## The Time of the Birth of YAHSHUA

(Truth vs. Tradition)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light; those who dwelt in the land of intense darkness and the shadow of death, upon them has the Light shined (Isaiah 9: 2).

How can we know for sure the approximately date of YAHSHUA'S birth? By reading the accounts of Luke we find the answer we are looking for. Luke gives clues of the time when he connects the time an angel appeared to Zechariah and afterwards to Mary. The Jewish priestly custom of service in the temple in those days was that male members of the tribe of Aaron were given the opportunity to serve in the temple two weeks in the year. Luke develops the details of time when Zechariah, who is key in finding out the time of YAHSHUA'S birth, was to serve his two weeks in the month of Sivan 9-11, which was June 9-11. It reads: Zachariah the priest was on duty, serving as priest before God in order of his division, as was the custom of the priesthood, it fell to him by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense; and there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense and Zachariah saw him, he was trouble and fear took possession of him. But the angel said to him, Do not be afraid, Zachariah, because your petition was heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you must call his name John. Now in the sixth month [after that], the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee named Nazareth, to a girl never having been married and a virgin engaged to be married to a man whose name was joseph, a descendant of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, Hail, O favored one! The Lord is with you! Blessed are you before all other women! You will become pregnant and will give birth to a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His forefather David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob throughout the ages; and of His reign there will be no end... And listen! Your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is

now the sixth month with her who was called barren. And at that time Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country to a town of Judah... and it occurred that when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with and controlled by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1; 8-9,11-14,26-28,30-33,35-37,39-41).

Pattern of time and its shadow of things to come are seen in the Feasts of the Lord. YAHWEH established the feasts as His way of pointing to future events in the history of Israel and the world. There is a purpose in every feast of the Lord. Passover was not only a sign for the deliverance of Israel from Egypt, but also for their future deliverance. John was born six months before YAHSHUA, to prepare the way and the people to receive their Messiah. He said, I am the voice of one crying aloud in the wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord, as Isaiah said (John 1:23).

Luke's account relates that six months after Gabriel appeared to Zechariah with the promise of a son, he was sent to Mary announcing to her, her role of being the mother of our Savior, YAHSHUA. That time Elizabeth was into her six months pregnancy which was in December-January. Zachariah's division which was **Abiah**, served between 9-16 **Sivan** which was **June 4-11**. If Elizabeth conceived in June, adding nine months to this date it brings us to March-April when John the Baptist was born. That was the time of Passover. In the six months interval after his birth it yields for the birth of our Savior, YAHSHUA to be in the fall –September – October.

John declared, The Word became flesh and tabernacled with us (John 1:14). The meaning of this feast is YAHSHUA'S millennium reign. He was born on the first day of this feast and circumcised on its last day. Tabernacle feast connects with the future coming of His millennium reign. He came to fulfill this feast, but the nation of Israel rejected both John's and YAHSHUA'S message, as Isaiah prophesized, Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been disclosed? And John said, He came for His own, and they who were His own did not receive Him and did not welcome Him (John 1:11).

December 25<sup>th</sup> is void of meaning in God's calendar for the birth of His Son to have been on this date. This date is of pure pagan origin and every true born again Christian should know to choose truth over tradition. God sent His Son to the world in the fullness of His time (Gal. 4:4), not in the fullness of men's tradition. The angel Gabriel also appeared to the prophet Daniel in 537 B.C. to reveal to him the great messianic prophecy of the seventy weeks (Dan. 9). These are facts found in biblical reports, which make us wonder whose birthday was that of December 25<sup>th</sup>? In ancient Rome this date was the birthday of the unconquered- the sun-god's, the official deity of the Roman Empire. This heritage was made official throughout Rome as the Emperor Constantine mingled the Christian faith with Roman's pagan practices. How do rites and ceremonies of Christmas, as in Christmas tree, yule log, mistletoe, holly wreath and Saint Nick have anything to do with the birth of Christ?

We came to see and understand that the traditions of men exclude God's plan and His participation in their faith and lives, no matter how holy they try to make it to be, because God is not in it. Where there is the absence of God, there is confusion and chaos. The Christmas tradition brings faith that is contrary to biblical principles and history and unites to Christian faith to be as one, deceiving Christians for the sake of tradition. YAHSHUA never commanded us to remember His birthday, but His death and resurrection. Paul relates this in I Corinthians 11:23-26: For I received from the Lord Himself that which I passed on to you, that the Lord YAHSHUA on the night when He was treacherously delivered up and while His betrayal was in progress took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and said, Take, eat. This is My body, which is broken for you. Do this to call Me to remembrance. Similarly when supper was ended, He took the cup also, saying, this cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this as often as you drink [it], to call Me to remembrance. For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are representing and signifying and proclaiming the fact of the Lord's death until He comes.

"When the proper time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a virgin, born subject to [the regulations of] the Law". What does this tell us? God, to fulfill His purpose in space of time, in the proper space of time, sent His Son. In all men's

tradition, he cannot re-invent history. It is what it was and no more. When Christians adopted the Christmas pagan tradition the first time in A.D. 324, under the Roman Emperor Constantine's demands, they publicly announced they to be the apostate church forsaking the foundation and roots of the Christian faith. They were then on the other side of the fence denying God's purpose in the perfect point and time of the birth of His Son. The Jewishness of our Messiah YAHSHUA is embedded in all that He is. To believe otherwise is to frustrate His plan in fulfilling all His feasts through His Son. When Christians embraced the pagan practices of Christmas they became spiritually blinded and rickety, or frail, for lacking the essence of the Gospel found in the Old Testament in the laws given to Israel. These laws were lights to what was to come. When Christians miss the connection of the New Testament to the Old, they cannot see with their understanding and get excited concerning God's plan being fulfilled in the pages of History of the New Testament. They cannot see YAHSHUA being the Lamb provided for the sacrifice in the prophetic words of Abraham: "God will provide a Lamb for the sacrifice." He was sent by God to the region of Moriah to sacrifice his son, the same region where our Savior was sacrificed four thousand years later. They cannot see YAHSHUA in Isaac in his obedience to his father to the point of death and all the future meanings in this chapter of Genesis 22; they cannot see the picture of the Holy Spirit seeking for a bride for God's Son in Abraham's servant when he was sent out to seek a wife for his son, Isaac in Genesis 24; they cannot see in Joseph the picture of YAHSHUA as the Redeemer of Israel and of the world in Genesis in Genesis 45-47.

The Feast of Passover and unleavened bread were fulfilled in YASHUA when He took the position of the sacrificial Lamb of God and died in our instead. His body became the living broken bread for our redemption (Lev. 23: 1-14).

The Feast of Pentecost of Leviticus 23: 15-17 was fulfilled fifty days after YAHSHUA death, resurrection and ascension, when the Holy Spirit came in power. Luke relates in Acts 2: it reads, And when the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place, when suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting (1,2).

The Feast of Tabernacles was partially fulfilled in YAHSHUA when He came during that feast to "tabernacle" with men. This feast will be completely fulfilled in His second coming when He will take His position of King of the earth and will reign for a thousand years and into eternity. The History of His birth when connected where it belongs brings a sense of joy to know that our GOD is the writer of History. This is His story! The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light; those who dwelt in the land of intense darkness and the shadow of death, upon them have the Light shined (Isaiah 9:2).

We pray you will be the recipient of this Light for all your spiritual darkness to be dissipated.