



El Shaddai Ministries

Feasts of the Lord in Prophecy Newsletter
eNews!

April 2013, Vol 6, Issue 4



Message from Pastor Mark

Shalom one and all!

The month of Nisan is quickly coming to a close as we continue to count the omer up to the Feast of Shavuot. It is hard to believe how quickly even this year is passing on before us. With that said I want to be sure everyone is aware of some important events coming here at El Shaddai before they pass!

Coming the last Monday of this month, April 29th, we have Sgt. Benjamin Anthony of the Israeli Defense Forces speaking about "Ethics on the Battlefield". He will be giving first hand experience of the extent Israel goes to prevent civilian casualties. I encourage everyone, not in our area, who will be live streaming, to be sure and tell others about this event so they will tune in. This is so important to combat the media bias against Israel. The press gives a free pass to Hamas who intentionally attacks civilians and purposely targets children. Here is a link to the event:
<http://www.elshaddaiministries.us/events/cufi-col-ben-anthony.pdf>

Then, be sure and attend, if you can, our Zikron conference coming Memorial weekend, May 25th through the 27th! We will have Frank Seekins, the author of many books on marriage as well as the ancient Hebrew picture language as a guest speaker. We will also have Rabbi Daniel Lapin, a well known author, international speaker, and an often guest on the Glenn Beck show, give us insights to ancient Jewish wisdom concerning the festival of Shavuot! This all begins on the Shabbat of the 27th at our morning service. That evening we will have singer songwriter Ted Pearce in concert at El Shaddai. The next day, Sunday we will have Frank Seekins, Rabbi Lapin and myself teach. On Monday we will conclude with a picnic at Clarkes Creek and doing Mikvah's /water baptisms in the river. Here is a link to this event:
<http://www.elshaddaiministries.us/events/2013conference/2013shavuot.html>

On another note we are very excited about redesigning our website and very soon you will see an updated site that will be very user friendly and not quite as overwhelming! We are also getting ready to go full speed ahead with our new cameras hoping to give everyone a much better live streaming experience!

One of our main focuses here at El Shaddai Ministries as we share the wonderful secrets from God's Torah is to keep our eyes always on Yeshua as we search the Scriptures. Even Yeshua said:

Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

The Torah is all about Yeshua and we need to search the Torah to find Him! It is amazing to me how every year around the Feast of Passover we find ourselves in the Torah Portion Shemini, Leviticus 9-11. Leviticus is the center book of the Torah with the very center of the Torah being in this torah portion. If you were to count all the Hebrew words of the torah you will find the very center to be verse:

Le 10:16 And Moses diligently sought the goat of the sin offering,
In Hebrew the words for "diligently sought" are Darosh Darash which is at the exact center and becomes the focus of the Torah. Here we see at the very heart of the Torah, we find Moses diligently looking for the sin offering! God is telling us here our focus must be Yeshua as the Scripture says:

2Co 5:21 For he hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

May this Passover season be the one where we all unify around Yeshua and pray the Glory falls this year!

Be Blessed!
Pastor Mark



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COUNTING THE OMER

By Tom O'Haver



What is Counting the Omer?

In Leviticus 23:15, which is in the third book of the Torah, it says: "You shall count from the next day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be completed". "Omer" is a Hebrew word that means "sheaves of a harvested crop" and in ancient times Jews brought the omer to the temple as an offering on the day after the weekly Sabbath during Passover week. The Torah tells us to count seven weeks from the bringing of the Omer until the evening of Shavuot (Pentecost), hence the custom of counting the Omer. Although Jews no longer bring omer to the Temple the forty-nine days are still called "the Omer." For further details regarding the day we start the counting of the Omer, see Pastor Mark's teaching at the following link:

[http://click.icptrack.com/icp/rclick.php?](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/rclick.php?d=file:///C:/Users/Web/Documents/Newsletter/Apr2013/apr2013.html&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elshaddaiministries.us%2Ftorah5773%2F20130330.html)

[d=file:///C:/Users/Web/Documents/Newsletter/Apr2013/apr2013.html&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elshaddaiministries.us%2Ftorah5773%2F20130330.html](http://file:///C:/Users/Web/Documents/Newsletter/Apr2013/apr2013.html&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elshaddaiministries.us%2Ftorah5773%2F20130330.html)

Why should followers of Yeshua Ha-Mashiach "count the omer"?

