 Emperor Charlemagne

1949 - 1950 Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule

				
13 Apr 1949 Jewish Passover	20 July 1949 Israeli War Armistice	07 Oct 1949 Feast of Tabernacle	02 Apr 1950 Jewish Passover	26 Sep 1950 Feast of Tabernacle

842 - 843 AD Jewish Holiday Eclipse Timeline

				
30 Mar 842 Jewish Passover	23 Sep 842 Yom Kippur	19 Mar 843 Jewish Passover	12 Sep 843 Yom Kippur	23 Aug 846 Muslims Sack Rome

1967 - 1968 Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule

				
24 Apr 1967 Jewish Passover	7 June 1967 Jerusalem Captured	18 Oct 1967 Feast of Tabernacle	13 Apr 1968 Jewish Passover	06 Oct 1968 Feast of Tabernacle

860 AD - 861 AD Jewish Holiday Eclipse Timeline

					
11 Mar 859 Cordoba Martyrs	09 Apr 860 Jewish Passover	03 Oct 860 Yom Kippur	30 Mar 861 Jewish Passover	22 Sep 861 Yom Kippur	03 Sep 863 Arab War Lalakaon

2014 - 2015 Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule

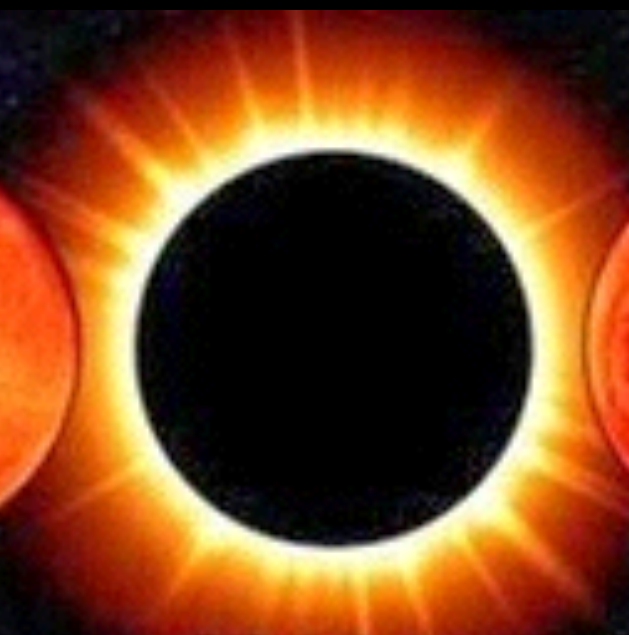
					
15 Apr 2014 Jewish Passover	08 Oct 2014 Feast of Tabernacle	20 Mar 2015 Jewish New Year	04 Apr 2015 Jewish Passover	13 Sep 2015 Feast of Trumpets	28 Sep 2015 Feast of Tabernacle



PASSOVER
4/15/14



SUKKOT
10/08/14



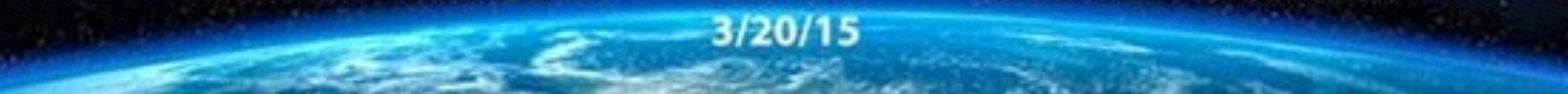
ADAR 29
NISAN 1
3/20/15



PASSOVER
4/04/15



SUKKOT
9/28/15



2014 - 2015 Jewish Holiday Eclipse Schedule



15 Apr 2014
Jewish
Passover



08 Oct 2014
Feast of
Tabernacle



20 Mar 2015
Jewish
New Year



04 Apr 2015
Jewish
Passover



13 Sep 2015
Feast of
Trumpets



28 Sep 2015
Feast of
Tabernacle

Shemittah Year
Hebrew Calendar
5775

2014

2015

Year of Jubilee Proclaimed?



Passover

Tishri 1

Sukkot

Adar 29
Nisan 1

Passover

Tishri 1

Yom
Kippur

Sukkot

6/07/67 - 9/23/15

Jerusalem restored - 49 prophetic yrs







- Genesis 6:11, “And the earth was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.”

וַתִּשְׁחַת הָאָרֶץ, לִפְנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים; וַתִּמָּלֵא הָאָרֶץ, חָמָס.

- Genesis 6:13 (so also, “violence” = חָמָס)