

2018 HOLY DAYS CALENDAR

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PurimSabbath 3 March 2018

14 *Adar*—Purim is not a holy time, but a two day holiday that commemorates God’s deliverance of the Jewish people in the Persian Empire about 470 BC (see Esther 9:1-22f.). Purim begins on Friday night at dark, coinciding with the weekly 7th day Sabbath this year, and ends on Sunday night at dark.

1. The First Day of the First Biblical Month of the YearWednesday 18 April 2018

1 *Aviv*—the first Hebrew month of the biblical year (Hebrew: Ex. 12:2; 13:4; 23:15). It begins the night before, on Tuesday night, 17 April with the first new moon of the biblical year in Israel. This is *not* an annual Sabbath.

2. The Passover Lamb SacrificedTuesday 1 May 2018

14 *Aviv*—in ancient times the Passover lamb was sacrificed ‘between the two evenings’ (sunset to darkness). This year it would be on Tuesday at sunset. This day is *not* an annual Sabbath.

3. The Passover Meal and the First Day of Unleavened BreadTuesday night 1 May 2018

15 *Aviv*—At darkness on Tuesday night the biblical day changes from 14 *Aviv* to 15 *Aviv* (cf. Genesis 1:3-5f.; cf. Lev. 23:5-6; 32).¹ The Passover Meal is eaten in the evening on Tuesday night, 1 May. This is the beginning of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It’s the **1st annual Sabbath** (Lev. 23:7).

4. First SheafSunday 6 May

19 *Aviv*—First Sheaf (also known as First Fruits). This is *not* an annual Sabbath, but it is the day when the High Priest of Israel lifted up the ‘first fruits’ of the spring harvest, the barley grain, to Yahveh (Lev. 23:9-11). It’s most likely the day Yeshua rose from the dead and seen alive, and it certainly was the day of His first ascension into Heaven (Jn. 20:17; cf. Acts 1:1-12). Yeshua is the *first sheaf* (*first fruits*) to rise from the dead (1st Cor. 15:20, 23).

5. The Seventh Day of the Feast of Unleavened BreadTuesday 8 May

21 *Aviv*—the 7th day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Lev. 23:9). It’s the **2nd annual Sabbath**. It begins the evening before at darkness (Monday night, 7 May) and it ends at darkness on Tuesday night.

6. The Feast of WeeksSunday 24 June

Shavu’ot—the Feast of Weeks (Ex. 34:22; Lev. 23:15-21; Num. 28:26; Dt. 16:10, also known as Pentecost from the Greek New Testament; Acts 2:1; 20:16; 1st Cor. 16:8). It comes 50 days after First Sheaf. It’s the **3rd annual Sabbath** and begins the evening before at darkness, when the weekly 7th day Sabbath ends. *Shavu’ot* ends at darkness on Sunday night.

7. The Feast of TrumpetsThursday 11 October

1 *Aetanim*—the first day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:24; 1st Kings 8:2). It’s the **4th annual Sabbath**. It begins the evening before at darkness with the 7th new moon over Israel.

¹ See *When Does The Sabbath Begin?* at <http://seedofabraham.net/When-Does-The-Sabbath-Begin.pdf> for why the biblical day ends at darkness, and not sunset (as is the Jewish tradition).

8. The Day of AtonementShabat 20 October

10 *Aetanim*—the Day of Atonement. It’s the 10th day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:27-32). This is the **5th annual Sabbath**. It begins the evening before at darkness and this year it coincides with the weekly 7th day Shabat (Hebrew for Sabbath).

9. The Feast of TabernaclesThursday 25 October

15 *Aetanim*—*Sukote* (The Feast of Tabernacles). It’s 15th day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:34f.). This is the **6th annual Sabbath**. It begins the evening before at darkness.

10. The Eighth DayThursday 1 November

22 *Aetanim*—The Eighth Day (of *Sukote*, even though it’s not officially part of *Sukote*). It’s the 22nd day of the 7th Hebrew month (Lev. 23:39). This is the **7th and last annual Sabbath** of the biblical year. It begins the evening before at darkness.

HanukaTuesday 1 January 2019

25 *Kislev*—This year Hanuka² begins on Tuesday night 1 January 2019. It’s not a holy time, but an eight day holiday that commemorates God’s deliverance of the Jewish people in Israel with the victory over the Syrian king who wanted to be worshipped as God, and the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 BC. The New Testament speaks of Yeshua being in Jerusalem for ‘the Feast of Dedication’ (John 10:22). Hanuka means dedication. The eighth day of Hanuka begins on Tuesday night 8 January 2019.³

² To understand why God wants all Christians to celebrate Hanuka (and Purim), read [Hanuka—Should We or Shouldn’t We?](#)

³ Revised on 13 February 2018.