According to Jewish understanding, the counting of the Omer recounts the journey of the Israelites from Egypt, through the desert wastes, to the revelation of God at Mount Sinai, when the Torah was given. This step-by-step journey through the wilderness was a time of trial and testing. God satisfied their hunger with manna from heaven (Ex 16:15), revealed to His people the Sabbath (Ex 16:23), caused water to spring forth from a rock (Ex 17:6) and intervened to protect them from attacks from the Amalekites (Ex 17:11).

How does this apply to the followers of Yeshua, today? This journey through the wilderness is a TYPE of the Christian life of overcoming – from baptism and leaving sin behind (Egypt), marching and struggling through the spiritual wilderness (this evil world, and our human nature), until we reach the His Kingdom on earth.

As we go through our Christian lives, we meet obstacles, encounter problems, face trials and difficulties. All these are reflected in the "counting of the Omer," a task which identifies with our progress in "overcoming" our sins, faults, and human nature, putting sin out of our lives, and developing the holy attributes of God, from the moment of conversion and baptism, until the coming of the Messiah.

At Passover we begin the march to freedom with God delivering us through supernatural miracles by the hand of God. It took Israel 50 days to march to Mt. Sinai. Shavuot then is the conclusion of the march to freedom. It is the concluding feast of liberty that is true freedom. It begins with Passover and ends with Shavuot/Pentecost. How can we be free unless we are connected to God? It is vital to our freedom. This is why counting the Omer is important to arriving at Pentecost. And "counting the omer", is becoming more and more "connected" to God, from the moment of our conversion and acceptance of Christ as our Savior until the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Before Yeshua ascended into heaven he told his disciples in Luke 24:49 "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."



They waited as He instructed and on the Day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit fell.

Here's how to Count the Omer:

Every day say the following blessing, and then count the proper day:

"Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-hai-nu Melech Ha-olam, Asher Kid'shanu B'Mitzvotav V'tzi-vanu Al Sefirat Ha-Omer."

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"Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has made us holy with His Commandments, and encouraged us concerning the counting of the Omer."

Then we count the day saying:

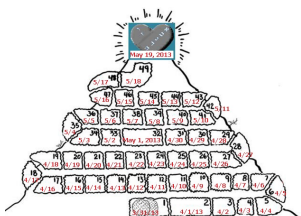
"Today is one day (or two days, or three days, etc.) of the Omer."

Psalm 67 is also recited daily because it is composed of exactly 49 Hebrew words which correspond to the 49 days of the Omer count. The Psalm is seasonally appropriate because of its harvest motif. It is spiritually appropriate because it speaks clearly of God's salvation (Yeshua) being made known over all the earth.

Psalm 67: **"May God be merciful to us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine on us. Selah. So that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. Let the nations praise You, O God; let all the nations thank You. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You shall judge the peoples righteously and govern the nations on earth. Selah. Let the nations give thanks to You, O God; let all the nations praise You. The earth shall yield its increase; and God, our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him."**

We have a chart that you can [download](#) to help in the Counting of the omer at this link:

<http://click.icptrack.com/icp/rclick.php?d=file:///C:/Users/Web/Documents/Newsletter/Apr2013/apr2013.html&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.elshaddaiministries.us%2Fevents%2Fcountingomarchart2013.pdf>



How To Use Your Chart:

Each time you count a day of the Omer, color in the space on the chart above for that day.



Tom O'Haver is on staff at El Shaddai Ministries serving as a Pastoral Elder and as Director of IT. He is a Certified Wellspring Prayer Minister, administers the website, and is the production editor of this newsletter.

RECIPES

Submitted by Tina Fallstead



Teriyaki Salmon with Avocado and Grapefruit Salad

- 4 salmon filets
- 1 tsp mayonnaise
- 1 cup Teriyaki sauce
- 1 Tbs grapefruit juice
- 1 Tbs orange juice
- 1 Tbs lemon juice
- 1 Tbs yogurt
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 head Bibb lettuce
- ½ English cucumber, thinly sliced
- 1 grapefruit, segmented
- ½ avocado, sliced

Mix mayonnaise with Teriyaki sauce in a small bowl. Dip fish fillets in the sauce and place in a baking dish. Broil for 6 minutes on each side.

Meanwhile peel grapefruit and segment. Mix together citrus juices, yogurt, garlic and salt & pepper.

To assemble tear lettuce in bite size pieces, slice cucumber, grapefruit and avocado.

Drizzle with citrus dressing. Serve this salad next to the teriyaki salmon fillets.

Preparation 15 minutes. Cooking time 12 minutes. Serves 4

Easy Cheesy Broccoli Alfredo

- 1 lb (240 g) fettuccine pasta, uncooked

- 2 cups fresh broccoli florets
- 1 cup mushrooms sliced
- ¼ cup plain yogurt (unsweetened)
- 1-cup milk
- 4 oz goat feta cheese
- ½ cup light Cream Cheese
- ¼ cup grated Cheese
- ½ tsp dried basil leaves
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cook pasta in large saucepan as directed on package, add broccoli and sliced mushrooms to the boiling water for the last 5 minutes.

In a large bowl combine the yogurt, milk, feta cheese and grated cheese. Add spices and pour pasta over the cheeses and combine well. Serve in individual plates and garnish with a sprinkle of Hungarian paprika on every plate.

Preparation 20 minutes. Serves 4-6



Tina Fallstead is El Shaddai Ministries' receptionist and Administrative Assistant. She and her family are a valued part of our congregation and ministry.

THIS DAY IN JEWISH HISTORY

Submitted by Tina Fallstead

Matzah Depleted (1313 BCE)

The supply of matzah (unleavened bread) which the Jewish people brought out of Egypt--enough for 60 meals--was exhausted on the 15th of Iyar, the 30th day after the Exodus. The people complained to Moses that they have nothing to eat. G-d notified them that He will rain down "bread from heaven" to sustain them.

The Manna (1313 BCE)

Manna, the "bread from heaven" which sustained the Children of Israel during their 40 years of wandering through the desert, began to fall on the 16th of Iyar of the year 2448 from creation--one month after the Exodus.

"Second Passover" (1312 BCE)

A year after the Exodus, G-d instructed the people of Israel to bring the Passover offering on the afternoon of Nissan 14, and to eat it that evening, roasted over the fire, together with matzah and bitter herbs, as they had done on the previous year just before they left Egypt. "There were, however, certain persons who had become ritually impure through contact with a dead body, and could not, therefore, prepare the Passover offering on that day. They approached Moses and Aaron ... and they said: '...Why should we be deprived, and not be able to present G-d's offering in its time, amongst the children of Israel?'" (Numbers 9). In response to their plea, G-d established the 14th of Iyar as a "second Passover" (pesach sheini) for anyone who was unable to bring the offering on its appointed time in the previous month. The day thus represents the "second chance" achieved by teshuvah the power of repentance and "return." In the words of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak of Lubavitch, "The Second Passover means that it's never a 'lost case.'"

Journey From Mount Sinai (1312 BCE)

On the 20th of Iyar 2449 (1312 BCE)--nearly a year after the Giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai--the Children of Israel departed their encampment near the Mountain. They resumed their journey when the pillar of cloud rose for the first time from over the "Tabernacle--the divine sign that would signal the resumption of their travels throughout their encampments and journeys over the next 38 years, until they reached the eastern bank of the Jordan River on the eve of their entry into the Holy Land.

Roman Garrison Defeated (66)

Following the theft of silver from the Holy Temple in Jerusalem on the 17th of Iyar of the year 3826 from Creation (66 CE), the Jewish defense force attacked and defeated the Roman garrison stationed in Jerusalem.

Romans Razed Jerusalem Wall (70)

In the year 70 CE (3830 from Creation), Titus and the Roman army laid siege upon Jerusalem, greatly weakening its defenders. On the 16th of Iyar, the Romans razed the middle wall of Jerusalem. The city was later burned, its inhabitants massacred, and the Temple destroyed on the 9th of Av.

Troyes Jews Burned at Stake (1288)

On the 20th of Iyar in 1288, thirteen Jews in Troyes, France, were burned at the stake by the Inquisition. They were accused, in a blood libel, of the supposed murder of a Christian child. The thirteen Jews were chosen from among the richer members of the community. Jews were also killed in a blood libel in Neuchatel, Switzerland, on this date.

Roman Jews Granted Privileges (1402)

On the 12th of Iyar, 1402, the Jews of Rome were granted "privileges" by Pope Boniface IX. They were given legal right to observe their Shabbat, protection from local oppressive officials, their taxes were reduced and orders were given to treat Jews as full-fledged Roman citizens.

Jews Expelled from Berne (1427)

The Jews of Berne, Switzerland were expelled on this date in 1427. Berne had a long history of expulsions and anti-Jewish riots.

Jewish Books Confiscated (1510)

Following his 1,500 Jewish books were confiscated in Frankfurt am Main, Germany at the instigation of an apostate (Meshumad) on the 11th of Iyar.

Jews of Bisenz Massacred (1605)

The Jews of Bisenz, Austria were massacred on the 14th of Iyar, 5365 (1605).

Venice Jews Forbidden to Practice Law (1637)

The Jews of Venice, Italy, were forbidden to practice law or to act as advocates in the Courts of Venice on the 20th of Iyar of 1637.

Ettingen Jews Acquitted (1690)

Following a blood libel and the decree, if found guilty, to destroy the synagogue of Ettingen, Switzerland, the Jews were acquitted. The local Jews celebrated this day as a local "Purim" celebration-day of thanksgiving.

Jews Expelled from Ukraine (1727)

A few months prior to her death, Empress Catherine I, the second wife of Peter the Great, expelled all Jews from the Ukraine.

Riots in Wasilkow and Konotop (1881)

Anti-Jewish riots (pogroms) continue to escalate in Russia and break out on the 11th of Iyar in Waslikow and Konotop. The Jews were blamed for the assassination of Czar Alexander II, who was assassinated by revolutionaries. The riots continued for three years across the entire Russia.

Riots in Rostov-on-Don (1883)

Rostov-on-Don, Russia, was home to 14 Synagogues and many communal institutions. With the encouragement of local Russian officials, a wave of anti-Jewish riots (pogroms) swept the city on the 15th of Iyar of 1883.

Germans Burn Jewish Books (1933)

Following the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany in the year 1933, the Nazis burned thousands of books written by Jews on the 14 of Iyar of that year.

"Nuremberg Laws" Passed in Hungary (1939)

The Nazi Nuremberg Laws, depriving Jews the rights citizenship, were passed by the government of Nazi Germany in 1935. In 1939, on the 16th of Iyar, the laws went into effect in Nazi-allied Hungary.

Mt. Scopus Hospital (1939)

The Hadassah University Hospital and Medical Center was opened on Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem. The hospital, designed by renowned Bauhaus architect Erich Mendelsohn, opened as a modern, 300-bed academic medical facility.

Dachau Liberated (1945)

Dachau was the first Nazi concentration camp and the model for the other concentration camps. During the war, 200,000 Jews were housed in Dachau. More than 30,000 were killed and tens of thousands died due to the conditions and spread of disease in the camp. The camp was freed by the 45th Infantry Division of the U.S. Seventh Army on the 16th of Iyar, 1945. It was the second concentration camp to be liberated following the end of WWII. The U.S. troops forced the citizens of the local community to come to the camp, observe the conditions, and help clean the facilities.

IDF Created (1948)

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) was created on Lag BaOmer of 1948. The IDF comprises the Israeli army, Israeli air force and Israeli navy. It was formed to defend the existence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state of Israel and combat all forms of terrorism which threaten the daily lives of its inhabitants.

Hurva Synagogue Destroyed (1948)

The Hurva synagogue located, in the Jewish quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, was captured and dynamited by the Arab Legion of Jordan during the battle for Old Jerusalem in 1948. The synagogue was built by the group of disciples of Rabbi Elijah (the "Vilna Gaon") who immigrated from Lithuania in 1864. The synagogue was built on the ruins of the synagogue built by Rabbi Judah Chassid (Segal) and his disciples in 1700, which was destroyed by Arab mobs in 1721. It was therefore named the "Hurvat Rabbi Judah HaChassid" -- the ruins of Rabbi Judah the Chassid, or simply "The Hurva" -- The Ruin.

The Battle at Deganya (1948)

The Israeli Army defeated the advancing Syrian Army, following the shelling at the entrance of Deganya, which began at sunrise and lasted nine hours. It is considered the first Israeli victory following the start of the War of Independence.

Eichmann Captured in Buenos Aires (1960)

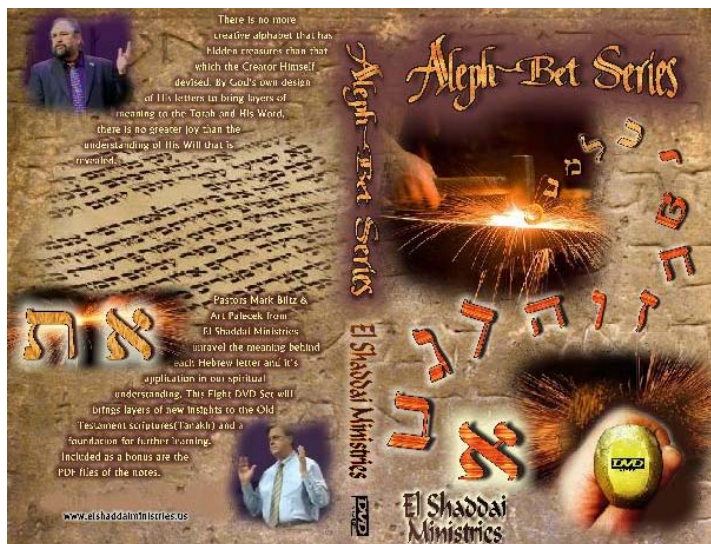
Adolf Eichmann, a key party in implementing of Hitler's "final solution," was captured by agents of the Israeli "Mossad" in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Eichmann was in charge of all transportation required for the shipment of Jews to the extermination camps. The height of his career was reached in Hungary in 1944, when he managed to transport 400,000 Jews to the gas chambers in less than five weeks. After the war, Eichmann fled to Argentina and lived under the assumed name of Ricardo Klement for ten years until Israeli Mossad agents abducted him on May 11, 1960 and smuggled him out of the country to stand trial in Jerusalem for his crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity and war crimes. During the four months of the trial over one hundred witnesses testified against him. Eichmann took the stand and used the defense that he was just obeying orders. "Why me," he asked. "Why not the local policemen, thousands of them? They would have been shot if they had refused to round up the Jews for the death camps. Everybody killed the Jews." Eichmann was found guilty on all counts, sentenced to death and hanged at Ramleh Prison on May 31, 1962.

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Submitted by Tina Fallstead

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Pastors Mark Biltz and Art Palecek



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